VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

November 8, 2023 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 am Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Center 646 County Square Drive, Ventura https://us06web.zoom.us/i/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.

AGENDA

1.	Call to Order and Agenda Review	Karen Gorback
2.	Pledge of Allegiance	Jeannette
		Sanchez-
		Palacios
3.	Roll Call and Motion to Accept Online Virtual Attendance for	Monique Nowlin
	those declaring "emergency circumstances"	
4.	Administering the Oath of Office	Monique Nowlin
5.	Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of July 12, 2023.	Karen Gorback
6.	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.	
7.	Legacy Awards	Alice Sweetland
8.	Consent Agenda Items – Committee Descriptions This Month	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.	
	 3. 4. 5. 6. 	 Pledge of Allegiance Roll Call and Motion to Accept Online Virtual Attendance for those declaring "emergency circumstances" Administering the Oath of Office Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of July 12, 2023. Public Comments 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. Legacy Awards Consent Agenda Items – Committee Descriptions This Month 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

8.1 Housing Committee Report – September 19, 2023 8.2 Transportation Committee Report – September 13, 2023 8.3 Workforce Committee Report – October 19, 2023 8.4 Optimal Aging – September 27, 2023 8.5 Optimal Aging – October 10, 2023 8.6 ADRC Committee Report – September 20, 2023 9. Approval for Executive Committee to Appoint a Representative to the California Senior Legislature to Serve the Remainder of Rossanna Guerra's Term (November 2023 – October 2026)	Karen Gorback
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PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

	10.	PIO Update	Roger Horne		
	11.	Committee Selection Other Committee Meetings: a. California Senior Legislature Update b. VCAAA Foundation Update c. LGBTQ Aging Coalition d. Dementia Friendly Ventura County	Monique Nowlin Gitt/Gorback James Schicker Martha Shapiro Haleh Hashemzadeh		
	13.	Meeting Calendar FY 2023-2024	Karen Gorback		
	14.	Comments from the Chair	Karen Gorback		
	15.	Other Business	Karen Gorback		
11:00 am	16.	Adjournment Karen Gorback			

The next meeting will be:

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 (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 September 13, 2023

Advisory Council Members Present:

Blair Barker (Service Provider)
Stephanie Belding (Thousand Oaks COA)
Ron Berkowsky (Focused Population)
Denise Calhoun (District 2)
Lyn Cotwright (Moorpark COA)
Carina Forsythe (Fillmore COA)
Tony Gitt (CSL)
Dr. Karen Gorback (CSL)
Rosanna Guerra (CSL)
Maureen Hodge (Family Caregiver)

Sue Hughes (District 3)

Carol Leish (Disability Population)

Alvin Brown (Simi Valley COA) – came in after roll call

Patricia Lownes (Thousand Oaks COA)
Dr. Maria Munguia (Santa Paula COA)
Anna Marie Reilley (Fillmore COA)
Nancy Rowe (Camarillo COA)
Anita Ruiz (BOS)
Peter Schreiner (Behavioral Health)
Martha Shapiro (Service Provider)
Alice Sweetland (Oxnard COA)
Sue Tatangelo (Consumer)
Sylvia Taylor Stein (District 5)

Dana Tomarken (Santa Paula COA)

Advisory Council Members Absent:

Smita Dandekar (District 4) Lynette Harvey (Medical) William Nelson (Ventura COA) Clark Owens (Oxnard COA) Carmen Reyes (Camarillo COA) Reynaldo Rivera (Focused Population) Jeanette Sanchez-Palacios (District 1)

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Alyssa Corse (Grants Administrator)
Dr. Haleh Hashemzadeh (Sr. Manager)
Roger Horne (Public Information)
Mason Lewis (Pantry Team)
Brian Murphy (CalAim Manager)
Denise Noguera (Program Manager)
Celeste Lopez (Social Worker)

Monique Nowlin (Deputy Director)
Benjamin Rhodes (Sr. Manager)
Jason Sagar (Program Manager)
Rene Verduzco (Administration)
Jerrica Van Nest (via zoom) (Social Worker)
Sonia Vaughn (Program Manager)
Gray Wilking (Program Manager)

Members of the Public Present:

Sarah Mailes

James Schicker (VCAAA Foundation)

 Call to Order and Agenda Review – The September 13, 2023, Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 9:09 AM by Chair Karen Gorback.

