



## VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

March 8, 2022

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 am

Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Center  
646 County Square Drive, Ventura

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88169383919>

The council will be meeting in person, but members of the public are welcome to attend in person or via zoom.

VCAAA Advisory Council Role – To provide leadership, input, and advocacy as facilitators between VCAAA and the community, in support of VCAAA’s mission.

VCAAA Role – VCAAA is the responsible agency to seek, serve, administer, and manage available funding to ensure resources are allocated to serve Ventura County, creating integrated community-based services where older adults and people with disabilities can age in their community with dignity and respect.

### A G E N D A

- 9:00 a.m.
1. Call to Order and Agenda Review Karen Gorback
  2. Pledge of Allegiance Maria Mungia
  3. Roll Call and Motion to Except Online Virtual Attendance for those declaring “Emergency Circumstances” Rene Verduzco
  4. Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of January 11, 2023 Karen Gorback
  5. Public Comments Karen Gorback
- Procedure: The public is welcome to comments. All comments not related to items on the agenda may be made at the beginning of the meeting only. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.
6. Consent Agenda Items Karen Gorback

Procedure: The Advisory Council will approve these reports all at once unless an Advisory Committee wishes to remove a report from the consent agenda and discuss and approve it separately.

- 6.1 Housing Committee Report – Jan 17, 2023 Karen Gorback
- 6.2 Transportation Committee Report – Jan 11, 2023
- 6.3 Workforce Committee Report – Jan 20, 2023
- 6.4 Nutrition and Health Committee Report – Jan 25, 2023
- 6.5 Optimal Aging – January 25, 2023
- 6.6 ADRC Committee Report – Feb 24, 2023

**ACTION ITEMS**

- 7. Strategic Plan Update for FY 2022-2023 Public Hearing\* Karen Gorback
- 8. Approval/Modification/Discussion of the VCAAA FY 2022-2023 Strategic Plan Update Karen Gorback
- 9. Formation of a Nominating Committee for Election of Officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary) for FY 2023-2024; Two Service Providers (open election for individuals working for organizations that provide service to older adults, caregivers or people with disabilities) working for Two Year Terms Starting July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025; the Reappointment of the Medical Service Provider, Consumer Representative, and Focused Population Behavioral Health Representative for Two Year Terms Starting March 10, 2023 through March 9, 2025; and the Reappointment of the Focused Population Family Caregiver Representative, Focused Population LGBTQ Representatives, and Focused Population Disability Representative for Two Year Terms Starting July 1, 2023 Through June 30, 2025. Karen Gorback
- 10. Recommendation to Approve a New Home Delivered Meal Program (Title IIIC2) Grant to Senior Concerns for the Remainder of FY 2022-2023 and FY 2023-2024. Alyssa Corse
- 11. Recommendation for the Advisory Council Executive Committee to Approve Task Force Recommendations for FY 2023-2024 New Grants for Legal Services, Long Term Care Ombudsman, Senior Support Line, and Family Caregiver Centers. Alyssa Corse

**PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- 12. PIO Update Roger Horne
- 13. Update on Older Adults Resiliency and Recovery Act funds for Legal Service Brian Murphy
- 14. Performance Metrics for Advisory Council for FY 2023-2024 Karen Gorback
- 15. Other Committee Meetings:
  - a. California Senior Legislature Update Gitt/Gorback/ Guerra
  - b. VCAAA Foundation Update Nowlin
  - c. LGBTQ Aging Coalition Shapiro
  - d. Dementia Friendly Ventura County Hashemzadeh

- |          |                             |               |
|----------|-----------------------------|---------------|
|          | 16. Meeting Calendar        | Karen Gorback |
|          | 17. Comments from the Chair | Karen Gorback |
|          | 18. Other Business          | Karen Gorback |
| 11:00 am | 19. Adjournment             | Karen Gorback |

The meeting will be stopped at 10 am to hold the public hearing. Item 8 will be heard after the public hearing.

The next meeting will be:

Wednesday, May 10, 2023 (9:00 am – 11:00 am)

In person at 646 County Square Dr Suite 100, Ventura, CA 93003 in the Advisory Council Room.

Individuals who require accommodations for their disabilities (including interpreters and alternate formats) are requested to contact the Area Agency on Aging staff at (805) 477-7300 at least three days prior to the meeting.

VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING  
Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
646 County Square Drive, Suite 100  
Ventura, CA 93003  
January 11, 2022

Advisory Council Members Present:

Loretta Allen (Thousand Oaks COA)	William Nelson (Ventura COA)
Stephanie Belding (Thousand Oaks COA)	Clark Owens (Oxnard COA)
Ron Berkowsky (Focused Population)	Anna Reilley (Fillmore COA)
Denise Calhoun (BOS)	Carmen Reyes (Camarillo COA)
Carina Forsythe (Fillmore COA)	Anita Ruiz (BOS)
Tony Gitt (CSL)	Jeanette Sanchez-Palacios (BOS)
Karen Gorback (CSL)	Martha Shapiro (Service Provider)
Rossanna Guerra (CSL)	Marietta Sperry (Simi Valley COA)
Lynette Harvey (Service Provider)	Alice Sweetland (Oxnard COA)
Maureen Hodge (Focused Population)	Sue Tatangelo (Service Provider)
Carol Leish (Focused Population)	Sylvia Taylor Stein (BOS)
Maria Munguia (Santa Paula COA)	

Advisory Council Members Absent:

Bill Nugent (Ojai COA)	Reynaldo Rivera (Focused Population)
Janet Plant (Simi Valley COA)	Nancy Rowe (Camarillo COA)
Peter Schreiner (Focused Population)	

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Alyssa Corse (Grants Administrator)	Monique Nowlin (Deputy Director)
Julianna Eusanio (FP Coordinator)	Benjamin Rhodes (DPO Manager)
Haleh Hashemzadeh (CPO Manager)	Jason Sagar (Program Manager)
Victoria Jump (Director)	Sonia Vaughn (HICAP Program Manager)
Brian Murphy (Fiscal Manager)	Rene Verduzco (Management Assistant)
Roger Horne (PIO)	Gray Wilking (MSSP/HCBA Program Manager)

Members of the Public Present:

J Cobian	Dana Jean Tomarken
Sarah Mailes	

- 1) Call to Order and Agenda Review** – The January 11, 2023, Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Chair Karen Gorback.

