



Davis County Senior Services Advisory Council

October 13, 2022 Minutes

Board Members

Commissioner Lorene Kamalu
Becky Espinoza, Chair
Kelly Van Noy, Vice-Chair
Lorna Koci
Julia Bentley, Past Chair
Mark Perry
Rebecca (Becky) Kapp
Larry Millward

Department Staff Present

Rachelle Blackham
Eric Applegarth
Debbie Draper
John Cowan
Shawna Mahan

Board Members Excused

Guest

Brittany Overturt
Shelly Florence

Call to Order/Welcome

Davis County Senior Services Advisory Council held a meeting on October 13, 2022, at the Davis County Health Department located at 22 South State Street, Clearfield Utah. Kelly Van Noy, the Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order.

Review of Minutes (Action)

The board was presented with the minutes of the April and August meetings. Larry Millward put forth a motion to accept the April minutes; Becky Kapp seconded. Lorna Koci put forth a motion to approve the August minutes; Larry Millward seconded.

- *Both motions passed unanimously.*

SWOT COVID-19 for Older Adults

Rachelle Blackham introduced Brittany Overturt and Shelly Florence. Brittany and Shelly presented on their senior service project of overseeing Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats assessment. The goal of the SWOT is to evaluate Davis Counties' response to COVID-19 as it relates to older adults; identifying how COVID-19 affected older adults' physical and emotional health; and understanding how older adults were cared for by the community facilities. There are three surveys: 1) for the older adult general population, 2) for residents who received care in a Long-Term Care Facilities (LTC) during the pandemic, and 3) for staff involved in the Departments response. Each survey will have general questions about: demographics, vaccine availability, mental health, physical health, access to medical care, and

identifying isolation. Special questions will be added for the LTC survey including: safety precautions, knowledge of the ombudsman program, communication changes, and the restriction of rights or activities. The three surveys are set to be distributed in late December. Brittany Overturt and Shelly Florence will distribute these surveys to the Senior Activity Centers, LTC facilities, residents councils, home delivered meal recipients, and health fairs participants. The Advisory Board members were asked for suggestions regarding additional places to distribute the surveys. The members suggested Silver Sneakers classes, Case Managers' clients, luncheon groups, RSVP, Veteran groups, local family practices, church congregations (that have senior groups), caregiver groups, dental clinics, pharmacies, county birthday cards recipients, and AARP. There was a suggestion about placing the survey online however this suggestion was placed on hold as it was brought to attention that in the recent online surveys "bots" completed the surveys compromising the results. Once the report is finished it will be presented to the Council and help direct possible future projects and improvements. It was suggested by the Council that the report is given to US Aging as well.

Transportation

John Cowan presented an overview of transportation options for older adults in Davis County. Davis County Senior Services has a total of ten (10) vehicles; seven (7) buses, one (1) accessible van, one (1) minivan, and one (1) sedan. There are nine (9) paid drivers and two (2) volunteer drivers. Davis County Senior Services assists clients getting to grocery stores, community events, senior centers, medical appointments, etc. In the past 12 months, staff traveled 174,647 miles. The medical transportation component (Rides4Health) provided over 5,000 trips in this time frame to 206 unique clients. The senior center's component provided 16,950 trips to 308 unique clients.

John Cowan presented several alternative options for older adults to get transportation. One being the Voucher program, a joint effort from Weber Human Services, UTA, Roads to Independence, and Davis County. The voucher program is where a registered client finds their own driver and this driver is reimbursed for the travel. This allows an older adult to cross county borders which is not a service offered by Rides4Health. There is a maximum of \$200 dollars for reimbursement. Applications can be filled out with Ann Workman, our Medical Transportation Coordinator.

The newest option for older adults is UTA's On Demand, this program has expanded from Salt Lake to the south-end of Davis County up to Centerville. This is a corner-to-corner service, but with special consideration, it can be curb-to-curb. It costs \$2.50 per one-way trip, but for people with disabilities and older adults, this fee can be reduced to \$1.25 per one-way trip.

The last option presented was the UTA Travel Training Program, which offers in-person 1 on 1 or group training on how to use public transportation. The program's goal is to boost the confidence and independence of those who utilizing public transportation.

Senior Gift Drive

Debbie Draper announced to the board that the annual gift drive was starting. She reported that the Division has started to distribute flyers that call for identifying those that are in need or will be alone during the holidays. In November, there will be a separate flier calling for those who can give. If someone can't afford to fully donate, Senior Services is taking small items to

supplement other gifts as well.

Director's Report

Rachelle Blackham wanted to inform the board about the success of the RSVP recognition event. There were about 90 people in attendance. Davis County RSVP volunteers contributed to over 1 million dollars of saving to the community in hours worked.

Rachelle Blackham also wished to inform the Council about some legislation updates. Specifically, the AAA directors have decided to prioritize legislation efforts for additional funding for the nutrition program (home-delivered meals), RSVP mileage reimbursement, and the state in-home services program (Alternatives Program). Davis County's food vendor has increased by 5% allowing us to maintain the current client list but other AAA's are having to remove clients. Davis County saw a reduction of about \$100,000 of funding for the Alternative Program. This program focuses on helping those who don't qualify for medicare programs stay in their home. There are currently 90 individuals on the program. The state is reporting that this cut in funding was due to one time excuse funding that only lasted five (5) years.

The last priority is to get more funding for volunteer mileage reimbursement for the RSVP program; there hasn't been an increase in funding since early 2000.

Rachelle then informed the board about new developments including:

- The Senior Services and Health Department budget have been presented to the Davis County Commission and should be approved by the end of the year;
- Senior Service has hired a new full-time driver but has lost a part-time food worker and a full-time Spanish health educator; and
- Rachelle was excited to announce upcoming depression screenings at the North Davis Senior Activity Center.

Chair's Report

Becky Espinoza gave an update on the dental grant Midtown was rewarded. After the grant was received Midtown clinic lost their dentist which limited their services, but they had a new dentist starting in November and services should return back to normal.

Commissioner's Report

Commission Kamalu articulated how comprehensive and valuable the County's budget process is. She stated the budget would be approved by the first of the year.

Closing of Meeting

Larry Millward motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Becky Kapp.