

.POLICY ADVISORY BOARD FOR ELDER AFFAIRS

October 7, 2022

Zoom Online Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Roberta Murray called the meeting to order at 11:36 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Appointed Members: Beverly Gotelli, William Kinaka, Stephen Lung, Roberta Murray, Shelly Ogata, Marilyn Seely, Barbara Service, Rick Tabor, Leslie Tanoue, Kathy Wyatt, and Barbara Yamashita.

(A quorum was established as eleven members were present at roll call. This board requires eight members to be present in order to establish quorum.)

Ex-officio Members: Alan Burdick, DLIR Office of Community Services; Kathy Ishihara, DHS; and Christy Nishita, University of Hawaii at Manoa.

EOA Staff and AAA Staff Present: Wanda Anae-Onishi, Aaron Arakaki, Caroline Cadirao, Rowena Dagdag-Andaya, Sasha Dimond (EAD), Jomel Duldulao, Nicole Endo (SHIP practicum student), Horace Farr, Norma Kop, Josephine Lum, John McDermott, Jan Mori, Candace Nakamoto, Lynn Niitani, Lani Sakamoto, Debbie Shimizu, Kealoha Takahashi, Cristina Valenzuela, and Jeff Woodland.

Guests: Pamela Cunningham, Kaiser Permanente; Gary Simon, PABEA Past Chair; and Audrey Suga-Nakagawa, Director of Advocacy, AARP Hawaii.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the September 2, 2022 Zoom online PABEA meeting were approved as circulated.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Roberta reported that she met with the production manager at Olelo. Olelo presented its array of services available to PABEA for PSAs. Roberta is envisioning kupuna moments PSAs with story ideas from PABEA members. Olelo is availing to interested parties a full production electronic media kit. PABEA is on the waiting list for the kit. Roberta remarked that five-minute videos are a compelling vehicle to communicate the issues for which PABEA are advocating, e.g. hearing aids, LTC, and workforce development.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Barbara reported that the committee met this morning. The Committee discussed:

- Hearing aids: Today's Kupuna Caucus meeting will include presentations on hearing aids (insurance coverage). Kupuna Caucus is waiting to determine whether a hearing aid insurance coverage bill can be introduced and whether it will be introduced.
- Standardizing Medicaid coding and reimbursement.
- Healthy Aging Partnership (HAP) and SHIP: Caroline has submitted a request to the Governor's administration to add HAP and SHIP to the State budget.

Barbara announced the following events:

- Alzheimer's Association Walk, November 5, 2022
- Hawaii Parkinson Association Walk, November 6, 2022
- Best Buddies Champion of the Year Friendship Jam, November 13, 2022
- Kokua Council Gubernatorial Forum, Josh Green and Sylvia Luke, October 10, 2022
- Kokua Council Gubernatorial Forum, Duke Aiona and Junior Tupai, October 18, 2022
- HPGS Fundraiser honoring John McDermott, November 3, 2022

PLANS AND PROJECTS REVIEW COMMITTEE (PPRC)

Shelly reported that the Committee met this morning and examined the data from the needs assessment survey. The committee is requesting to examine the raw data. Many of the respondents do not utilize AAA services. The respondents might not accurately reflect the kupuna population and their needs.

Caroline commented that 2,100 surveys were submitted. 900 were Caucasian. The largest age group of respondents is 60 to 79 years old.

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Kathy Wyatt reported that the Committee met on Thursday, October 7, 2022. The Committee opted to proceed with an in-person event for the Older Americans Month celebration on Friday, June 2, 2023. The AAAs will proceed with preliminary plans. The committee will begin planning in January in 2023.

APPOINTED MEMBERS' REPORTS

The appointed members offered no reports.

EOA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attached is Caroline's report.

