

Carroll County Commission on Aging & Disabilities Meeting

Meeting Date: May 25, 2022

Start Time: 10:00am

Location: Virtual on GoToMeeting Platform

Chairperson: Jim McCarron

Vice-Chair: Carol Wheatley

Topic	Discussion
Attendance – COAD members in bold	Stephanie Averett, Dan Andersen , Larry Burbank, Jeff Degitz, Doc Doxzen , Dave Drezner, Lauren Hickey , Bobbie Lawrence, Diann Linton , Jim McCarron , Tara McMullen , Rich Ottone, Scott Swartz, Celene Steckel, Cheryl Steinbacher , Gina Valentine, Leslie Wagner, Carol Wheatley , Lou Yeager, Marisa Zaccagnini
Acronyms	AAA - Area Agency on Aging, ADA - American’s w/Disabilities Act, ADL - Activities of Daily Living, AIP – Aging in Place, BCC – Board of County Commissioners, BOAD - Bureau of Aging and Disabilities, COAD – Commission on Aging and Disabilities, CDSMP – Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, CTS – Carroll Transit System, CIL - Center for Independent Living, DSS – Department of Social Services, FFP – Federal Financial Participation, HSP – Human Services Programs of Carroll County, LTAC – Long Term Advisory Council, LTCOP - Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, M4A - Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging, MAP - Maryland Access Point, MASCC – Mt. Airy Senior & Community Center, MDH - Maryland Department of Health, MDoA – Maryland Department of Aging, MFP -Money Follows the Person, MOU – Memorandum of Understanding, MWOA - Medicaid Waiver for Older Adults, NCSCC – North Carroll Senior & Community Center, NED - Non-Elderly Disabled, NFCSP - National Family Caregiver Support Program, OAA - Older Americans Act, OHCQ - Office of Health Care Quality, SALS - Senior Assisted Living Subsidy program, SCSCC – South Carroll Senior & Community Center, SHIP - State Health Insurance Assistance Program, SIP - Senior Inclusion Program, SMP - Senior Medicare Patrol, SPDAP - Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program, TSCC – Taneytown Senior & Community Center, VTV – Village to Village, WEAAD – World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, WSCC – Westminster Senior & Community Center.
Call to Order/Introductions – Jim McCarron	Jim McCarron called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
Establishment of a Quorum – Jim McCarron	A quorum was established with nine voting members present.
Approval of Minutes – Jim McCarron	Jim requested approval of the March 2022 minutes as submitted. Lou Yeager motioned, and it was seconded by Carol Wheatley. With a vote, all were in favor to approve as submitted.
Commissioner’s Comments –	No comment as no commissioner was in attendance.

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Bureau of Aging & Disabilities	<p><u>Senior Centers Update – Rich Ottone</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attendance is at 80% of pre-pandemic numbers.• Through the State’s Restaurant Initiative Bellissimo’s is providing meals at Tremont twice a week and Molli’s Café is providing meals twice a week at Sunnybrook. Mom’s Meals is providing meals at Timber Ridge and the allocated amount has almost been spent.• Healthy Aging Leadership Team arranged for screening days at Westminster, South Carroll and North Carroll senior and community centers beginning of May and will schedule the same at Mt. Airy and Taneytown in the fall.• Today is Older American’s Month at the senior centers with special meals. Other center-specific activities in celebration of the month are being held.• World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) activities are being held at each center in June.• Farmers Market coupons are being distributed end of June at each of the centers. Book of seven coupons valued at \$35 can be used at participating farmers markets in Carroll County and throughout the state. Paperwork is completed to verify self-reported qualification. A photo ID is needed. This free program is provided in partnership with MDoA and the Department of Agriculture. Carroll is always in the top five statewide on coupon use. This program is one per household.• Westminster, South Carroll and North Carroll senior and community centers are early voting locations in July. This is the first time that three centers are hosting at the same time. Will replicate the set-up in October and November for the general election.• Drive-through flu clinics are being planned for the first week of October.• Senior Inclusion Program is at capacity and is running full days for everyone. A virtual option is available until the state moves to full in-person; however, clients have been opting for in-person attendance. <p><u>Program Updates – Bobbie Lawrence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thank you to everyone who volunteered and attended the 50th Anniversary Event and the Veterans Celebration.• Julie McGraw is the new part time case manager for MAP, providing services to individuals who are not enrolled in BOAD programs. She is working closely with other staff and community partners to connect to
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resources. There has been an uptick in older adults experiencing homelessness and with special needs.