Motion: Approve agenda for the November 9, 2022, Advisory Council Meeting  
Moved by: Denise Calhoun, seconded by Haleh Hashemzadeh

Result: Motion passed

- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Carol Leish.
- 3) **Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of November 9, 2022, with the amendment of Sue Tatangelo’s title change to “Focused Population”.**

Motion: Approve

Moved by: Stephanie Belding, seconded by Sue Tatangelo

Result: Motion passed

- 4) **Public Comments** – Brian Murphy introduced his new Grants Administrator, Alyssa Corse. Monique introduced Dr. Munguia’s guest Dana Jean Tomarken, a resident of Santa Paula.
- 5) **Consent Agenda Items**

**5.3 Work Force Committee Report – December 8, 2022 with the amendment to reflect the establishment of an AD-HOC Committee with members Stephanie Belding and William Nelson.**

Motion: Approve 5.3 with amendments

Moved by Anna Reilley, seconded by Smita Dandekar

Result: Motion passed

**5.1 Housing Committee Report – November 15, 2022**

**5.2 Transportation Committee Report – December 13, 2022**

**5.4 Health & Nutrition Committee Report – November 16, 2022**

Motion: Approve remaining consent agenda items

Moved by Stephanie Belding, seconded by Sue Tatangelo

Result: Motion passed

- 6) **Consider Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing Remote Staff Teleconference Meetings of the Advisory Council for a 30-Day Period Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (e), of the Ralph M. Brown Act**

Motion: Approve

Moved by: Sue Tatangelo, seconded by Smita Dandekar

Result: Motion Passed

## **PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- 7) **Program Spotlight – CalAIM and VCAAA’s Continuum of Case Management Programs** – Victoria Jump gave a PowerPoint presentation breaking down each case management program offered at VCAAA.
- Title 3B (Social Model Case Management) is short-term for clients who are at risk of institutionalization. Clients must be: 60 years of age or older, live in Ventura County, be agreeable to regular phone calls
  - PEARLS (Program to Encourage Active, Rewarding Lives) is a 12 week program funded by the Mental Health Service Act and focuses on encouraging social and physical activity. Clients must be: 60 years of age or older, live in Ventura County, experiencing depressive symptoms.
  - FCRC (Family Caregiver Resource Centers) provides caregiver training, support groups, respite to unpaid family caregivers.
  - ADRD (Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementia) provides long-term case management. Clients must be: at risk of institutionalization, live in Ventura County, be able to maintain in the community, at-risk of developing ADRD.
  - DAEAXE (District Attorney Elder Abuse XE Program) is a partnership between VCAAA and the District Attorney’s Office and the Family Justice Center. The program provides elder and dependent adult abuse victims with emergency shelter, transportation, counseling, and other services.
  - CalAIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal) Enhanced Care Management provides adults 18+ with no share of cost Medi-Cal with respite, personal care, homemaker services, environmental adaptations, and transitional supports. This program targets adults who meet the skilled nursing level of care criteria and are experiencing at least one complex social or environmental factor influencing their health.
  - MSSP (Multipurpose Senior Service Program) is a long-term case management program. Clients must be: 65 years of age or older, live in Ventura County, have a possible need for nursing home placement, an be on Medi-Cal with no share of cost.
  - HCBA (Home and Community-Based Alternatives) is a long-term case management program for any age. Clients must: live in Ventura County, if not for services be placed in a medical care facility, need services monthly to remain safe, and be on Medi-Cal.
- 8) **Establishing Metrics of Advisory Council** – At the VCAAA Executive Meeting it was decided that moving forward, the Advisory Council will establish a set of metrics in order to measure our success as an organization. Tony Gitt suggested evaluating VCAAA’s staffing and funding by program and reporting how many clients are being served. Rossanna Guerra would like to measure how many of the underserved populations are being targeted. Smita Dandekar suggested using criteria that has meaning as to why we chose that specific topic to measure. Dr.

Marietta Sperry brought up the idea of measuring our success based on what other organizations are currently tracking. William Nelson wants to measure how VCAAA can reach populations and provide information to the communities we serve. Martha Shapiro clarified that the metrics are not to track VCAAA's actions, they will instead be tracking and evaluating the Advisory Council's actions and success. Maureen Hodge agreed and added to William's thought, the Advisory Council should be measuring how well each representative on the council is able to help the population they are representing. A survey will be sent to Advisory Council member to establish the goals for FY 2023-2024 effective July 1, 2023.

**9) ADRC Standing Business –**

- Formation of standing committee to provide oversight to the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)
- Committee will meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month between regular Advisory Council meetings, starting February 22 at 10am (time open to discussion) via Zoom.
- Five members, to be drawn from the Advisory Council, consumers, or interested members of the public. – Sue Tatangelo, Martha Shapiro, Tony Gitt, Rosanna Guerra and Maureen Hodge all expressed interest in joining.

**10) Other Committee Meetings**

**a. California Senior Legislature Final Report** – Tony Gitt provided an update on the status of the 11 bills for 2023. 7 of the 11 bills have been picked up by an elected legislator sponsor.

AP-3: Senator Nguyen  
SP-3: Senator Nguyen  
AP-1: Senator Nguyen  
SP-5: Senator Nguyen  
SP-6: ASM Connelly  
SP-7: Senator Cabellero  
AP-6: Senator Cabellero

**b. VCAAA Foundation Update** – Monique Nowlin updated the committee on the last Foundation meeting. The meeting consisted of financials and an introduction to the new PIO, Roger Horne. Nothing further business to report at this time.

**c. LGBT Aging Coalition** – Martha Shapiro shared with the committee that the VCAAA provided funding for LGBT swag for businesses to show support.

**d. Dementia Friendly Ventura County** – Haleh informed the committee that the Dementia Friendly Business Certifications have been distributed. The next Living Well Caring Well event will be held on March 1, 2023 at VCAAA from 2:30 – 4:30 PM.

**11) Meeting Calendar – [2022-2023 Advisory Council Meeting Schedule](#)**

- 12) **Comments from the Chair** – Chair Gorback thanked the council for their time dedicated to the Advisory Council.
- 13) **Other Business** – Roger Horne informed the committee of his current projects. Roger is working on the new updated VCAAA webpage, Advisory Council member biographies, LiveWell magazines and starting up our social media pages once again.

Carol Leish thanked Chair Gorback for her leadership role in the VCAAA Advisory Council.

Maureen Hodge shared with the council that CMH is writing a grant for 16,000 sq. ft. building for Behavioral Health. This will impact the aged and disabled population providing services for mild to moderate depression. The hospital is asking for letters of support.

- 14) **Adjournment** –Meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM.



**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members  
**FROM:** Tony Gitt, Committee Chair  
**DATE:** January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** **Transportation Committee Report from January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Transportation Committee Members Present:**

Tony Gitt (CSL)  
Peter Schreiner (Focused Population)  
Clark Owens (Oxnard COA)

**VCAAA Staff Members Present:**

Roger Horne (Public Information Officer)  
Monique Nowlin (Deputy Director)  
Maricela Pardo (Transportation & Elder Help Coordinator)  
Benjamin Rhodes (Direct Program Operations Manager)  
Rene Verduzco (Management Assistant)

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Meeting was called to order at 10:58 AM. The committee reached a quorum with all members present.
2. **Public Comments** – None.
3. **ElderHelp Update** – Maricela Pardo gave a brief update on transportation programs for the month of November. In the month of November, Medi-rides totaled 76 rides broken down as: A to B 32, Hop Skip Drive 43 and 1 Uber ride. VCTC continues to work on transitioning from paper tickets to reloadable bus passes. 56 Bus cards were issued in November for a total of 2,500 credits. VCAAA is still issuing paper tickets for 607 clients.
4. **Transportation Usage** – There are currently 2 types of funding for reloadable bus passes. Customers can get a dollar amount loaded on their cards or have an unlimited amount of rides on a monthly pass. In order to qualify for the monthly pass, you need to utilize more than \$25 per month in order to justify the cost. If a client is on a dollar amount pass, they can simply call in to VCAAA to request more credits. Benjamin Rhodes explained to the committee that there is no way to set a deadline for transitioning to reloadable bus passes. It is not in our capacity to force cities to comply with our bus passes.
5. **Future Goals to Address for FY 23-24** – Tony Gitt would like for VCAAA to find the funding for a part time employee to manage solely paper tickets. A long-term goal for the committee is to transition all paper tickets to reloadable bus passes.
6. **Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM. The next Transportation Committee meeting will be held on March 8, 2023, immediately after Advisory Council Meeting.

**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members  
**FROM:** Martha Shapiro, Committee Chair  
**DATE:** January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** **Housing Committee Report from January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Housing Committee Members Present:

Stephanie Belding (Thousand Oaks COA)	Rossanna Guerra (CSL COA)
Carina Forsythe (Fillmore COA)	Martha Shapiro (Service Provider)

Housing Committee Members Absent:

Anna Reilley (Fillmore COA)	Bill Nugent (Ojai COA)
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VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Roger Horne (Public Information Officer)	Monique Nowlin (Deputy Director)
Denise Noguera (Call Center Manager)	Ben Rhodes (Direct Program Operations Manager)

- 1. Welcome and Introductions** – The VCAAA Housing Committee meeting was called to order at 2:04 pm. The Housing Committee did not reach a quorum for today’s meeting. Chair Shapiro continued the meeting since there are not voting items on the agenda.
- 2. Public Comments** – Stephanie Belding made a public comment requesting for VCAAA to add a link to the housing page of our website for the California Property Tax Postponement Program. This program offers loans to seniors and people with disabilities in order pay for property taxes, subject to terms and conditions. Rossanna Guerra made a public comment informing the committee that Rick Schroeder, the president of Many Mansions organization, gave a presentation at the City of Thousand Oaks meeting and would like to present for the Housing Committee.
- 3. HomeShare Update** – Benjamin informed the committee that HomeShare continues to have more seekers than providers. The new screening process has many initial applications but less people completing the full application interview. This is due to challenges contacting applicants possibly due to an unstable housing situation. Another challenge is the length of the interview after the initial screening process, a lot of applicants decline or do not follow through once they realize the length of the full application. Benjamin shared a PowerPoint showing HomeShare statistics for 8/1/2022 – 1/17/2023. The greatest need is for single

English speakers seeking a room where they can provide services in exchange for rent.