Caroline provided a status report on the National Interbranch Task Force on Effective and Sustainable Long-Term Care:

The Long-Term Care taskforce met in July 2022. Four workgroups were established:

- Workforce Development
- Covering the Cost of LTC
- Continuum of Quality LTC
- Guardianship/Supportive Decision-making

The workgroups are developing proposals and recommendations for federal and state LTC reform. The proposals are due to the Council of State Governments National Interbranch Task Force on Effective and Sustainable Long-Term Care this month, October. Caroline commented that issues and recommendations need to be addressed collectively and systematically. The

next meeting of the workforce development workgroup is scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, 2022, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The final meeting of the National Interbranch Task Force on Effective and Sustainable Long-Term Care, including the eight states chosen to participate in the project, will be in Hawaii in November 2022.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS' REPORTS

Alan reported that October is the final month to redeem coupons for the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. The program will resume in April 2023. An RFP for service providers has been issued. Preliminarily, providers for the next two years will be the current providers. The program serves 9,000 older adults annually. Alan will provide data to PABEA to inform its legislative committee in its advocacy efforts. The DLIR Office of Community Services (OCS) also administers federally funded food security programs, including The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost. USDA provides 100% American-grown USDA Foods and administrative funds to states to operate TEFAP. Alan will provide PABEA additional TEFAP information.

Christy reported that the provider survey supporting the development of the AAAs' plans and the State Plan on Aging remains open. The survey is intended to provide an organization perspective from organizations in the aging network about critical aging issues. Christy will reach out to the public health nurses and send them the survey link. She will also reach out to DME providers. She has reached out to home health providers. Christy announced that the UH Center on Aging (COA) is planning a new class that will build upon the Medicare class that was offered in the past and presented previously at a PABEA meeting. The class will be broadened to examine aging and disability health policy issues. COA will collaborate with EOA on the class. Christy thanked Caroline, Lani, Candace, and Wanda for the collaboration. The required paperwork for the new class has been submitted for the class to begin in the fall semester. Christy will share more in the coming months about plans to create other aging related classes that directly respond to the needs in the aging network. Christy and a colleague are partnering with the Healthcare Association of Hawaii this school year in providing lessons on elder care and aging within several health academies in DOE high schools. The lessons are an opportunity to expose students early to aging and opportunities in aging. Christy announced that HPGS awards ten elder care worker scholarships. The scholarships can be helpful to those seeking to enroll in CNA classes and obtain CNA certification.

Kathy Ishihara provided her report in the Zoom chat:

"1) COVID Public Health Emergency Continues (PHE), during this time no participants are disenrolled (Medicaid)."

"2) Gap service analysis being conducted for expansion for behavioral health, homeless population."

"3) Maui AAA office, unsure if there is still concern regarding needed resource/assistance :) If resolved, great!"

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU ELDERLY AFFAIRS DIVISION (EAD)

Attached is the EAD monthly report.

Sasha reported that Derrick Ariyoshi met with Senator Hirono yesterday at the Kupuna Roundtable. She learned about the work of EOA and other service providers, including Michelle Cordero-Lee of Hawaii Meals on Wheels, Kathy Wyatt of Hale Hauoli Hawaii, Christy Nishita

and Jenny Lee of the UH Center on Aging, and the Pacific Gateway Center. Senator Hirono was impressed with the good work that they have done collectively with vaccinations and food security.

EAD is executing service provider contracts for transportation services. To support those that live in rural areas, EAD is developing a transportation services contract which includes a rural surcharge, allowing providers to charge more for services in rural areas, e.g., Waianae, the North Shore, and rural underserved areas.

Providers have capacity challenges. Seniors and participants are having difficulty connecting to provider services.

EAD is focusing on increasing adult day care participation. Enrollment has increased by 23 participants this year. Capacity exists for fifty more participants.

Many seniors have been on the waiting list for personal care services and bathing services. EAD is working with the Department of Human Resources to expand EAD's internship opportunities. EAD hopes to have at least two interns from January 2023 through the end of the school year, May or June 2023.

EAD hired a new referral from the Department of Developmental Disabilities. He will be participating in monthly meetings and sharing disability resources. Four case managers have been hired in the past few months. Recruitment continues. EAD is working with Human Resources to expedite the application process. In the past, hiring an employee has taken at least six months.

