

**TRI-COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING**

Minutes

November 18, 2024, 3:30 PM

<u>Members Present:</u>		
Mark Meadows, Vice Chair Blake Mulder Monica Schafer Dwight Washington	Jeffrey Brown Jeanne Pearl-Wright Lucianna Solis	Mark Mudry Bob Peña Chris Swope
<u>Members Absent:</u>		
Irene Cahill, Chair	John Andrews	Ryan Kost
<u>Staff:</u>		
Carl Buonodono Kate Long Tom Smith	Casey Cooper Andrea Radel	Kirsten Laing Joe Reeves
<u>Guests:</u>		
Daniel Black	Annette Gamez, ACLS Bureau	

Item #1. Call to Order:

M. Meadows called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

Item #2. Introductions:

Item #3. Approval of the November 18, 2024 Agenda:

B. Pena motioned to accept and approve the November 18, 2024 agenda.

D. Washington supported. **Motion carried.**

Item #4. Minutes from the October 21, 2024 Meeting:

J. Pearl-Wright motioned to accept and approve the October 21, 2024, minutes.

B. Peña supported. **Motion carried.**

Item #5. Public Comment:

D. Black acknowledged Lansing city council members present and thanked M. Schafer for election information.

Item #6. Director’s Report:

A. Radel gave an update on Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Federal Funding, a Grant Funding Opportunity, and the Direct Care Worker (DCW) Help Project.

FY2025 Federal Funding Update – As reported last month, the Federal Government issued

a continuing resolution (CR) through December 20, 2024 but we are hearing word that the CR will likely continue through March 2025.

More information to follow at a later date.

Competitive Grant Funding Opportunity – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recently released a Competitive Grant Funding Opportunity (GFO) for the No Wrong Door Program. The purpose of the program is to create a coordinated system of providers for consumers to learn about and access Long-Term Supports and Services (LTSS) through person-centered options counseling (PCOC) and the State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) and Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) program through Medicare counseling. There will be nine to twenty awards issued statewide ranging from \$10,000 to \$4.4 million. The Area Agencies on Aging throughout the state, including TCOA already provide these services that are currently funded by other sources. Beginning March 1, 2025 the grants, if awarded, will come through MDHHS. The application deadline is December 19, 2024. Awards will be announced on January 29, 2025. Additional information will be shared at a later date.

Update on DCW Help Project - As previously mentioned, the DCW HELP Fund was created with the aim of financially supporting direct care workers across Michigan when an urgent need arises. The fund will be administered by local Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), in collaboration with the Area Agencies on Aging Association (4AM) and is designed to address critical barriers that impact direct care workers' ability to provide consistent and high-quality care such as transportation, medical care, and access to essential resources. This fund represents a cornerstone in our commitment to support the well-being and professional growth of direct care workers, who are essential in providing quality care to older adults and those with disabilities. A group of key AAA representatives has been working to develop tools which will assist AAAs in implementing a local fund, if one does not exist already.

Discussion followed.

Item #7. Dinner & Auction, November 21:

C. Cooper shared that the 39th annual Dinner & Auction will be held on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center. Tickets are no longer for sale. The online auction link will be live November 19 and is open to the public, including those not attending the event. Additional details were shared.

Item #8. Project Choices Report:

K. Laing provided the report on Project Choices programs. The total participants and the wait lists are as follows:

Case Coordination (including Ingham County Elder Services Millage) – 145 traditional Case Coordination and 143 Ingham County Elder Services Millage participants, for a total of 288. The Case Coordination waitlist – 244.

Care Management – 103 participants.

MI Choice Waiver – 958 participants enrolled, 15 applicants are in a Nursing Home and developing transition plans, and another 59 are being served by

TCOA Supports Coordinators for a total of 1,135 (including care management). The MI Choice Waiver waitlist – 290.

Item #9. Nutrition Report:

C. Buonodono provided an update on the total participants in the Nutrition Program, as follows:

Home Delivered Meals – 1,060 participants. Eaton County currently has 87 individuals on the waiting list.

Carry Out Meals – 23 participants registered.

Congregate Dining – 140 participants registered.

Item #10. Code of Ethics:

A. Radel shared the second draft of the Board of Directors Code of Ethics policy. Discussion followed where additional proposed amendments were shared. The document will be amended and presented at a later date.

Item #11. Finance Report:

A. September 2024: **J. Reeves** presented the preliminary September financial reports. A copy was provided in the board packet. **C. Swope** motioned to approve the September financial reports. **B. Mulder** seconded. Discussion followed. **Motion carried.**

B. FY 2025 Budget Revision and Resolution: **J. Reeves** presented the revised Ingham County Elder Services Millage budget. A copy was provided in the board packet. **C. Swope** motioned to approve the revised budget. **B. Pena** seconded. **Motion carried.**

Item #12. October Disbursement Report and Resolution:

J. Reeves presented the October Disbursement Report and Register. A copy was provided in the board packet. **C. Swope** motioned to approve the October 2024 check ledger. **J. Pearl-Wright** seconded. **Motion carried.**

Misc. M. Schafer shared comment regarding Advisory Council.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:13 PM

Next meeting: January 27, 2025, at 3:30 PM