

Allegan County Commission On Aging



3255 122nd Ave., Suite 103
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-3333
1-877-673-5333
269-673-0569 Fax
<http://www.allegancountycoa.org>

*Chairperson: George Smeenge
Vice Chairperson: Don Black*

COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING – AGENDA

Tuesday, September 15, 2009 – 1:30 p.m.
Spartan Room-Dept. of Human Services Building
3255 122nd Ave, Allegan, MI 49010

COMMISSIONERS

Don Black
269-792-6446
dblack@allegancounty.org

Terry Burns
616-355-2525
tburns@allegancounty.org

SENIOR
MEMBERS
Judith Graff
269-637-2307
graffj@i2k.com

Doris Hawkey
269-672-5181

Eleanor Nielsen

George Smeenge
616-335-2106
ghsmeenge@egl.net

Naomi Whetzel
269-793-0132

MEMBER AT
LARGE
Sally Brooks
269-683-0260
sbrooks@allegancounty.org

Susan Gawaluch
269-561-4663
sue@lifehouseproperties.com

Theresa Lynn
269-686-8659
tlynn@accn.org

Patricia Pera
269-543-3791

CALL TO ORDER:

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

PLANNING SESSION: 1:30-2:40 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 18, 2009

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

COMMUNICATIONS: ACRDC letter

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

INTRODUCTIONS:

PRESENTATION: Kimberly Donlin, Generations Adult Day Care

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Tammy Grigg

ACTION:

1. Fund Balance Disbursements (Judy's recommendation)
2. 2010 contracts
3. Software purchase for contract and records management

DISCUSSION:

1. Goals-update from focus groups
2. Transportation issues – Cash match for ACT

REPORTS / MISC:

1. I & R Log – July
2. COA calendar for October – George Smeenge
3. Outreach Report-August
4. Story

ROUND TABLE:

ADJOURNMENT:

NEXT MEETING: October 20, 2009, 1:30 p.m.

Nederveld Room at County Services Building

Mission Statement

“To serve seniors by developing and coordinating services that support their independence, maintain their dignity, and preserve their quality of life”

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CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, George Smeenge at 1:34 p.m. Smeenge apologized for his conduct towards Tammy Grigg and Sue Nelson at last month's meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Present were: George Smeenge, Eleanor Nielsen, Judy Graff, Naomi Whetzel, Pat Pera, Sue Gawaluch. Absent: Don Black, Terry Burns, Sally Brooks, Theresa Lynn, Doris Hawkey.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Sue Nelson read an email from Don Black stating that Jim English, Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations of Wayland wants to be on a future agenda. We will be placing him in our "parking lot".

Whetzel mentioned an item about the food pantry at the Hopkins United Methodist Church. An economics discussion ensued.

Graff brought up the subject of a seminar she is attending; "Journeying with Your Parents into Old Age". The facilitator of the seminar is willing to offer it to caregivers in Allegan County if there is enough interest. The Board members were encouraged to find out if there is any interest in such a seminar.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Graff requested that the minutes be amended to read that her agenda issue regarding the fund balance be added to the next agenda instead of "in the future". Nielsen moved and Whetzel seconded that the minutes be approved as amended. Passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Whetzel asked if an item could be added to the agenda form: "Additions to Agenda". She stated that the Board of Commissioners' Agenda has this item and wishes that ours had the same. Graff requested that the fund balance be added as a discussion item. Graff moved and Nielsen seconded that the agenda be approved as amended. Passed by unanimous vote.

Mission Statement

"To serve seniors by developing and coordinating services that support their independence, maintain their dignity, and preserve their quality of life"

INTRODUCTIONS:

Patricia Pera was introduced as a new board member replacing Becky Rininger, who resigned from the Board on June 16, 2009.

PRESENTATION:

Jo Ver Beek, Evergreen Commons

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Tammy Grigg updated the board on the student project for department brochures and millage renewal materials and the 2010 contract recommendations.

ACTION:

No action was taken.

