

Health and Welfare Committee Meeting Notes

November 5, 2024 , at 9:30 a.m.

Virtually Via Zoom

Attending COA Board Members and Alumni: Laurie Pross, Barbara Selter, Virginia Cain, Linda Bergofsky, Wayne Berman, Betsy Carrier

Attending COA Alumni: Marcia Pruzan, Marsha Weber, Rev Vikram

Attending County Staff: Tina Purser-Langley, Shawn Brennan

Welcome

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes approved - motion by Laurie Pross, seconded by Wayne Berman

Longevity Ready Maryland

- Shawn Brennan presented an overview of Longevity Ready Maryland, a 10 multisector plan to address the challenges and maximize the benefits of an aging society. <https://aging.maryland.gov/Pages/LRM.aspx> It is a collaborative activity with 10 states. It involves a multistage process including reviewing resources, defining objective and strategies.

Status of Mental Health Fact Sheet

- Mental Health Fact Sheet – first draft by Marsha Weber and Rev Vikram
- Barbara Selter reported difficulty fitting it into the CoA fact sheet format.
- Committee members believed that there was additional work to be done on the content of the document.
- Laurie Pross suggested some of the content could best be expressed in a chart format.

Updating Existing Fact Sheets

- Hearing Fact Sheet -Tina and Betsy met with the AccessHEARS staff to get information to update this Fact Sheet. The staff are looking at the fact sheet and will provide a review within 2 weeks. There was a sense that the information was needed in additional languages and with an easy way to compare products.
- Social Isolation Fact Sheet – Laurie Pross, David Engel and Linda Bergofsky will continue to work on this.
- Marcia Pruzan developed a draft Fact Sheet on Loss of a Partner or Spouse. We ran out of time in the meeting to go over it.

Action items Responsible Party

The CoA will continue to monitor the activity and determine the best approach to providing input.

- Marsha Weber, Rev Vikram Marcia Pruzan, and Tina Purser-Langley will continue to edit the document including the resources section.
- Laurie Pross will try to put some material in a chart.
- The Fact Sheet should be sent to Behavioral Health for review.
- Hearing Fact Sheet to be updated by Tina Purser-Langley and Betsy Carrier
- Social Isolation Fact Sheet will be updated by Laurie Pross, Linda Bergofsky, and David Engel
- Loss of a Partner or Spouse will be discussed next meeting.
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Discussion of Next Topic for H&W Committee

- Workforce Task Force – The Committee continued to be interested in the topic. Virginia Cain reported that Dr. McGhee to speak at the next H & W meeting to discuss the current status of these recommendations and focus on what the COA can do to encourage the implementation of the recommendations

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM