

WYANDOTTE / LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING

RUTH E. JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

849 NORTH 47TH STREET, SUITE C, KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66102 • PHONE: (913) 573-8531 • FAX (913) 573-8577

May 5, 2025

Dear Advisory Council Member:

The next meeting of the Areawide Advisory Council will be held on **Wednesday, May 28, 2025** at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held virtually, and the meeting notification/link will be sent to the email on file.

Excused absence requests should be made at least 24 hours prior to the meeting date to ensure the excuse is recorded. Please keep in mind that 3 or more unexcused absences may result in termination of your term on the board.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the meeting, please contact the Area Agency on Aging at 913-573-8531.

Respectfully,



Linda Ramirez
Advisory Council Liaison

/LR

Enclosures

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AREAWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL

WYANDOTTE/LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING

MAY 28, 2025

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Leavenworth County
Wyandotte County

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Leavenworth County
Wyandotte County

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING

JUNE 25, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

WYANDOTTE/LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING
AREAWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL
April 23, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pam Blood, Jacqueline Browne, Carlen Davis, Sharon Davis, Denise Dias, Jammie Johnson, Anita Krondak, Mary Mack, Susan McGinnies, and Jamey Rodriguez.

EXCUSED: Jessica Ponbriant.

ABSENT: Jason Hussey, Barbara Ikerd, and Kim Weaver.

STAFF PRESENT: Connie Harmon and Ruth Jones.

GUESTS PRESENT: None.

CALL TO ORDER: Jammie Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

MINUTES: The February meeting minutes were approved with one correction. Jamey Rodriguez's name was misspelled under "excused" in the Members Present section.

**CHAIRMAN
COMMENTS:**

COUNCIL CONCERNS: Leavenworth County:

➤ None.

Wyandotte County:

➤ None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Leavenworth:

- Meals on Wheels volunteers will be recognized at a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, catered by The Suburban, scheduled on April 25th at 12:30pm. We have 123 volunteers Market for MOW currently.
- Staff have submitted the required paperwork for Farmers' vouchers.
 - Staff was notified today, due to a decrease in federal funds for the SNAP program, the COA will receive 90 vouchers this year. This is down from 200 vouchers received in 2024.
 - Distribution of vouchers will begin June 1.

- Staff is working on processes and procedures to begin offering a *Friendly Visitors* volunteer program at the COA. This would look like volunteers checking in via phone or in person with homebound participants who need a little more of a check in – in addition to their meal delivery. The program will launch in September.
- The Human Services team will celebrate Older Americans Month by hosting a Positive Aging Resource Fair on Friday, May 2nd. This year's theme is *Flip the Script on Aging* and will feature various vendors from the aging network, bingo, raffles and lunch at the all-day event.
- The COA will host a Caregiver Summit on Saturday, May 31st in conjunction with The Deeper Window Association and Dr. Maritza Buenaver, Director of Geriatric Psychiatry, at the Oklahoma City VA healthcare system.

Wyandotte:

Ruth Jones provided the Director's report for Wyandotte County.

- The AAA is lost without Linda, and they are eager for her turn and hope she is enjoying her time off.
- The AAA is gearing up for the sock hop in May, their biggest event for Older Americans Months. Typically, there are 300+ attendees at the George Meyn Center. This year's event will be held on May 22. Vendors can sign up with Linda.
- The AAA had a huge March for Meals and Public Hearing on March 28th. Several Commissioners and 100+ clients attended. There were games and lunch provided; a good time was had by all.
- The agency was planning a Legislative Luncheon in May; however, with all of the other plans and activities, this event has been postponed until November and will include dinner.
- The AAA is bracing for federal cuts and staying in contact with USA Aging, who is provided information almost daily.
 - The regional Administration for Community Living (ACL) office was disbanded.
 - There may be some cuts to SHICK funding and Title III-D funding.
 - The agency is expecting SNAP benefits, such as Farmers Market vouchers, for WYCO to be cut in half. Last year the AAA received 700 vouchers.

- The AAA is fully staffed and caught up on all fiscal reporting after 2 grueling years of being behind.
- The agency is persevering in uncertainty with the loss of the ADRC contract on June 30th. Also, the ADRC funding may be cut from federal budgets for 2026.
 - Maximus will be the entity for assessments and Liberty Health Care will provide options counseling and Information, Referral and Assistance.
 - KDADs will administer the call center at the same number as in the past.
 - Jamey Rodriguez asked where assessments will be sent. Ruth indicated these will be sent to Liberty Health Care.
 - Ruth shared Liberty Health Care will have to build a local presence as there is no walk-in capabilities or local office at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- The Shepherd's Center is hosting their 39th Anniversary Benefit this Saturday from 4p – 7p at the KCKCC Vo-Tech Center at 64th & State Avenue, KCK. There should be Commissioners in attendance. Tickets are \$50 each.
- The Shepherd's Center will be hosting a Book and Bric-A-Brac sale on May 2 from 8am – 4pm and May 3 from 8am – 3pm at Grace Lutheran Church at 3333 Wood Avenue, KCK.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Areawide Advisory Council will be held virtually on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, 10am.

ADJOURN:

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:33am.

Notes submitted by Connie Harmon, Director of Leavenworth Council on Aging.