



TRI-COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 13, 2025, 1:00 PM

Members Present*	Members Absent*	Staff Present
Kathy Bouchard-Wyant, President		Carl Buonodono, Nutrition Director
Robyn Ford		Casey Cooper, Assistant Director
Judith Gardi		Kate Long, Planning and Program Development Manager
LaSandra Jones		Andrea Radel, Executive Director
Nancy Kapp		
Gloria Kovnot		
Zeenat Kotval-Karamchandani		
Lucy Maillette	Members Excused*	Members of the Public
Susanne Mannino	Susan Hoffman	Diana Maddox, SAC
Pat Munshaw	Raheema Muhammad	
Blake Mulder	Doreen Patino	
Kelly Neve		
Ruth Pearson		
Raul Presas		
Tonya Randall		
Cristi Setzer		

* Please see Attachment 1 for the TCOA Advisory Council 2024 Membership List with member affiliations.

1. **Call to Order: K. Bouchard-Wyant** call the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.
2. **Welcome and Introductions**
3. **Approval of the Agenda for March 13, 2025: C. Cooper** shared updates to the agenda including removal of the presentation and addition of item 8. E. under New Business for New Advisory Council members CATA and MSU Kinship Resource Center. **J. Gardi** motioned for approval of the amended agenda. **L. Jones** seconded. Motion carried.
4. **Approval of the Minutes from January 9, 2025: J. Gardi** motioned for approval of the minutes. **G. Kovnot** seconded. Motion carried.
5. **Public Comment and Correspondence:** No public comment or correspondence.
6. **Executive Director’s Report: A. Radel** shared updates on the FY 2025 Federal Funding and activities, the Grant Funding Opportunity, and the upcoming USAging Policy Briefing.

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FY2025 Federal Funding Update – We are closely watching the Federal Funding and Budget activity. The FY2025 federal budget is still operating under a continuing resolution, which is set to expire March 14th. Until that date, federal funding remains at FY2024 levels. There are three possible outcomes:

1. An extension of the continuing resolution
2. Passage of the FY2025 budget (covering October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025)
3. A government shutdown, if no agreement is reached

If there are funding reductions or a shutdown, the leadership team along with the Administrative Board Finance Committee will assess the potential impact on our operations.

For now, TCOA is operating under a cautious 'business as usual' approach and closely monitoring updates from federal and state authorities.

Other Federal Activity - There are many pending executive orders that are under review. Our approach is to wait for official guidance from federal and state partners before taking any action. At this time, official guidance has not been received related to these matters.

Competitive Grant Funding Update - TCOA has been awarded funding for the No Wrong Door Program, making us one of 15 organizations selected. A two-phase Readiness Review is required:

- Phase 1: Documentation submission (completed February 21, 2025).
- Phase 2: Site visits by MDHHS before April 15, 2025, to assess readiness.

Services under this grant will begin by May 1, 2025.

USAgging Policy Briefing - USAgging, the national association for Area Agencies on Aging, will hold its annual policy briefing on March 31–April 1 in Washington, D.C. Topics will include:

- Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act
- FY2026 appropriations for aging programs
- Federal policy updates on aging, caregiving, and health

Casey Cooper, Kate Long and I will be attending again this year and are looking forward to learning more about the priorities of the new administration and gain insider knowledge of the 2025 policy landscape from key federal agency officials, congressional staff and Aging and health policy experts.

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7. **TCOA Strategic Planning Update:** **A. Radel** presented the 2025-2030 TCOA Strategic Plan, spearheaded by TCOA Leadership in collaboration with a consultant from Nonprofit Network, informed by insights from staff, the Advisory Council, and the Administrative Board. Feedback was summarized and the strategies were reviewed.

Discussion followed.