Motion: Approve agenda for September 13, 2023

Moved by: Stephanie Belding, seconded by Carol Leish

Result: Motion passed

- 2) Pledge of Allegiance The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peter Schreiner.
- 3) Roll Call and Motion to Accept Online Virtual Attendance for Those Declaring "Emergency Circumstances" Rene Verduzco called roll. The Advisory Council reached a quorum with 23 of 30 members present.
- 4) Administering the Oath of Office Monique Nowlin swore in Lyn Cotwright, Dana Tomarken, Blair Barker, Patricia Lownes, Nancy Rowe, and Dr. Maria Munguia to The Ventura County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council.
- 5) Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of July 12, 2023.

Motion: Approve with amendment(s): 1) Amend the Workforce Committee next meeting time from September 15, 2023, to September 22, 2023.

Moved by: Tony Gitt, seconded by Anna Marie Reilly

Result: Motion passed

- 6) Public Comments No public comments.
- 7) Consent Agenda Items

7.1 Housing Committee Report – July 25, 2023

7.2 Transportation Committee Report – July 12, 2023

7.3 Work Force Committee Report – July 28, 2023

7.4 Health & Nutrition Committee Report – July 26, 2023

7.5 Optimal Aging - July 26, 2023

7.6 ADRC Committee Report – July 21, 2023

Motion: Approve consent agenda items

Moved by: Sue Tatangelo, seconded by Martha Shapiro

Result: Motion passed

Chair Gorback added a statement, as part of the discussion for the Consent Agenda Items she is requesting that each Committee Chair provide a one-minute spiel about their Committee.

PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 8) Caregiver Navigator Maureen Hodge provided a comprehensive overview of the Caregiver Navigator program, the resources they provide, the collaborations they have and how the work that they do increases caregiver resilience and mitigates caregiver burnout. She wanted to show a video, but the video sound did not work adequately so Roger Horne, the PIO, will mail the link to the AC members.
- 9) Benefits Enrollment Center Ben Rhodes provided a high-level overview of the Benefits Enrollment Center (BEC) and how the team focuses on the core benefits; Medicare Part D Extra Help (LIS), Medicare Savings Programs (MSP's), Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).
- Ageism Chair Gorback opened a discussion about ageism and what members can do to combat ageism. One specific action is to combat the hundredth day of school practice at schools. This is not part of the Advisory Council purview per se, but a topic she is willing to present on further if the Advisory Council would like that. Martha Shapiro also discussed the topic of supporting intergenerational activities.
- PIO Update Roger Horne informed the Council about the outreach months. Well over 20 events for the last few months. Some highlights, the Ventura County Fair, for Senior Day, Farmers Market, handed out vouchers. Some highlights coming up, a proclamation at the Board of Supervisors 10:00 am, Tuesday, 9/26/23; then we have the Fall Prevention Forum in person at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center, Friday 9/29/23. He also discussed the Walk to End

Alzheimer's walk the agency sponsored and will have a walking team. Roger also shared about the agency's partnership with Jiffy Lube for our Meals on Wheels program. Medicare Open enrollment is around the corner, we are working on the Legacy awards.

12) Committee Selection – Subcommittee selections for Advisory Council fiscal year 2023-2024 are due. Monique Nowlin reminded the council to turn in selections to her.

13) Other Committee Meetings:

- **a. California Senior Legislature Update –** Tony Gitt presented the CSL Legislative Summary Report and stated they would be reviewing and selecting the best 10 proposals that they will put forward. Tony also spoke about the legislation regarding the Brown Act and further articulated this may affect the Council if it is passed. It would mean the Council could meet via Zoom again in lieu of in person.
- **b. VCAAA Foundation Update –** Chair, James Schicker expressed gratitude regarding the discussion on Caregivers. He further expressed his intent to continue presenting the Foundation update. James provided an overview of the mission of the Foundation and some of the items the are focusing on funding, one of which is the Farm.
- **c. LGBTQ Aging Coalition** Martha Shapiro shared that the Coalition is having their first social event on Saturday, September 23^{rd} at the Oxnard Wilson Senior Center from 4pm to 8pm. 50 and up LGBTQ and caregivers of any age. She further stated that this event is funded by VCAAA and is completely free for participants.
- **d. Dementia Friendly Ventura County –** Haleh Hashemzadeh provided an overview of the events of DFVC, one of which was the Living Well, Caring Well event. The next event will be on December 6th from 2pm to 4pm at Oxnard Family Circle. She stated the next meeting would be on October 4th 11am to 12pm.
- **Meeting Calendar** Chair Gorback reminded everyone about the meeting calendar and that it has upcoming dates for meetings and Committees.
- Comments from the Chair Chair Gorback thanked Martha for filling in as Chair last month and she thanked everyone for their time supporting the Advisory Council. Lastly, she wished those that celebrate Rosh Hashanah, Shana Tova and best wishes to all for a happy healthy productive time.

