



COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

Meeting Summary – March 21, 2024

I. Roll Call

- a. Meeting called to order: 11:39 am
- b. Quorum – Board Members Present (9), Absent (3), Vacant (1)
- c. Guests – 8 (includes 3 Senior Services members)

II. Motivational comment

III. Review/Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes were emailed March 21, 2024 to COEA members; no reading of the minutes aloud; motion taken, carried and approved

IV. Guest Speakers

- a. Monique Chadband; invited to address COEA regarding Fulton County In-Home Services program (Presentation attached)
- b. Dr. Janetta Brown, Founder and CEO, The ARC – HBCU Alzheimer's Research Consortium (Presentation attached)

V. Senior Services Updates

- a. See Appendix A
 - i. COEA member questions – Are there any restrictions physically or cognitively for the adult day program
 - ii. April update will include senior services quarterly data

VI. Committee Updates

- a. Advocacy – Marsetta Ray
 - i. Referenced email received from GA Council on Aging asking for support of HB1123
 - 1. To amend Chapter 5 of Title 30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to 2 protection of disabled

adults and elder persons, so as to require the establishment of an Adult 3 Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation Multidisciplinary Team in each judicial circuit; to provide 4 for an exception, etc.

- ii. Reported AARP's continued work in advocacy and push for elected officials to focus efforts on millions of family caregivers;
 - iii. Resource shared via chat by Sarah Hilton
 - 1. Administration on Community Living's (ACL) technical assistance announcements to address shortage of professionals who provide the services to older adults and people with disabilities
 - 2. <https://acl.gov/news-and-events/announcements/acls-dcw-strategies-center-launches-multi-pronged-effort-strengthen>
- b. Elder Abuse - Ruth Lyles Baily
- i. Reported importance of being aware of spam calls
 - ii. Provided personal example of call from physician's number and noted inconsistency in speaker communication and questions regarding medical records
 - iii. Chair shared that Deputy DA Jill Hollander will be joining the committee to give updates on latest information concerning Elder Abuse in Fulton County
- c. Dementia Education and Awareness - Beth Cayce
- i. Discussed Champion training which is available to everyone and provided point of contact information coalition
 - 1. Dina.mcdonald1@dhs.ga.gov; phone 470-487 5300
 - 2. <https://dementiafriendsusa.org/become-a-dementia-friend>
 - 3. New website <https://www.dementiafriendlyfulton.com/>
 - 4. Plans to obtain national certification
- d. Health and Wellness - Sarah Hilton
- i. Subcommittee focused on hosting aging summit; coming together collectively; would like to plan a larger conference at the end of the year
 - 1. For people within the field of aging as well as community advocates to provide information on programs and services available; those engaged on the political spectrum, governmental affairs, property management

- ii. Subcommittee interested in hearing from larger COEA group regarding key items that people need to know about
 - 1. Chair requested subcommittee chair to send email to the COEA and request feedback on key topics
- iii. Additional discussion – changes from traditional health and wellness to technology integration; interested in sharing information around emerging health solutions and ideas
 - 1. COEA member question regarding homeless seniors
 - a. Response – for homeless individuals, City of Atlanta processes intake using continuum of care; conducts assessment and provides additional assistance to place in permanent supportive housing
 - 2. COEA member question regarding resources for seniors who are homeless
 - a. Response - <https://partnersforhome.org/about-coc/>
 - b. Additional Home Repairs Resource: Home Repairs Ministries <https://homerepairs.org>
 - c. <https://www.gatewayctr.org/coordinated-entry-services/>
 - d. <https://nicholashouse.org/>
 - e. <https://www.harborhalo.com/>

VII. Unfinished Business

- a. Continuation of Senior Home Modification/Repair program and how seniors can be added to the waitlist, how to expedite and applications distributed at senior centers
 - a. Senior Services – will contact COEA member Adams and share information
- b. COEA hold monthly meetings at Multipurpose facilities and determine by vote
- c. Elder Fraud booklets delivered to the Darnell Senior Multipurpose facility in 2023; Senior Services to develop plan for mailing books to