Denise Noguera is reporting a spike in calls within the last 2 weeks from clients concerned about losing their housing.

**4. Discuss Future Committee Goals –**

- a. Hiring a housing navigator
- b. Educational training for housing professionals
- c. Supporting HomeShare with outreach to the public
- d. Confirming a guest speaker on the implementation of the VC Master Plan on Aging Goals and what this committee can do to support.

**5. Next Meeting Date –** March 21, 2023, from 2 pm to 3 pm.

**6. Adjournment –** Meeting adjourned at 2:57 PM.

**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members

**FROM:** Karen Gorback, Committee Chair

**DATE:** January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**SUBJECT: Workforce Committee Report from January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Committee Members Present

Loretta Allen (Thousand Oaks COA)  
Stephanie Belding (Thousand Oaks COA)  
Karen Gorback (CSL)

Carol Leish (Focused Population)  
William Nelson (Ventura COA)  
Reynaldo Rivera (Focused Population)

VCAAA Staff Present

Roger Horne (Public Information Officer)

Monique Nowlin (Director)

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM. The Workforce Committee reached a quorum with all members present.
2. **Public Comments** – No public comments.
3. **Update on Get That Job Presentation** – Roger Horne informed the committee that edits are still being made and the video is currently with the media editor. Roger is expecting to receive the finalized video at some point today, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Roger will send a copy to the Workforce Committee for review, not to be shared with the public yet.
4. **SCSEP (Senior Community Service Employment Program) Update** – Monique Nowlin shared with the committee that the SCSEP flyer will be uploaded to the VCAAA website next month.
5. **2022-2023 Committee Goals Discussion** – Karen would like to revisit the idea of hosting a job fair for older adults. The CDA (California Department on Aging) announced there will be funding for workforce development within the next month. VCAAA Workforce Committee will be looking for ways to participate or receive funding from the CDA. Monique would like to have a representative from the Workforce Committee attend our Aging and Disability Resource meetings to advocate for older adults in the workforce.
6. **Adjournment** - Meeting was adjourned at 10:47 AM. The next Workforce Committee will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members  
**FROM:** Lynette Harvey, Committee Chair  
**DATE:** January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** **Nutrition and Health Committee Report from January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Committee Members Present

Smita Dandekar (BOS)	Anita Ruiz (BOS)
Lynette Harvey (Service Provider)	Marietta Sperry (Simi Valley COA)
Maureen Hodge (Focused Population)	Alice Sweetland (Oxnard COA)
Maria Munguia (Santa Paula COA)	Sue Tatangelo (Service Provider)

VCAAA Staff Present

Roger Horne (Public Information Officer) Benjamin Rhodes (DPO Manager)  
Victoria Jump (Director)

- 1. 2023 Meal Program Updates** – The Health and Nutrition Committee commenced at 12:30 PM. The committee reached a quorum with all members present. Victoria Jump shared a PowerPoint presentation with the committee regarding VCAAA’s meal programs such as Senior Nutrition Congregate Meal Program, Senior Nutrition Home Delivered Meal Program, Food Box Program, Medically Supportive Food, HCA Motel Vouchers Program, Project Quarantine Meal Program and Project Room Key Program. The Senior Nutrition Program covers Congregate and Home Delivered meals and is federally funded with state dollars for customers aged 60 or older. HCA Motel Vouchers Program, Project Quarantine and Project Room Key are closed referral programs for customers housed in motels or referred directly from the Health Care Agency. Food box is funded by CAA/SNP through December 2023 for customers with difficulty leaving home and can prepare their own food. Medically Tailored Meals will now be known as Medically Supportive Food providing 2 meals per day for 90 days for Gold Coast members with qualifying conditions.
- 2. Committee Goal Discussion** – The Senior Nutrition and Health Committee will be complying with the Ventura County Master Plan on Aging. Goals include Health Reimagined and Affordable Aging. Initiatives include behavioral health suicide prevention for older adults, public health tools to promote brain health, and combat ageism in healthcare.
- 3. PIO Introduction** – Benjamin Rhodes introduced Roger Horne as the new Public Information Officer for VCAAA. Roger will be taking over the Placemat project for the Senior Health & Nutrition Committee.
- 4. Other Business** – None.
- 5. Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 1:32 PM. The next Health & Nutrition Committee meeting will be held on March 22, 2023.

**TO:** VCAA Advisory Council Members

**FROM:** Alice Sweetland, Optimal Aging Committee Chair

**DATE:** January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**SUBJECT:** **Optimal Aging Committee Report from January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Committee Members Present

Loretta Allen (Thousand Oaks COA)  
Ron Berkowsky (Focused Population)  
Denise Calhoun (BOS)  
Maureen Hodge (Focused Population)  
Carol Leish (Focused Population)  
Janet Plant (Simi Valley COA)  
Carmen Reyes (Camarillo COA)  
Alice Sweetland (Oxnard COA)  
Sylvia Taylor-Stein (Focused Population)

Committee Members Absent

Nancy Rowe (Camarillo COA)

VCAA Staff Present

Monique Nowlin (Deputy Director)  
Roger Horne (Public Information Officer)  
Rene Verduzco (Management Assistant)

- 1) **Welcome and Introductions** – The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm. All committee members introduced themselves and provided a brief background on their work related to aging. There were no guests in attendance.
- 2) **Public Comments** – There were no public comments.
- 3) **2022 – 2023 Goal Discussion** – Monique Nowlin reminded the committee of the previous goal to schedule a series of musical and/or art presentations specifically for older adults and people with disabilities followed by a presentation on behalf of VCAA. There have not been any new goals identified since the May 2022 meeting.