- **Other Business –** Monique Nowlin stated there are so many new Advisory Council members, so she asked staff to introduce themselves.
- **Adjournment –** Meeting adjourned at 10:47 AM. The next regular meeting for the Advisory Council will be held on November 8, 2023.

FROM: Martha Shapiro, Committee Chair

DATE: November 8, 2023

SUBJECT: Housing Committee Report from September 19, 2023

Housing Committee Members Present:

Stephanie Belding (TO COA)
Lyn Cotwright (Moorpark COA)
Maureen Hodge (Family Caregiver)
Sue Hughes (District 3)
Martha Shapiro (Service Provider) – Chair

Housing Committee Members Absent:

Rossana Guerra (CSL) Jeannette Sanchez-Palacios (District 1) Anna Marie Reilly (Filmore COA) Dana Tomarken (Santa Paula COA)

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Roger Horne (Public Information Officer) Victoria Jump (Deputy Director) Denise Noguera (Call Center Manager) Monique Nowlin (Division Manager)

- 1. **Welcome and Introductions –** Meeting was called to order at 2:07 PM. The committee had a quorum. The Committee's newest member was introduced, Lyn Cotwright. Every other Committee member and staff introduced themselves as well.
- 2. **Public Comments –** Stephanie Belding pointed out that in the VC Star there was an article about Thousand Oaks passing a seniors-only mobile home park ordinance. Also, Camarillo to offer hotel vouchers to the city's homeless.
- 3. **HomeShare Update** Monique Nowlin stated that there was no update this month due to staff transitions. Denise Noguera was unavailable, and Ben Rhodes just got promoted, but that prospectively she would be providing an update or having Jerrica Van Nest attend to present. Stephanie suggested reaching out to the Rotary to let them know about the HomeShare program. There was also discussion for the need of a Housing Navigator for older adults in our community.
- 4. **2023/2024 Committee Goals** The Committee continued to brainstorm goals. They are as follows:
 - Victoria Jump suggested the Committee add advocating for a Housing Navigator on their Committee Goals list.
 - Chair Shapiro suggested providing an educational seminar to service providers on housing options and how to access them.

- Stephanie suggested advocating for devoting a certain number of units or percentage of units for seniors.
- Advocate for the Assisted Living Waiver Program with the facilities in Ventura County scheduled to be coming in 2025. Chair Shapiro suggested adding a standing agenda item for the ALW as it gets closer. Unrelated, but Sue Hughes asked about the VASH vouchers for veterans and the amounts available in our County. Victoria answered her questions. Victoria then went on to discuss facilities that fall outside the scope of the Ombudsman's protective oversight. In our community in the last 4 years, Ventura County went from 0 to 80 of these types of facilities. She is suggesting the Committee can advocate to the state to cover these congregate living facilities. This could also involve conversations with our elected officials, conversation with the Department of Aging. Victoria committed to having a conversation with the Director of the Department of Aging and letting her know about this issue to see how they might be supportive.
- Victoria asked if the Committee would consider adding a goal about increasing the visibility and number of matches for HomeShare. Chair Shapiro said definitely, that has been a carryover goal.

Chair Shapiro asked for the Committee to consider thinking about goals and to email her or Monique any other ideas. She wants to come back to a robust list that can be narrowed down.

5. **Adjournment –** Meeting was adjourned at 3:03 PM. The next Housing Committee meeting will be held on November 21, 2023.

FROM: Tony Gitt, Committee Chair

DATE: November 8, 2023

SUBJECT: Transportation Committee Report from September 13, 2023

Transportation Committee Members Present:

Tony Gitt (CSL)
Peter Schreiner (Behavioral Health)

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Roger Horne (Public Information Officer)
Monique Nowlin (Deputy Director)
Maricela Pardo (Transportation & Elder Help Coordinator)
Ben Rhodes (DP Manager)

- 1. **Welcome and Introductions –** Meeting was called to order at 11:09 AM. The committee had a quorum.
- 2. Public Comments None.
- ElderHelp Update Maricela Pardo provided an overview of the transportation supports offered by VCAAA; which encompasses bus tickets and medical rides to appointments.
- 4. **Update 2023/2024 Committee Goals** After discussion, Committee Goal C was removed. There was additional discussion on Committee Goals, but no other goals were definitively added.
- 5. **Adjournment –** Meeting was adjourned at 12:01 PM. The next Transportation Committee meeting will be held on November 8, 2023, immediately after the Advisory Council Meeting.