Some EAD staff have attended the SHIP Medicare training. Sasha thanked Wanda for the training.

EAD has been increasing community outreach events. EAD will be at keiki and kupuna events next week – the Boys and Girls Club in Ewa Beach and the AARP Hawaii caregiver events in November.

EAD is planning to perform in-home assessments in 2023. Currently, in-home assessments are performed on a case-by-case basis.

EAD is working with I.T. to use Microsoft Teams for scheduling assessments, managing projects, and using other Microsoft Teams tools.

Bill suggests that EAD distribute the Senior Handbook in rural areas.

Sasha commented that EAD shares the handbook with the health centers, including Waimanalo Health Center and Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center.

HAWAII COUNTY OFFICE OF AGING (HCOA)

Attached is Horace's report, including a statistical workforce capacity impact on service delivery.

Horace reported that he attended the Hawaii Island Teachers Association meeting on September 9, 2022 and had the opportunity to listen to the guest speaker, registered nurse Annette Kam, author of *WAIT – Don't Die Yet!*, a step-by-step guide for adult who are either

preparing for death or preparing for someone else's death. The book covers the basics of what is needed to have affairs in order and the tasks to complete. The book is available online and from Amazon.

HCOA remains in the hiring process for an Administrative Services Assistant and the data analyst position. HCOA has secured an accountant from another department for two to four hours per week.

On September 20, 2022, Horace and Kealoha provided the AARP Hawaii Executive Council a presentation on the challenges which Area Agencies on Aging are experiencing in providing long-term care services in Hawaii. Horace thanked Gary for the invitation to provide the presentation.

KAUAI AGENCY ON ELDERLY AFFAIRS (AEA)

Attached is Kealoha's report.

Kealoha reported that she paid her respects to James Mariano's family this morning.

KAEA has completed its Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report. The report is submitted to the Mayor's administration and the County Council. It addresses the Mayor's mission of RISE. The RISE logo on the cover of the annual report is a representation of the administration's aspiration to rise to the expectation of the community. Two guiding principles of the administration are:

1. Guardianship: taking care of what we have; and,
2. Innovation: finding new ways to modernize our system to create efficiency and cost effectiveness.

One of the efficiencies is that all county personnel will be using the workday app, entering time started and ended, promoting employee accountability. Under the two guiding principles, the Mayor has identified six keys of success:

1. Our mobility,
2. Our home,
3. Our connections,
4. Our money,
5. Our freedom, and
6. Our heart.

For example, for mobility, the county goal is to ensure that Kauai has safe roads for all modes of transportation.

One correction in the annual report under the FY 2022 budget is that KAEA is reimbursed \$4,265 from the SHIP grant. (The report erroneously states "0".)

For the Aging in Hawaii survey, surveys with self-addressed envelopes were included in food distribution boxes.

MAUI COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING

Attached is Rowena's report.

Rowena reported that James Mariano passed away on September 2, 2022. Rowena thanked Kealoha for attending the celebration of James' life on Kauai today. MCOA will have a celebration of James' life on October 21 at the Cameron Center. Rowena remarked that James

was well known and had a huge impact in the community. Rowena reported that her mother passed away on September 19. Before she died, when Rowena told her mother that James passed away, she said that she will follow him soon. Rowena was touched as James helped Rowena's mother a lot with her care home and with assisting her with workshops and certificates. Rowena commented that a few County employees have passed away.

Rowena's report demonstrates the increase in number of participants served and service authorizations. The largest increase is in congregate meals, home delivered meals, and adult day care. Rowena's report lists vacant positions. In the month of September, MCOA received three resignations. An additional vacancy is James' former position. One of the employees who resigned was offered a position as a juvenile counselor (her "dream job"). The other two employees who resigned were not from Maui. MCOA might have increasing turnover in the future because housing is unaffordable for many.

Recruitment for a position on Lanai will begin soon. Rowena has already received calls about the position.