DISCUSSION:

1. Update on student project for brochures and millage renewal
2. 2010 contract recommendations – providers and director
3. Goals-update from focus groups

REPORTS / MISC:

1. AAAWM update -Eleanor Nielsen-printed report added to board packet at the start of the meeting
2. Mapping Project Update-new map of seniors served was included in the board packet
3. I & R Log – July-noted by Chairman Smeenge
4. COA calendar for September – George Smeenge-none presented
5. Outreach Report– noted by Chairman Smeenge. Smeenge asked why Walton can go to assessments and he may not. Grigg quoted the provider contract that states a County agent may visit a client's home. Grigg noted that as the Director, she may also serve as an agent of the County. They are direct employees of the County and therefore can serve as agents for the County. They are covered by the County's Liability Insurance.

ROUND TABLE:**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: September 15, 2009, 1:30 pm in Spartan Room

Respectfully submitted: Sue Nelson, Department of Senior Services Secretary.



323 Water Street, Allegan, Michigan 49010

Allegan County Resource Development Committee, Inc.

Community Action Agency
Edward Hillary, Executive Director

September 2, 2009

Tammy Grigg
Department of Senior Services
3255 122nd Ave., Suite 103
Allegan, Mi. 49010

RECEIVED
SEP 04 2009
BY: *Tammy*

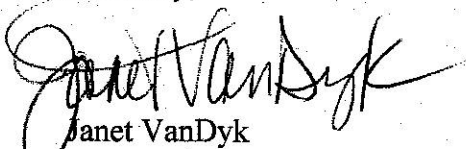
Dear Tammy,

ACRDC is requesting additional funds to eliminate the waiting lists for home delivered meals and volunteer transportation and to be able to finish out the year at the current level of service. For home delivered meals the waiting list consists of individuals being discharged from nursing homes and hospitals. Several individuals have terminal cancer. The waiting list for transportation includes medical, legal and social appointments not being met. There has been a great increase in demand due to transporting seniors to the adult day care program, transporting seniors to congregate meal sites, additional dialysis patients, social appointments and overall decline in the economy in which seniors are giving up maintaining a vehicle.

For home delivered meals we are requesting an additional \$40,000 (approx. 8,016 meals) which will enable us to continue serving at our current level. For volunteer transportation we are requesting \$12,000 to serve the current level of rides through the end of 2009.

We appreciate your time and consideration of this very serious matter.

Sincerely,


Janet VanDyk
Program Director

ACRDC's Volunteer Transportation Expenses
For seniors living in Casco, Ganges and Lee townships
January-July, 2009

Here is what I came up with for the ACRDC VT reimbursements. There were only 3 seniors who live in Casco, Ganges, or Lee townships that were being served through ACRDC.

L.D.(grocery stores, food pantry, medical, social)

Jan-16 rides totalling 471.52
Feb-27 rides totalling 517.32
March-26 rides totalling 535.34
April-34 rides totalling 762.96
May-21 rides totalling 476.70
June-27 rides totalling 562.68
July-21 rides totalling 437.64
For a grand total of **\$3,764.16**

R.T. (kidney dialysis patient-all dialysis rides)

March-10 rides totalling 205.90
April-23 rides totalling 516.12
May-26 rides toalling 590.20
June-24 rides totalling 500.16
July-30 rides totalling 625.20
For a grand total of **\$2,437.58**

D.D. (social)

July-4 rides totaling **\$83.36**

Grand total of all trips provided to Casco Twp clientele: \$6,285.10

*Information provided by Rebekah Walton, Outreach and Assessment Coordinator

Allegran County Department of Senior Services
Director's Report
September 15, 2009

Action:

1. Fund Balance Disbursements (Judy's recommendation). Last month Judy Graff asked that the reserve fund be placed on this month's agenda as an action item. Judy recommended, "that the new director should put together a strategy and a set of goals to present to us (COA) and get our approval on to be completed by December 1, 2009, so that we have a game plan of how we should be spending the amount of money that we said we should not just be sitting in a corner waiting for a rainy day."