FROM: William Nelson, Committee Chair

DATE: November 8, 2023

SUBJECT: Workforce Committee Report from October 19, 2023

Workforce Committee Members Present:

Stephanie Belding Karen Gorback Carol Leish William Nelson

Workforce Committee Members Absent:

Carina Forsyth Patricia Lownes

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Roger Horne (Public Information Officer)

- 1. **Welcome –** Meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM. The committee reached a quorum.
- 2. **Public Comments –** There were no public comments.
- Discussion about Upcoming Job Fair The Workforce Committee is hosting a job fair in conjunction with the annual Wellness Fair at the Goebel Center in Thousand Oaks on January 17. The following items were discussed:
 - Carol Leish will write an article for the Ventura Breeze and will also seek to place articles in the Thousand Oaks Acorn and Ventura County Star.
 - Stephanie Belding will work with Roger Horne to develop a handout/information card with interviewing tips to give out at the event.
 - William Nelson will follow up with Monique Nowlin about having a shared folder where everyone can access and update documents.
 - A draft of the letter that will go to employers asking them to attend the event was discussed. After changes were made, the committee voted unanimously to approve the letter (nominated by Stephanie Belding, seconded by Karen Gorback).
 - It was discussed how committee members will approach employers. They may need to visit a local company and find out who their regional marketing or outreach representative is. Others have HR departments they can go to. It was suggested to make the initial pitch in person or over the phone, and follow up with the letter.
 - Committee members were asked to being making contact with employers after the letter is completed, and seek commitments before Thanksgiving.
 - Committee members decided which employers would be the first ones to reach out to, and who would do so.

4. **Adjournment –** Meeting was adjourned at 11:03 AM. The next Workforce Committee meeting is November 17 at 10 AM.

FROM: Alice Sweetland, Committee Chair

DATE: November 8, 2023

SUBJECT: Optimal Aging Committee Report from September 27, 2023

Optimal Aging Committee Members Present:

Ron Berkowsky
Denise Calhoun
Carol Leish
Alice Sweetland
Sylvia Taylor Stein

Optimal Aging Committee Members Absent:

Alvin Brown Nancy Rowe

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Roger Horne (Public Information Officer)
Monique Nowlin (Deputy Director)

Guest:

David Yoshitomi, County Executive Office

- 1. **Welcome –** Meeting was called to order at 2:03 PM. The committee reached a quorum.
- Update on Potential Collaboration with the County Executive Office, Arts and Culture Manager – Monique Nowlin and David Yoshitomi provided an overview for an Optimal Aging collaboration between this Committee, the CEO's office, VCAAA, VC Arts Council and VC Library, a multi-agency effort. This will be in conjunction with Older Americans Month in May 2024.
- 3. **Legacy Awards Review –** Roger Horne provided a high-level overview of the Legacy Award nominations. The Committee then decided to schedule another meeting for this review on 10/10/23 at noon. Roger will send the nominations ahead of time for review.
- 4. Adjournment Meeting was adjourned at 2:46 PM.

FROM: Alice Sweetland, Committee Chair

DATE: November 8, 2023

SUBJECT: Optimal Aging Committee Report from October 10, 2023

Optimal Aging Committee Members Present:

Ron Berkowsky Alvin Brown Denise Calhoun Carol Leish Alice Sweetland Sylvia Taylor Stein

Optimal Aging Committee Members Absent:

Nancy Rowe

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Roger Horne (Public Information Officer) Monique Nowlin (Deputy Director)

- 1. **Welcome –** Meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM. The committee reached a quorum.
- 2. **Review and Selection of 2023 Legacy Awards –** The Committee voted Maywood Acres Healthcare as the Dementia Friendly Business/Organization. Madame Chair called for a vote, and all were in favor with one abstention (Sylvia Taylor Stein).

The Committee voted for Andrea Ortiz from Oasis and George Lopez from HICAP for Community Member award recipients. Madame Chair called for a vote, and all were in favor.