8. New Business

- a. **Code of Ethics:** **C. Cooper** requested council members sign and return a copy of the Code of Ethics document shared. This is a requirement of the state but aligns with TCOA's mission and vision.
- b. **Volunteer Appreciation Open House:** **C. Cooper** shared that the Volunteer Appreciation Open House will be held at TCOA on April 25 from 2:00 – 5:00 PM in the TCOA Community Rooms. The Advisory Council is welcome to attend!
- c. **Older Michiganians Day (OMD):** **K. Long** shared that OMD will be held on May 7 starting at 9:30AM on the Capitol lawn. Advocacy priorities were shared. More details to come.
- d. **FY 2026 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) Timeline:** **K. Long** reviewed the timeline and noted the AIP will be emailed in April and approval will be requested in May.
- e. **New Advisory Council Members:** **C. Cooper** requested approval from the Council for new members: CATA and MSU Kinship Care Resource Center. **K. Bouchard-Wyant** motioned for approval. **R. Pearson** seconded. Motion carried.

9. Council Reports

- a. **Social Security Administration:** **R. Ford** clarified that the latest update regarding the Social Security Administration discontinuing phone services is not correct. The Administration will be discontinuing the ability to change direct deposit via telephone due to fraud. Beneficiaries can still update this information on their My Social Security account or at an office.
- b. **Michigan Senior Advocates Council (MSAC):** No update.
- c. **State Advisory Council (SAC):** **D. Maddox** Senator Slotkin is having a virtual Town Hall at 6:30 PM today, March 13. Information will be shared. Additionally, there has been a change to the Medicaid asset limit from \$2,000 to \$9,660 as of February 1. More to come from TCOA.

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Discussion followed.

- d. **Nutrition Council: C. Buonodono** shared that currently, home delivered meals supports 1,060 participants. Eaton County continues to have a wait list but that is decreasing. Carry Out Meal participants is at 353 and Congregate Dining supports 606 participants.

Discussion followed.

- e. **Transportation Advisory Boards:** No report.

10. Member's Time and/or Announcements

G. Kovnot discussed making the Outreach Committee a standing committee for TCOA as an opportunity to serve outside of the Advisory Council.

Additionally, there is an MSU Age Alive Research Forum April 3 from 9AM-1PM, in-person and virtual at the MSUFCU on Farm Lane. Register online.

Discussion followed.

K. Bouchard-Wyant discussed the 2025 sponsorship booklet and asked about volunteer needs.

K. Bouchard-Wyant also offered to be the volunteer to attend the next Administrative Board meeting on Monday, March 17. Volunteers for other openings were requested and secured.

Discussion followed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:22PM.

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Attachment 1: TCOA Advisory Council 2025 Membership List

*13 Senior Representatives Appointed by local units of government and
Up to 13 Agency Representatives Appointed by Tri-County Aging Consortium Administrative Board*

Clinton County (2 Total)

Judith Gardi
Larry Meyer

Eaton County (3 Total)

Susan Hoffman
Ruth Pearson, *Corresponding Secretary*
Blake Mulder

Ingham County (3 Total)

Gloria Kovnot
Lucy Maillette
Pat Munshaw

City of East Lansing (1 Total)

Kathy Bouchard-Wyant, *President*

City of Lansing (4 Total)

LaSandra Jones, *Second Vice President*
Susanne Mannino
Raheema Muhammad
VACANT

Community Mental Health Older Adult Services

Tonya Randall

Disability Network Capital Area

Doreen Patino

Ingham/Eaton County DHS

Kelly Neve

Tri-County Nutrition Council

VACANT

Social Security Administration

Robyn Ford, *First Vice President*

Maplewood AFC

Raul Presas

Michigan State University

School of Planning, Design and Construction

Zeenat Kotval-Karamchandani, PhD

Hospice of Lansing

Nancy Kapp

Capital Area Housing Partnership

Cristi Setzer

VACANT (Agency)

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Attachment 1: TCOA Advisory Council 2025 Membership List, continued

Representatives (non-voting)

Michigan Senior Advocates Council

Mary Ablan
Susan Hoffman
Paula Yensen

State Advisory Council

Robyn Ford
Diana Maddox
Vacant

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