September outreach events included the suicide prevention workshop. The MCOA office received visits from seniors who have stated that they are contemplating suicide. MCOA will focus on suicide prevention. Three staff members attended the suicide prevention workshop and are becoming certified as assist trainers in applied suicide intervention skill training. They will train other staff members in MCOA and other county employees in diffusing situations and identifying risk factors for suicide. MCOA is continuing monthly visits to Molokai and Lanai and is performing in-person assessment with participants.

Considering MCOA staff shortages, in-person reassessments are performed by telephone. MCOA has open office hours for visitors on Molokai and Lanai. MCOA met with the Alzheimer's Association and Debbie Shimizu of EOA to develop a plan for further outreach and workshops on caregiving. Debbie successfully coordinated a workshop on Molokai on September 30, 2022 for approximately 35 caregivers. The workshop featured Dr. Ritabelle Fernandez and Dorothy Colby. The attendees have requested additional workshops. Rowena will work with Debbie and the Alzheimer's Association on planning additional workshops in Maui County, including rural areas.

Rowena commented that surveys have been disseminated for the four-year Area Plan on Aging. Maui residents might have survey burnout because the Planning, the Department of Transportation, and Public Works also disseminated surveys. MCOA service providers are completing their strategic planning and have been sending surveys. Some residents are asking what the survey is and who does it benefit. Maui County has a survey for older adults and caregivers that is online.

The Maui Senior Fair is on October 29, 2022. MCOA is coordinating the fair with Office of Economic Development. MCOA has been in discussion with AARP Hawaii in supporting a caregiver breakfast on November 17, 2022 at the Maui Beach Hotel. A caregiver panel will be organized for the breakfast. Agencies will staff resource tables at the breakfast.

Roberta expressed her condolences on behalf of PABEA on the loss of Rowena's mother.

KUPUNA CAUCUS

Caroline announced that today's Kupuna Caucus meeting will include presentations on hearing

aids (insurance coverage) and a status report from Caroline and Senator Sharon Moriwaki on the Council of State Governments Interagency Task Force on Effective & Sustainable Long-term Care.

NEW BUSINESS

Jomel provided a report in the Zoom chat:

“Some quick updates on LTC Facilities: The Arcadia Family of Companies Acquires Operations and Ownership of Hale Ola Kino Acquisition of the 32-bed skilled nursing home expands the Arcadia Family of Companies’ services for Honolulu’s seniors Honolulu, HI – The Arcadia Family of Companies (AFC) has signed an agreement to take over the operations of Hale Ola Kino (HOK), a 32-bed skilled nursing home located on the second floor of One Kalakaua Senior Living Association (OKSLA). For the past 25 years, HOK has been owned and operated by Life Care Services, LLC (LCS), the second-largest operator of senior living communities in the United States with headquarters in Iowa. LCS will be ceasing operations at OKSLA effective October 31, 2022, at which time AFC will take over operations.”

“Also, Ito Group has sold their facilities effective Oct 1, 2022. Pearl City Nursing Home, Oahu Care and Kulana Malama.”

SUNSHINE LAW VIOLATIONS

Roberta stated permitted interactions of the board as codified in Hawaii’s Sunshine Law: *“Two members of a board may discuss between themselves matters relating to board business to enable them to perform their duties faithfully, as long as no commitment to vote is made or sought and the two members do not constitute a quorum of their board.”*

NEW BUSINESS

Roberta deferred the Adult Day Care Hawaii Island agenda item to next month’s meeting.

Stephen provided a presentation (attached) on Medicare and Hawaii’s kupuna. Topics included national Medicare; Hawaii’s kupuna population demographics; cost, quality, and access dimensions of care; Medicare overview and breakdown; and observations and issues needing attention.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- November 4, 2022, 11:30 a.m., PABEA monthly meeting (In-person and via Zoom)
- Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Hawaii Caregiving Series
October 13: Developing a Network for Our Shared Journey
- November 3, 2022 5th Annual HPGS Fundraiser honoring John McDermott, Hawaii Pacific Gerontological Society virtual fundraiser. Register online at www.hpgs.org
- November 8, 2022, General Election
Voters receive their ballots in the mail for the General Election by October 21, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT OF PABEA MEETING:

Roberta adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.