- Nicole Gibson begins tomorrow as the full-time Waiver Case Manager.
- With Debbie Frammer's retirement as the MAP supervisor, Nicole Ranoull stepped into that position. Kristen Harvey took over the SHIP position, leaving an Office Associate position open. They have offered the position to someone and are hoping they accept.
- With additional funding in the new fiscal year, an Options Counselor in the MAP program will be hired.
- Transitioning to Medicare Part 1 and 2 continues to be offered virtually. Once a quarter they will offer in person as appropriate, with September and December 2022 being the next two in-person offerings. The virtual and pre-recorded options are very well attended and utilized.
- The Veterans staff has been very busy filing for compensation claims and connecting to VA healthcare. Since the inception of the program in 2013 the staff has been able to recoup \$45 million in claims and pensions. Case management staff also assists in diverting from homelessness and emergency situations. In February and March, they aided four Veterans.
- The Family Caregiver Support Groups are continuing to meet monthly in-person. There are funds available for older adult caregivers and older relatives raising younger relatives under the age of 18. They will be partnering with Carroll Community College to offer Hands on Skills for Caregivers, providing education on medication, safe practices, falls preventions, and dementia, Alzheimer's, and other cognitive diagnoses. This will begin in the summer and then provided quarterly. Using the labs at the college assist in providing the hands-on skills.
- June 7th a VA Claims Clinic and Resource Fair will be held at South Carroll senior and community center. Registration is required and a few spots are still available. Representatives from Shepherd Pratt, VA Health Care, and the Department of Labor, to name a few, will be onsite. Jeff Degitz contacted the dog park and informed them of possible parking issues due to the VA Clinic and recommended they visit outside of the hours of the event.
- WEAAD events will take place at all local senior and community centers – Westminster June 7, South Carroll June 9, North Carroll June 14, Mt. Airy June 15, and Taneytown June 16. Showing the documentary "Last Will and Embezzlement" with a special meal, shredding and representatives from the State's Attorney's Office and Adult Protective Services will be on-hand to provide information on how to prevent financial exploitation.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff have been working on the Area Plan and program monitoring. They continue to schedule appointments and see clients in-person. • This fall staff will be visiting the senior centers and providing energy assistance application help as well as screen for eligibility in various Aging Programs. <p><u>AARP Age Friendly Community Initiative Update – Gina Valentine</u> On April 27, 2022, AARP announced that Carroll County had been accepted into the age friendly network. MDoA has approved Title IIIB ARPA funding to hire a consultant to help us move forward with this initiative. RFP is ready to go to the procurement office. Once the RFP is released and sent out, there will be a specific end date to respond. A Ranking Committee will be created, and a selection will be made. The goal is to have the consultant onboard by October 1. The FY2023 Area Plan has incorporated the initiative. Next year will be our four-year plan, which requires a community needs assessment. The consultant will be responsible for this as part of the age-friendly community initiative, compiling results and analyzing. Members of COAD and the subcommittee “Carroll Together” will receive the link once the RFP is released. A Ranking Committee has not been developed and there is a good possibility that a member of the subcommittee may be a part of that committee.</p> <p><u>VA Claims & Benefits Clinic – June 7 – Bobbie Lawrence</u> Was already reported.</p> <p><u>World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Events – Leslie Wagner</u> Was already reported. It was noted that reservations are required.</p> <p><u>Veterans Celebration</u> Was a fabulous day and it was estimated that between 1500-2000 attended of which 700 were Veterans. The feedback has been positive, and the volunteers table had fun. We are looking to develop a new date for 2024 as the planned date of May 14 is Mother’s Day. Thank for to all the COAD members that volunteered to assist. The VSO staff have been inundated with calls and scheduling appointments.</p>
<p>Old Business</p>	<p><u>Currently COAD Openings</u> – Veterans and Finksburg. Continue to share among your networks and meetings that you attend.</p>
<p>New Business – JimMcCarron</p>	<p><u>Rec & Parks Update – Jeff Degitz</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westminster Aktion Service Club, for those with disabilities, did a clean-up at Veterans Park. • Therapeutic Rec Day on June 14th from 11am to 2pm at the Farm Museum.

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- There are staffing shortages at Piney Run, closing the boat house and less staff at the gate house, which is lost revenue. He will be going before the BOCC tomorrow to discuss. If you know of anyone looking for summer employment, please refer them to the county's website. Park assistants and rangers must be 18 years old and camp counselors must be 16.

Food Pantries – Gina Valentine. At the March COAD meeting, Commissioner Rothstein mentioned the need to establish food pantries in communities that don't have. Commission members were asked to find out information about the pantries available in their communities.