I'd like to suggest that we consider ACRDC's requests for additional funding for Home Delivered Meals and Volunteer Transportation at this meeting. I've included a statement of expenses that ACRDC incurred while serving Casco Twp's seniors. The total is \$6,285.10 for trips provided from January through July because Casco Twp didn't have a driver willing to do dialysis for R.T and they served L.D. because they had provided rides to him in the past and wasn't aware that he didn't contact Casco Twp for his rides. D.D. is a senior that is a regular for Casco Twp and they weren't able to provide a driver for the trips he needed. The balance in Casco Twp's budget isn't enough to cover the expenses that ACRDC incurred for serving their seniors. I would still recommend that the rides be prioritized with the understanding that going to the grocery store can be accomplished in 1-3 rides a month and not 15-20 rides. I completed the assessment of ACRDC and the Home Delivered Meals program is running over budget, but there are approximately 20 seniors that receive liquid meals. The doctors have prescribed three (3) liquid meals a day for almost every senior on liquids. The costs start adding up when you consider each liquid meal is \$4.99. They do have a waiting list for meals that just started and the neediest seniors are on the list (nursing home and hospital discharges). Rebekah has been working with ACRDC on suggestions to reduce the units provided in HDM. We were able to move a couple of people off the lists because we discovered there is someone in the home available to provide meals. The situation is critical as we have reviewed the assessments/reassessments and all qualify as frail/disabled/handicapped or have a medical condition that necessitates the meals. There is a greater need than what was originally planned for with the HDM contract and I believe it's imperative that we meet the need with additional funding.

2. 2010 contracts. Last month I gave my recommendation regarding next year's contracts. A decision has to be made if the COA is going to renew the current contracts with modifications or release Requests For Proposals for services to be provided in 2010. The RFP process is very

Allegan County Department of Senior Services

Director's Report

September 15, 2009

long and time consuming and if the COA decides that is the direction to go, then we need to start the process immediately.

3. Software purchase for contract and records management. Last month I discussed the COA Assessment and Mapping projects and how we're considering a third party vendor for the software. I'd like to recommend that the COA approve purchasing the software we need up to \$30,000. from the reserve fund.

Discussion:

1. Goals-update from focus groups. The focus groups will be reporting on the progress that has been made since our last meeting.
2. Transportation issues-cash match for ACT. The County department heads (appointed and elected) just concluded with our recommendations for the Board of Commissioners regarding the budget. One of the recommendations that is being presented to the BOC is a \$25,000. cash match request for Allegan County Transportation for the Specialized Services Grant be funded by the senior millage instead of the general fund. The Specialized Services Grant provides a portion of the rides to seniors that need rides to the Congregate Meal sites, dialysis and other appointments. The COA should make a recommendation of whether or not you approve the funding of this request.

What's happening in Senior Services?

1. The interview process is almost completed with the first round of interviews for the director. The tentative start date for the new director will be the beginning of October.
2. The new director will be attending the MDSA conference in Traverse City at the end of October for three days.
3. The Service Provider assessments are completed and the results will be available at next month's meeting. I'm very proud of the work our service providers provide and there are no major compliance issues.
4. The Client Satisfaction Surveys have been mailed and we've started to receive responses.