The Committee voted for Chef David's Kitchen & Catering for Business/Organization. Madame Chair called for a vote, and all were in favor with one abstention (Carol Leish).

3. **Adjournment –** Meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM. The next Optimal Aging committee meeting is schedule for November 22 at 2 PM.

FROM: Tony Gitt, Committee Chair

DATE: November 8, 2023

SUBJECT: Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) Committee

Report from September 20, 2023

ADRC Committee Members Present:

Sue Tatangelo

ADRC Committee Members Absent:

Maureen Hodge Tony Gitt Rossanna Guerra Martha Shapiro Carmen Reyes

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Victoria Jump (Deputy Director) Monique Nowlin (Division Manager)

ILRC Staff Members Present:

Emily Bridges Jennifer Griffin Alexa Martin Mary Moore

Guests Present:

Anna Gendron (Brain Injury Center)

- 1. **Welcome and Introductions –** Meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM. The committee did not have a quorum.
- 2. Public Comments None.
- 3. **Brain Injury Center Presentation –** Anna Gendron provided a comprehensive presentation on the resources available for individuals with an acquired or traumatic brain injury and she provided the Committee with information on how best to interact with brain injury survivors.
- 4. **After Hours Call Center Pilot** Victoria Jump shared that VCAAA is going to be running an after hours contact center to collect data for the State to help inform the State about what their 24-hour contact center should look like. VCAAA will have the contact center open evening, weekend, and holiday hours. The lines will be staffed by social workers and this pilot will be launched in November.

- 5. **Upcoming Changes to the Website Person Centered Web Designer** Victoria shared that VCAAA will be using a professional person-centered web designer to review our website and make recommendations on how to improve the website and recommend more automation where feasible. This will be happening in the winter.
- 6. **Data Collection Showing Participant Outcomes** Victoria shared that this is a research project for the State. The State is looking at the ADRC to aid them in making a case for how we measure success, beyond the widgets. How to capture the complexity of what we do and how we make a difference in the lives of the clients we serve. The current ADRC measures will remain unchanged, but we can suggest added measures.
- 7. **Extended Partner Identification** This is something the ADRC had tabled, but we will need to pull out and review our old agreements and revisit the data sharing discussion, operating through a lens of future community information exchange platforms.
- 8. **Ventura County Community Information Exchange (VCCIE) Overview** Monique Nowlin provided oversight into what this is and shared with the Committee that she is on the Board in her professional capacity. Victoria added that the VCCIE is also linked to the ADRC and all the work our extended partners do.
- 9. **2023/2024 Committee Goals** Monique asked if there are any other goals the Committee wants staff to be working on that hasn't already been discussed. There was none.
- 10. **Adjournment –** Meeting was adjourned at 1:54 PM. The next ADRC Committee meeting will be held on November 15, 2023.



VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE FY 2023-2024

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

	Advisory Council	ADRC	Transportation	Housing		Optimal Aging	Workforce
	1				Health		
July	July 12	July 19	July 12	July 18	July 26	July 26	July 21
	9-11 a.m.	1 - 2 p.m.	11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	2 - 3 p.m.	12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	2 – 3:00 p.m.	10 – 11 a.m.
August							
September	Sept 13	Sept 20	Sept 13	Sept 19	Sept 27	Sept 27	Sept 15
	9-11 a.m.	1 - 2 p.m.	11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	2 – 3 p.m.	12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	2 – 3:00 p.m.	10 – 11 a.m.
October							
November	Nov 8	Nov 15	Nov 8	Nov 21	Nov 22	Nov 22	Nov 17
	9-11 a.m.	1 - 2 p.m.	11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	2 – 3 p.m.	12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	2 – 3:00 p.m.	10 – 11 a.m.
December							
January	Jan 10	Jan 17	Jan 10	Jan 16	Jan 24	Jan 24	Jan 19
	9-11 a.m.	1 - 2 p.m.	11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	2 – 3 p.m.	12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	2 – 3:00 p.m.	10 – 11 a.m.
February							
March	March 13	March 20	March 13	March 19	March 27	March 27	March 15
	9-11 a.m.	1 - 2 p.m.	11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	2 – 3 p.m.	12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	2 – 3:00 p.m.	10 – 11 a.m.
April							
May	May 8	May 15	May 8	May 21	May 22	May 22	May 17
	9-11 a.m.	1 - 2 p.m.	11:15 – 12:15 p.m.	2 – 3 p.m.	12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	2 – 3:00 p.m.	10 – 11 a.m.
June							