COEA members

II. New Business

- a. Older Americans Month question – How does the Department of Senior Services celebrate?
- b. Can Westside Seniors on the Rise develop event for New Horizons (planned presenters Aetna, Athena)
- c. To be added under April meeting agenda Old Business item
- d. COEA member questions – Are there any restrictions physically or cognitively for the adult day program

III. Public Comments

- a. Ben Howard, Senior Advocate and Public Policy Analyst; committee reports are enthusing; for Month of May, plan to have a host of senior citizens attend BOC meeting and advocate planning for structures and resources that address waiting list and waiting list construct; 3/22/24 March recess BOC meeting approved two requests to benefit Fulton County Services; interested in developing agenda item looking at allocations from which funding approvals are derived

IV. Announcements

- a. Linda Adams – Westside Seniors on the Rise is planning an Older Americans Month event at New Horizons

V. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned 12:55 pm

Appendix A

Commission on Elder Affairs Meeting

March 2024

DSS Updates



A. Programs

- a. DSS, Adult Day Health Program hours - 8:00am-5:00pm.
 - i. Program Admission assessments are ongoing
 - ii. The Adult Day program continues to provide virtual classes, home delivered meals, and weekly wellness calls to check in on registered participants.
 - iii. Caregiver Support Meeting-Every 3rd Wednesday 3:00pm-4:00pm
 - iv. Adult Day Health Program applications are available upon request. For more information, please call 404-613-6000
 - v. The Adult Day Health Programs hosts Virtual Programs Mon-Friday. Information can be found under the Department of Senior Services, on the Fulton County Website

- b. DSS, Multipurpose Program Hours – 8:30am – 5:00pm

i. FACILITY EVENTS:

Bowden Facility – Upcoming Events		
Stress Awareness/National Walk Day	This event will highlight activities that can be used to reduce stress and increase an overall feeling of wellbeing. There will be sessions with the Sound Bowl, Yoga and walks.	Friday, April 5, 2024 9:30am - 12:00pm

Back to Bowden Spring Jam	A line dance event celebrating the beginning of the Spring class sessions. Participants asked to represent their school.	Monday, April 8, 2024 2:00pm-4:00pm
Darnell Facility – Upcoming Events		
Darnell Solar Eclipse Viewing Party	Participants will enjoy tasty snacks (Moon Pies), music and games while we experience the total solar eclipse.	Monday, April 8, 2024 Starting at 2:00 PM
MARTA Workshop	MARTA representative Toni Thornton will provide information about MARTA's Reduced Fare Program, Mobility Paratransit Program and Travel Training Program. Participants will also receive "Safety Tips for Seniors" and learn about the See & Say App.	Wed., April 17, 2024 Starting at 11:00 AM
Mills Facility – Upcoming Events		
Hopping Fun For Spring	There will be an indoor Easter Egg Hunt (throughout the facility). Decorate your easter bag, (supplies will be provided). We will also have Easter themed BINGO and more.	

- ii. AARP Free Tax Preparations for senior adults have started at each of the senior facilities. Call the facilities' front desk for days and times of services.
- iii. The telephone systems are up and running at all four senior Multipurpose Facilities.
- iv. Hair Salons will resume in May

B. Information and Referrals

- a. STARline is 404-613-6000 or seniorservices@fultoncountyga.gov

C. Community Engagement from the Atlanta Regional Commission

- a. Georgia Gerontology Society (GGS) Lois Ricci Scholarship for Older Adults: The Georgia Gerontology Society (GGS) is accepting applications for its 2024 scholarship season. GGS strives to promote continued interest and involvement in aging-related issues across the lifespan. The Lois Ricci Older Adult Scholarship provides an opportunity for an older adult to attend the GGS Annual Conference in Georgia. If you know of any older adults who demonstrate interest and involvement in aging-related issues who may benefit from this scholarship, please pass this information along to them and to others in your business and social networks. The deadline to submit scholarship applications is April 8, 2024. The awardee will be notified by May 13, 2024.
- b. <https://georgiagerontologysociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2024-Letter-Lois-Ricci-Scholarship-for-Older-Adults-Announcement.pdf>

c.

D. Prevent Elder Abuse Flyer

- a. <https://www.justice.gov/elderjustice/file/1205951/dl?inline=>