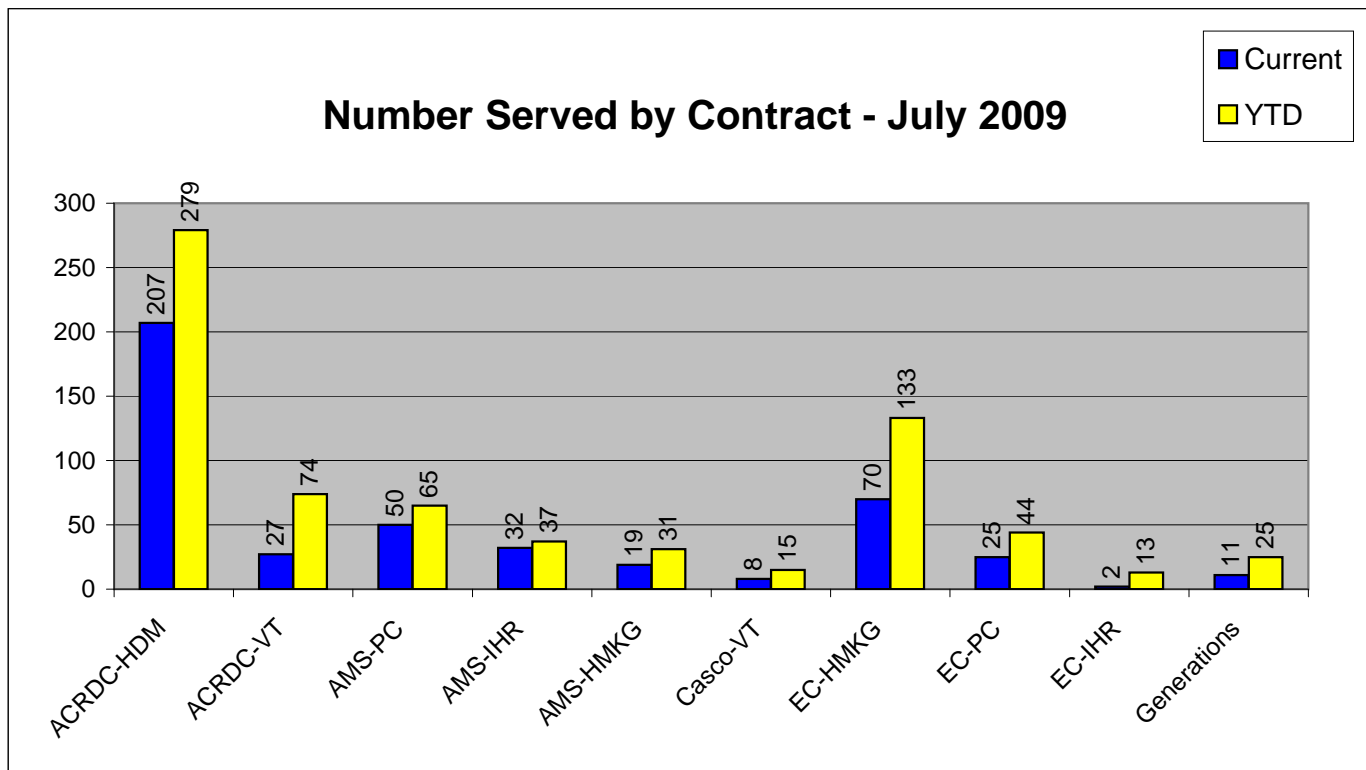
Respectfully submitted,

Tammy J. Grigg
Interim Director

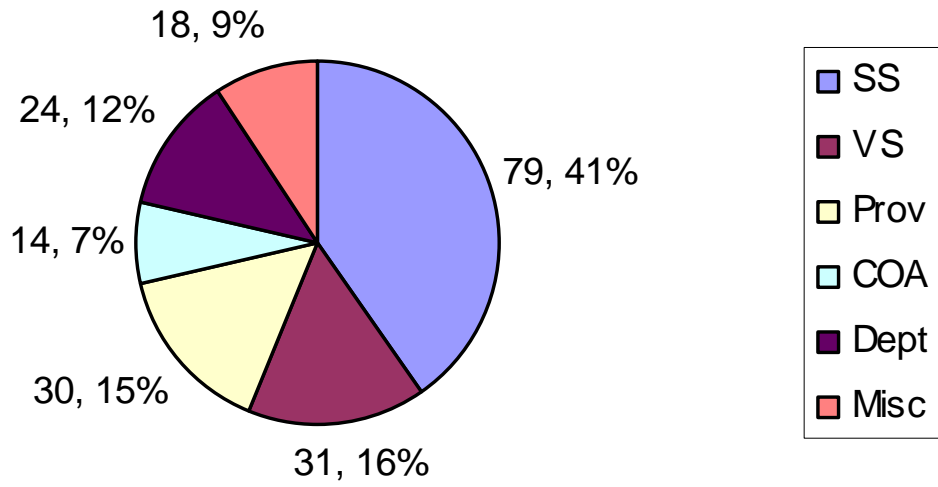
**Allegan County Department of Senior Services
July 2009 Monthly Report**

	Number Served		Number of Units		Cost	
	Current	YTD	Current	YTD	Current	YTD
ACRDC-HDM	207	279	4,177.00	23,376.00	\$20,843.23	\$116,646.24
ACRDC-VT	27	74	306.00	1,991.00	\$7,238.59	\$44,642.21
AMS-PC	50	65	642.25	4,195.00	\$11,560.50	\$75,510.00
AMS-IHR	32	37	294.50	1,216.75	\$4,927.50	\$21,293.13
AMS-HMKG	19	31	69.25	476.75	\$985.00	\$7,702.00
Casco-VT	8	15	50.00	492.00	\$920.72	\$7,732.55
EC-HMKG	70	133	298.00	2,461.25	\$5,960.00	\$47,799.25
EC-PC	25	44	343.00	3,094.75	\$6,174.00	\$55,364.25
EC-IHR	2	13	13.00	1,229.50	\$227.50	\$20,994.65
Generations	11	25	1,064.75	8,628.75	\$7,808.61	\$67,994.63

Allegan County Department of Senior Services July 2009 Monthly Report



I & R August, 2009



Outreach and Assessment Coordinator Report for Month of August 2009

Prepared by Rebekah Walton

I must admit, this month went rather quickly and you will soon understand why. We were able to completely clear both wait lists with the increase to the personal Care and homemaking budgets. The personal care wait list has remained cleared, however we quickly added four new names to the homemaking wait list. All are waiting for one specific service provider, as three of the four receive another service through the same provider, and the other received respite care prior to his significant other passing.

Our service providers were busy assessing 70 new seniors during the month of August. Fifteen new seniors began receiving respite care, 17 seniors now are receiving personal care, 36 seniors began receiving homemaking, and 2 additions for Casco Township volunteer transportation. Unfortunately, new wait lists were started for home delivered meals and volunteer transportation (ACRDC).

It was brought to my attention, that we are assisting a survivor of throat cancer. In order to communicate, she is in need of what is called a "Servox". She lives off of her Social Security and receives Medicaid. Medicaid will only assist with 20% of the lowest quote obtained at \$1100. She has tried to locate assistance through nearly every agency/organization available to her, without any success. As you can imagine, she has become more and more frustrated, as she has not had the ability to communicate verbally for quite some time. I have brought this up for the sake of obtaining an emergency fund. Even though Careline has given her the lowest quote of \$1100, I do believe if more options were available, that it could be purchased at a reduced cost, and we would be improving her quality of life.

Some other odds and ends that I would like to share include the following. I made my first visit to People Helping People in Pullman. Business was slow, as was to be expected, however did speak with a couple of seniors. The staff was very inquisitive of what exactly the Department of Senior Services could provide. They expressed their gratitude for me offering to be there, and hope that I will continue to come out once a month.

I also had the opportunity to visit Douglas Christian Neighbors, Project Hope in Dorr, Allegan County United Way Volunteer Center, Plainwell Christian Neighbors, Martin Resource Center, and Matthew 25 Ministries in Gobles. As always, I'm always looking to locate new resources available to our seniors in Allegan County. I was impressed with each non-profit.

Tammy mentioned in her July report, that the Allegan County United Way Volunteer Center is sponsoring and requesting volunteers for the September 24th "Day of Caring". Many projects have been set up, but do not have enough volunteers. If you are able to assist for even a portion of the day (you'll get a free t-shirt), Karen Hancock-Owen (Campaign and Volunteer Manager) would be most appreciative. If you are interested in helping, please let Sue Nelson or I know, and we can connect you with Karen.

Until October!