Sylvia Taylor Stein gave an explanation of the original formation of the Optimal Aging Committee. The goal of the committee is to spotlight and showcase individuals who are great examples of giving and serving the community as well as aging optimally.

Monique explained that this specific committee was designed to focus on our community members who are aging but are still involved in the community and can be ambassadors for older adults.

Alice Sweetland gave a brief explanation of the Legacy Awards. These awards were created with the intention of being a prestigious achievement for individuals in the County.

The first goal established at today's meeting is to increase awareness and participation in the 2023 Legacy Awards. Chair Alice Sweetland requested for committee members to go home and think about this year's goals to be presented and discussed at the March meeting.

- 4) **Next Meeting Schedule** –The next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2023 from 2pm to 3pm. The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 pm.

**TO:** VCAAA Advisory Council Members  
**FROM:** Benjamin, Rhodes  
**DATE:** February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
**SUBJECT:** **ADRC Committee Report from February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Housing Committee Members Present:

Emily Bridges (ILRC)	Alexa Martin (ILRC)
Maureen Hodge (Focused Population)	Sue Tatangelo (Service Provider)

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Monique Nowlin (Deputy Director)	Ben Rhodes (Direct Program Operations Manager)
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- 1. Committee Formation** – The VCAAA Housing Committee meeting was called to order at 10:00 am. The ADRC Committee did not reach a quorum for today’s meeting. The committee formation has been tabled until the March meeting with hopes that the next meeting will reach a quorum.
- 2. Committee Goals Discussion** – After a short overview of the Ventura County ADRC and its No Wrong Door approach to long-term services and supports, we focused on one of the four service functions of an ADRC: transition services. We spent most of our time discussing the possibility of developing a county-wide picture of transition services, from establishing common definitions of what transitions are (hospital to home is just one example), shared processes, coordinating distinct programs with overlapping services, and communicating these resources in busy healthcare settings and community-based organizations. Raising awareness of these resources across the County, especially in more rural or distant settings like Ojai and Fillmore or Piru will be key.
- 3. Other Business** – **Tabled for March 2023 meeting.**
- 4. Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.





## Summary of the Draft - Strategic Plan Update for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

The purpose of this document is to provide an annual update to the Strategic Plan for FY 2020-2024, which was approved by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors in March 2022 and was later approved by the California Department of Aging. The delivery of programs and services in FY 2023-2024 is contingent upon the availability of funds from all sources (Federal, State and County). The California Department of Aging has not yet released funding estimates for FY 2023-2024.

### WHO ARE WE?

The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging is the principal agency that addresses issues that relate to older adults, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers. In addition to providing several direct programs, we also develop, enhance and maintain community-based systems of care that provide services, which support independence and protect the quality of life of older persons and persons with functional impairments. We also promote citizen involvement in the planning and delivery of services for Ventura County's older population, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers. We accomplish these objectives through a network of education, advocacy, problem-solving, program planning and service delivery, and by utilizing a variety of funding sources.

Our governing body is the Ventura County Board of Supervisors. They set the policy, determine funding, and approve the strategic plan and its submission to the California Department of Aging. We also have a 39-member Advisory Council that determines programming, funding priorities, advocacy efforts and makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The Advisory Council is made up of representatives from each city, Board of Supervisors representatives, service provider representatives, focused population representatives and members of the California Senior Legislature.

### WHOM DO WE SERVE?

We provide services to:

- Older adults 60 years of age and older
- Persons with disabilities
- Unpaid caregivers

Services provided are dependent upon the funding requirements as well as program eligibility.

Our goal is to target our services to those in need and to make sure that our program participants mirror the composition of the community we serve. According to California Department of Aging

the current total population of people over the age of 60 in Ventura County is 216,313, which is an increase from 2021. Statewide there is a net gain of people aged 60 and over from 2020 to 2021.

Of these 216,313 individuals:

- 8,650 are non-English speakers
- 117,846 are minorities
- 18,055 have incomes below the federal poverty level
- 28,719 are Medi-Cal eligible
- 5,252 are geographically isolated
- 6,639 are aged 65 or older and SSI/SSP eligible
- 70,155 are older than 75
- 33,260 live alone

Our demographics are like the state averages but reflect a less diverse and slightly more affluent population.

Priority Categories	Ventura County N=216,313	State of California N=9,259,582
Minority 60+	54%	61%
Low-income 60+	8%	12%
Medi-Cal eligible 60+	13%	21%
Geographic isolation 60+	2%	5%
SSI/SSP 65+	3%	6%
Population 75+	32%	32%
Lives alone 60+	15%	17%
Non-English-speaking 60+	4%	5%

## OUR GOALS ARE SIMPLE

1. Provide resources and services
2. Increase awareness of programs and services

We plan to accomplish these measurable goals in FY 2023-2024 through providing direct services as well as contracting with other community-based organizations. Our goals contain strategies to include opportunities for collaboration and capacity building as well as to identify and address emerging needs and issues of the population we serve. The projected start date for all activities is July 1, 2023, which will run through June 30, 2024. No services being provided are funded by Title IIIB Program Development and Coordination dollars.

