

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

November 4, 2024

Dear Advisory Council Member:

Due to voting at the October 2024 meeting, **both the November and December 2024 meetings have been cancelled.**

The next meeting of the Areawide Advisory Council will be held on **Wednesday, January 22, 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

JANUARY 22, 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

Discussion regarding the In-Person Meeting dates for 2025

NEXT MEETING

FEBRUARY 26, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

WYANDOTTE/LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING
AREAWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL
October 23, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jacqueline Browne, Sharon Davis, Cindy Hopewell, Jason Hussey, Jammie Johnson, Jessica Ponbriant, Jamey Rodriguez, and Kim Weaver.

EXCUSED: Pam Blood, Denise Dias, Barbara Ikerd, Anita Kronidak, Mary Mack, and Susan McGinnis.

ABSENT: Carlen Davis.

STAFF PRESENT: Connie Harmon, Jessica Pontbriant and Linda Ramirez.

GUESTS PRESENT: Kelsey Saunders, UG Legal Department.

CALL TO ORDER: Jessica Pontbriant, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03am.

MINUTES: The September meeting minutes were approved as written.

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS: Jessica Pontbriant called the meeting to order and announced that two items will need to be discussed. The nominations and voting for the 2025 Chair and Co-Chair positions and the council's choice to hold the November and December meetings.

COUNCIL CONCERNS: Leavenworth County:
None.

Wyandotte County:
None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Leavenworth:

Connie Harmon, Director announced the following for Leavenworth County:

- Medicare Annual Open Enrollment began October 15 and runs through December 7. They have three full-time team members who are scheduling appointments. They will also work with local libraries to schedule appointments in their community.
- The Leavenworth Council on Aging (LCOA) is now offering a Parkinson's Support Group on the fourth Tuesday of the month

at 1pm. This is a grass-roots effort by a wife caring for her husband with Parkinson's. She felt this was needed in the community.

- The LCOA will host their annual Halloween party on Wednesday, October 30th. Participants are encouraged to dress in costume where 3 celebrities will judge the entries.
- The LCOA will again partner with the Alzheimer's Association to offer a five-part *Empowered Caregiver* education series in November and December. The series teaches caregivers how to navigate the responsibilities of caring for someone living with dementia.
- Christmas is well underway at the LCOA. To date, nearly 300 seniors have been sponsored for Christmas by local veteran organizations, area churches and individuals. All gifts will be delivered by Santa or Santa's helpers. They also held their annual *Fill the Trunk* event at Dillons on Friday, October 18 to gather donations to fill 400 Christmas stockings. This year was reported to be a great success.

Wyandotte:

Linda Ramirez gave the Director's Report for Wyandotte County.

- Due to the massive fiscal electronic problems experienced during the past year, which resulted in non-compliance of reporting, and late allocations received; PSA01 is looking to invest in an internal electronic system, to assist the AAA in staying abreast of all funding allocations.
- The Kansas AAAs were successful in securing "base funding" due to the statewide advocacy of the K4A Association. Many other entities, Behavioral Health, I/DD organizations, etc. have historically received base or administrative funding. This funding will allow AAAs to fund needed resources or gaps in services that current funding does not allow. This funding cannot be used to supplement services already provided under federal and state grants and any unspent funds will be returned to the state.
- A Medicare Basics/Updates Presentation will be held tomorrow, October 24th, 11am – 12pm next door to the AAA office in the Community Room. All are welcome to attend, no RSVP required.

- A photo shoot has been scheduled for the AAA Staff, Areawide Advisory Council and the Silver Haired Legislators. The photo shoot will be held at James P. Davis Hall on November 14th, 10am. The photos taken will be used in the AAAs 2025 calendar.
- A "Save the Date" was shared for the Annual Older Kansans Day at the Capitol. The event will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2024, 9a – 3pm. The AAA will provide transportation to those who choose to ride the bus. The bus will leave at approximately 7:15am, returning late in the afternoon. More information is forthcoming.
- Linda shared the five issues (Resolutions) that will be carried forward in the 2025 Legislative Session by the Silver Haired Legislature. These issues were finalized at the Annual Session that was held October 8-10, 2024.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- A motion was made to nominate Jammie Johnson as the Chair, representing Wyandotte County. A unanimous vote was made in favor of the nomination/and appointment. A motion was made to nominate Jessica Pontbriant as the Co-Chair, representing Leavenworth County. A unanimous vote was made in favor of the nomination/and appointment. Therefore, Jammie Johnson, Chair and Jessica Pontbriant, Co-Chair will represent the Areawide Advisory Council in 2025.
- A motion was made and seconded to cancel both the November and December 2024 meetings due to holiday conflicts. The motion was voted and approved. Areawide Advisory Council meetings will resume in 2025.
- A suggestion to hold 2 in-person meetings in 2025 (March and September) will be tabled for discussion at the January 2025 meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Areawide Advisory Council will be held virtually on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 10am.

ADJOURN:

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:38am.

Respectfully submitted:



Linda Ramirez, Recording Secretary