- Taneytown – Jim McCarron. Caring and Sharing Ministry. Called and left a message. They have a Facebook and webpage. Food distribution at the Shopping Center on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 4-4:30pm. Food items are provided by Westminster Rescue Mission. Taneytown Elementary has a small pantry that is available to students and those in the area. That is also part of the Caring and Sharing Ministry. Website also listed a monthly meal available at St. Joseph's church.
- New Windsor/Union Bridge – Lauren Hickey. One currently at St. Paul's United Methodist every Wednesday from 5:30-7pm for anyone in the county. Just show picture ID and sign in. Have non-food essentials, can and box goods, blessings closet open on the 2nd Wednesday from 5:15-5:30pm with non-food essentials, personal care items in partnership with Shepherd's Staff. Union Bridge St. James Lutheran has a food pantry every Monday from 5:30-6pm with frozen food, meat, bread, nonperishable items, clothes, shoes, housewares, and personal care items. On the 2nd Monday they provide a hot meal, just sign in with name. She is waiting to hear back from Elmer Wolfe, which has a food pantry on Wednesdays, to see if it is just for school families. Uniontown Bible did not respond on their food pantry.
- Sykesville/Eldersburg – Tara McMullen. A Lot of locations serve warm meals. Wesley Freedom and South Carroll Food Pantry is very strong, and she believes serve warm meals. There are no particular days with supermarket style distribution. You do need to register. They do have a call for volunteers.
- Mt. Airy – Diann Linton. Mt. Airy Net provides food, toiletries, emergency assistance, etc. Calvary Methodist has Thursday night dinner once a month.
- Westminster – Carol Wheatley. She spoke with the Westminster library about the Eldersburg library food pantry set-up, and they were very familiar with it. The director said she will run it up the chain of command to see about hosting one at their location. St. Paul's church offers a meal and program, every Thursday with an

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average attendance of 80-100. Crosswind church, Westminster Rescue Mission, Silver Run, Food Sunday, Salvation Army, Shepherd's Staff all offer food pantries.

- Hampstead – Cheryl Steinbacher. She will investigate and report back.
- Manchester – Doc Doxzen. Tree of Friends which is open on Sunday 12-4pm. This is supported by the Community Foundation of Carroll County. Emanuel Church has a free pantry which is open Wednesday 10-11:30am.
- Suggestions – Can add to Resource Guide; Farmer's Markets that help community members in need could be added, the Sykesville Farmer's Market has a "gleaning program" so that food isn't wasted each week; Community gardens where people can pick fresh vegetables themselves; invite DSS staff who is responsible for compiling and verifying information; contact Community Foundation of Carroll County and see how many food pantries they support; Westminster Rescue Mission became food distribution site during COVID and provides pantries with food throughout the county.

Penn Mar Building – Celene Steckel. County has formally settled and now own the building. We do not currently have staff on site. Penn Mar is leasing back a portion of the building for 30 months but can terminate early. We are working with a transition team that consist of Facilities, IT, and staff. Our plan is to house some Aging staff in the building as well as move the family shelter there. The process of the moving the shelter will take several years. Currently using space there for storage.

Habitat for Humanity – Stephanie Averett and Scott Swartz.

Critical Home Repair Program not for maintenance or general upkeep. The qualifications include homeowner occupied, located in Carroll County, critical or safety need, meet income guidelines, sweat equity requirements, and submit a complete application. The amount paid for repairs depends on the total costs of the project and the applicant's ability to pay. Habitat's goal is to keep project expenses as low as possible while still performing quality work. For families in the 50-80% income range, they require 10% of the total project costs as a down payment. The balance will then be divided into an affordable payment plan with 0% interest. Habitat recently received a \$6,000 grant from Lowes to assist four older adults. With their ReStore in Westminster, they can assist with downsizing. They accept furniture and household items, cars, trucks, boats, and tractors which help fund affordable housing in Carroll County. They also provide a free pick-up. They have rack cards with information at ReStore. Call 410-751-5200 for

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	<p>more information or visit their website at https://cchabitat.org. They just recently joined Habitat’s Veteran Build and will have more information about this program soon.</p>
<p>Area Reports – COADMmembers</p>	<p><u>Carol Wheatley – Westminster</u> Heard that the BOCC approved a Senior Center Grant to provide upgrades for those with vision and hearing impairments. Rich announced that they will be partnering with the National Federation of the Blind and Maryland Relay to provide guidance on assessing the senior centers to recommend any changes. There has been a stigma associated with those who have hearing or vision loss and their attendance at the centers.</p> <p><u>Lauren Hickey, Union Bridge/New Windsor</u> The New Windsor Mayor resigned, and Past Mayor Neal Roop has been approved. New Windsor will be celebrating their 225th birthday this year.</p> <p><u>Cheryl Steinbacher, Manchester/Hampstead</u> Announced will be leaving full time employment in July.</p>
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>No comment.</p>
<p>Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>Next meeting is Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at 10am. Virtual meeting information will be provided prior to then.</p>