## OUR PRIORITIES

During a strategic planning session held by the Advisory Council in January 2018, the following programs and efforts have been identified as priority objectives that:

1. Help older adults maintain their independence and ability to live at home.
2. Protect older adults living in long-term care facilities.
3. Provide home-delivered meals.
4. Provide health insurance information and system navigation through unbiased counseling.
5. Provide evidence-based classes that help prevent falls.
6. Provide congregate meals.
7. Prevent abuse and protect the rights of older adults to include case management for those that have been abused.
8. Provide transportation.
9. Provide family caregiver with information and assistance about available resources.
10. Provide emergency food.
11. Communicate to the public who we are, the services we provide, and the resources available.

This means that although all the objectives listed below are important, as are the additional strategies and activities to be undertaken to meet these goals, additional efforts that may include staff time and resources will be focused on these priorities.

<b>Goal 1</b> Provide resources and services to older adults, adults with disabilities, and their unpaid caregivers that promote optimal well-being with an emphasis on wellness, safety, and community livability.					
#	Category and narrative for Objective	# Of service units	#Of people served	Source of Funding	Update Status – New, Same, Decrease or Increase
1	Transportation – provide transportation to ensure older adults and persons with disabilities have access through accessible transportation to fully participate in the community.				
	For persons aged 60 and older, provide one-way trips to/from congregate meal sites	3,175	1,697	Title IIIB	Decrease
	Provide one-way trips for non-emergency medical appointments, shopping, etc.	54,677	4,394	Title IIIB, VCTC CARES	Decrease
2	Food and Nutrition – provide meals, supplemental food, nutrition counseling and education to ensure that older adults have access to nutritional meals, fresh fruits, and vegetables; as well as information to make healthy choices.				
	Congregate meals	138,973	2,600	Title IIIC1	Same
	Home-delivered meals	252,000	1,800	Title IIIC2/OCM	Increase

	Provide emergency food to older adults experiencing a food emergency	1,000,000	4,800	Title IIIB, ARPA, Donations	Same
	Supplement the meal program by planting and harvesting fresh produce in VCAAA's Senior Nutrition Garden.	20,000 lbs. produce	900	County, CalFresh Healthy Living	Same
	Nutrition Counseling (sessions)	320	320	Title IIIC	Increase
	Nutrition Education (sessions)	596	70	Title IIIC	Increase
	Provide education and promote physical activity (classes)	80	80	CalFresh Healthy Living	Decrease
3	Health, Fitness and Fall Prevention – provide evidence-based physical fitness classes to promote health and prevent falls. Additional help will be made available to older adults who have already experienced a fall.				
	Short-term case management for individuals that have fallen. Referrals come from emergency response and emergency department staff for people 65+ in Ojai, Ventura, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, and Camarillo	70	70	COV	Decrease
	Provide Evidence-Based Classes (Classes include Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance, Stepping On, A Matter of Balance and Walk with Ease (Arthritis Foundation), Diabetes Empowerment Education Program (DEEP)	5,228	381	Title IIID	Increase
4	Family Caregiver Services – provide programs and services to assist unpaid, informal caregivers, including older adults (such as grandparents) aged 55 and older raising children aged 18 and younger (such as grandchildren).				
	Caring for older adults:				
	Access: information and assistance and caregiver outreach (contacts)	5,500	245	Title IIIE	Increase
	Info services: public information activities and community education (events)	20	800,000	Title IIIE	Same
	Support services: caregiver assessment, case management, support groups, training and counseling (hours)	1,750	565	Title IIIE	Increase
	Respite services: in-home supervision and out-of-home day care (hours)	3,500	180	Title IIIE	Increase
	Supplemental services: caregiver adaptations and assistive devices (occurrences)	182	86	Title IIIE	Same
	Caring for the children (grandparents raising grandchildren)				
	Access: information and assistance and caregiver outreach (contacts)	80	40	Title IIIE	Same

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	Info services: public information activities and community education (events)	10	5,000	Title III E	Same
	Support services: caregiver assessment, case management, support groups and training (hours)	0	0	Title III E	Same
	Supplemental services	0	0	Title III E	Same
	Respite services – out of home	0	0	Title III E	Same
5	Maintaining Independence – Providing access to programs and services that foster independence and help older adults remain at home				
	Case management for older adults (hours)	1,250	220	Title III B	Same*
	Long-term case management for other specialized populations	N/A	445	Medi-Cal, MHSA	Decrease
	Personal Care (hours)	709	25	Title III B	Same*
	Disaster Preparedness	20	20	Title III B	Same*
	Homemaker services (hours)	980	45	Title III B	Same*
	Chore services (hours)	660	30	Title III B	Same*
	Residential repairs/modifications	78	78	Title III B	Same*
	Personal/home safety	24	20	Title III B	Same*
	Material aid	1,900	1,900	Title III B	Decrease
	Mental Health Counseling	86	86	Title III B	Same*
	Subsidized employment training through the Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP)	N/A	4	Title V	Decrease
	Short Term Service Coordination	4,262	4,262	ADRC	New
	Options Counseling	8,922	8,922	ADRC	New
	Transitions	962	962	ADRC	New
6	Socialization/Prevention of loneliness and isolation – providing services to reduce isolation and provide a human connection for older adults with few or no connections in the community, to alleviate depression and health concerns of those living alone and to provide a check in on older adults at-risk of losing their independence.				
	Peer counseling (hours)	900	616	Title III B	Increase
	Telephone reassurance (contacts)	4,000	800	Title III B	Increase
7	Prevention of Abuse and Protection of Rights of Older Adults – provide programs and services that protect the rights and property of older adults and protect them from abuse.				
	Legal assistance regarding public benefits, landlord-tenant disputes, housing rights, elder abuse, powers of attorney, consumer finance, and creditor harassment, and consumer fraud and warranties	1,400	800	Title III B, CHA/SMP	Same
	Community education events on rights and benefits	4	125	Title III B	Same
	Elder Abuse Case Management	100	25	DAVOCA	Same

**Strategic Plan Update for Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

	Financial Abuse Specialist Team (FAST) to provide training to professionals	20	150	Title VIIB	Same
	Provide Legal Information for Elders (“LIFE”) workshops for seniors.	20	150	Title VIIB	Same
	Ombudsman Program will work to ensure the rights and well-being of individuals residing in long-term care facilities (skilled nursing facilities and board and care facilities) in Ventura County. Complaint resolution rate.	98.7%	N/A	OMB Title IIIB	Same
8.	Housing – connect people in need of housing with those willing to share their housing.				
	Referrals to other organizations for services	140	130	COV	Decrease
	Matching home seekers with home providers	14	14	COV	Decrease
	Match introduction – refer home seekers to home providers	48	48	COV	Decrease
	Assistance in locating adequate housing through referral or placement.	28	28	COV	New
<p>Strategies to support the goal and objectives under this category:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Advocate for affordable housing for older adults and connecting housing and transportation in developing long-range planning around housing.</li> <li>2. Maintain VCAAA webpage related to transportation options</li> <li>3. Continue attendance on the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee to advocate for the transportation needs of older adults and persons with disabilities.</li> <li>4. Explore the use of alternate transportation modes such as driverless cars, and Uber advance at senior centers</li> <li>5. Advocate for the development of strategies and collaborations that will ensure services and safe living options for homeless seniors in Ventura County, including veterans, and adults with disabilities.</li> <li>6. Advocate for and develop strategies to address housing and transportation issues that impact older adults and persons with disabilities and examine other factors that contribute creating livable communities.</li> <li>7. Encourage the creation of a multi-generational housing incorporating universal design.</li> <li>8. Continue to advocate for the employment, training and job placement needs of older adults through participation on the Workforce Development Board and with the Advisory Council Workforce Committee</li> <li>9. Collaborate with public agencies and other stakeholders on a strategy for disaster planning and health emergencies</li> <li>10. Continue leadership of Dementia Friendly Ventura County which includes developing strategies to generate awareness, identify and engage key stakeholders, and develop a long-range action plan to identify and address issues relevant to Ventura County residents.</li> <li>11. Continue participation on the Elderly Fall Prevention Coalition</li> <li>12. Collaborate with community-based organizations, including the Ventura County Hospital to Home Alliance, to advocate for mental health and substance abuse programs that serve older adults (aged 60+); and for staff training in geriatrics.</li> <li>13. Investigate developing a volunteer program for retired social workers to increase the reach in the community for those in need of case management.</li> </ol>					

<b>Goal 2</b> Increase awareness of programs and needs that support Ventura County’s older adults, adults with disabilities, and their unpaid caregivers to include providing tools, classes and assistance with enrollment.					
#	Category and Narrative for Objective	# of service units	#of people served	Source of Funding	Update Status – New, Same, Decrease or Increase
1	Information and Resources – provide easy, uniform and streamlined access to a broad array of services, supports and advocacy for older adults, adults with disabilities and their family caregivers.				
	Provide Information, assistance, and referrals to include following up.	30,510	30,510	Title III B	Increase
	Provide outreach – one on one contact and/or virtual contact to connect to services at 50 events	800	800	Title III B	Decrease
	Provide Medicare enrollment assistance including assistance with Medicare Part D comparisons through the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program	3,595	1,864	HICAP	Decrease
	Provide benefit enrollment assistance in public programs	4,845	2,164	HICAP, NCOA/BEC, ADRC	Increase
<p>Strategies to support the goal and objectives under this category:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to monitor the growth of the non-English speaking communities and develop resource materials to serve those individuals as needed. This includes working with community-based organizations to revise and update an inventory of service providers who speak and provide services in languages other than English in FY 2020-2024.</li> <li>2. Continue participation on the LGBT Aging Coalition, which is under the auspices of VCAAA, and work with older adults who identify as being Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) to increase awareness of the unique needs of LGBT seniors, including but not limited to residents in long-term care facilities.</li> <li>3. Continue to manage the Aging and Disability Resource Network, which consists of community-based service providers who represent the interests of older adults and persons with disabilities in Ventura County. This includes working with Aging and Disability Resource Network members to identify service gaps, community awareness of the needs, coordination, and integration of services, create opportunities for collaborations and problem sharing.</li> <li>4. Promote optimal aging by adding a link to optimal aging information, continuing the optimal aging awards, and pursuing funding for other projects such as photo and story contests.</li> <li>5. Continue outreach related to VCAAA services and programs.</li> </ol>					

**Agenda Item #10**

TO: Advisory Council Members

FROM: Alyssa Corse, Grants Administrator

DATE: March 8, 2023

SUBJECT: **Recommendation to Approve a New Home Delivered Meal Program (Title IIIC2) Grant to Senior Concerns for the Remainder of FY 2022-2023 and FY 2023-2024.**

During the pandemic VCAAA strove to provide adequate nutrition services to older adults throughout Ventura County. Procurement requirements were relaxed during the Major Disaster Declaration (MDD) and several vendor contracts were signed to assist in addressing the provision of nutrition services. One of these vendor contracts was with the Conejo Valley Senior Concerns (CVSC), to provide home delivered meals to eligible clients in the Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park, Westlake Village and Oak Park areas of Ventura County, as a part of the Senior Nutrition Program.

To comply with the Older Americans Act /Title 22 procurement requirements which are being reinstated, post pandemic, we issued an RFP to allow applicants to apply to become a Senior Nutrition Program grantee (also known as sub-recipient). CVSC was the only applicant under this RFP.

We convened an evaluation panel for the purpose of reviewing the new grantee application, for the funding category (Home Delivered Meals – Title IIIC 2), service area, amount, for the period March 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023. The rating panel, whose members are not affiliated with the Senior Nutrition Program or with the applicant, met on March 2, 2023, to review the application. The panel’s rating is summarized in the following chart.

**SECTION 1: New Grants — FY 2022-2023 Recommended Funding by Program**

Applicant		OAA Funding Category	Project/Service	Annual Grant Amount*	Rating and Recommendation
1.1	Conejo Valley Senior Concerns	Title IIIC 2	Senior Nutrition Home Delivered Meal Program- (Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park, Westlake Village, and Oak Park areas of Ventura County)	\$152,000	98.25 points out of 100 AC Approval Required

\*Grant amount is estimated and is contingent upon the availability of state and federal monies and is subject to revision.

This contract may be eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years; however, the renewal is not guaranteed and is at the discretion of the VCAAA, subject to renegotiation and the availability of federal, state, and local funding.



### **RFP Timeline & Review:**

A legal notice was published in the Ventura County Star and on the vcaaa.org website on January 20, 2023, notifying the public that the RFP, application, and budget template would be available on the VCAAA website at [Public Notice & Request for Proposal – VCAAA](#); that interested parties must submit a formal Notice of Intent to apply by January 25, 2023; and that proposals were being solicited with a deadline of February 20, 2023.

On March 2, 2023, the evaluation panel met to review the applications. California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22 requires VCAAA to convene a panel that may consist of Advisory Council members, AAA staff and/or other qualified individuals. The evaluation panel was comprised of four staff managers: Each evaluated the proposals independently in writing, using a standardized rating form that corresponded to that in the rating criteria published in the RFP.

CCR, Title 22, Section 7358, dictates that the recommendations of the RFP Evaluation Panel are advisory to the AAA decision-making body, which shall be responsible for all award decisions. If award decisions are based on factors other than the evaluation criteria contained in the RFP, a full justification for the decision shall be documented. The award decision shall also be free from all real, apparent or potential conflict of interest. As such, the evaluation panel rated the applications as follows:

### **Evaluation Panel Rating**

**Title IIIC-2 Senior Nutrition Home Delivered Meal Program** – The RFP required a formal Letter of Intent to apply and to contract for this County of Ventura Home Delivered Meal Program in the amount of \$152,000. Only one organization, Conejo Valley Senior Concerns (CVSC), applied under this RFP.

In addition to being a VCAAA grantee in the Family Caregiver Program for many years, CVSC has been a partner of VCAAA in providing meals to older adults in the Thousand Oaks and surrounding areas, as a part of the Great Plates Program during the pandemic, beginning in 2020. Additionally, CVSC has been operating a separate Meal Delivery program, funded through their internal funding sources, for almost 50 years.

<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Conejo Valley Senior Concerns</b>		
<b>RFP Project Title:</b>	Title IIIC Senior Nutrition Program		
<b>Applicant Project Title:</b>	Home Delivered Meal Program		
<b>Funding Category:</b>	Title IIIC2	<b>Grants Possible per RFP:</b>	One (1)
<b>Total Score Possible:</b>	100		
<b>Applicant's Score:</b>	98.25		
<b>Project Ranking in Grant Category Based on Score:</b>	#1 of 1		
<b>STAFF REMARKS:</b> No members of the Evaluation Panel had a conflict of interest in reviewing this application.			



**VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE  
FY 2022-2023**

**All Advisory Council meetings are held in person.  
All sub-committee meetings are held via Zoom.**

	<b>Advisory Council</b>	<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Housing</b>	<b>Senior Nutrition &amp; Health</b>	<b>Dementia Friendly</b>	<b>Workforce</b>
<b>July</b>	July 13 9-11 a.m.	July 13 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	July 19 2 – 3 p.m.	July 20 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.		July 15 10 – 11 a.m.
<b>August</b>					Aug 3 11 – 12 p.m.	
<b>September</b>	Sept 14 9-11 a.m.	Sept 14 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	Sept 20 2 – 3 p.m.	Sept 21 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.		Sept 16 10 – 11 a.m.
<b>October</b>					Oct 5 11 – 12 p.m.	
<b>November</b>	Nov 9 9-11 a.m.	Nov 9 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	Nov 15 2 – 3 p.m.	Nov 16 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.		Nov 18 10 – 11 a.m.
<b>December</b>					Dec 7 11 – 12 p.m.	
<b>January</b>	Jan 11 9-11 a.m.	Jan 11 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	Jan 17 2 – 3 p.m.	Jan 18 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.		Jan 20 10 – 11 a.m.
<b>February</b>					Feb 1 11 – 12 p.m.	
<b>March</b>	March 8 9-11 a.m.	March 8 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	March 21 2 – 3 p.m.	March 22 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.		March 17 10 – 11 a.m.
<b>April</b>					April 5 11 – 12 p.m.	
<b>May</b>	May 10 9-11 a.m.	May 10 11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	May 16 2 – 3 p.m.	May 17 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.		May 19 10 – 11 a.m.
<b>June</b>					June 7 11 – 12 p.m.	

**New Member Orientation will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of (Aug, Oct, Dec, Feb, Apr, Jun) from 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. Please email [rene.verduzco@ventura.org](mailto:rene.verduzco@ventura.org) for the registration link.**