



AGENDA

Aging Services Committee

Ken Steele, Chair

Thursday, January 13, 2011

11:30 am

Harry West Community Room, Level C

I. Welcome and Introductions

Ken Steele, Chair

- Public Comment

II. FY2012 – FY2015 Aging Services

Pete Blomquist/Jan Kauffman

Grant Awards:

Aging Services Division

- County-Based Aging Programs
- Specialized Services

III. Care Transitions

Cathie Berger

- Aging Services Network
- Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS)
Request for Proposal

Aging Services Division

IV. Plan 2040 Performance Standards

Laura Keyes,

Aging Services Division

V. Announcements

Cathie Berger

- NCOA Grant
- OASIS Grant
- GA Department of Behavioral Health &
Developmental Disabilities
- Journal of Housing for the Elderly

Aging Services Division

VI. Adjourn

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

AGING SERVICES COMMITTEE **January 13, 2011 Meeting Notes**

Members Present

Mayor Kenneth Steele, Chair
Chairman Eldrin Bell
Mayor Willie Oswalt
Chairman Tom Worthan
Mr. Josh Unruh

Members Absent

Mayor Lorene Lindsey
Ms. Judy Waters
Mayor Doris Jones
Mr. Kevin Isakson
Ms. Nancy Morrison
Dr. Laura Beaty
Dr. Lois Ricci
Ms. Nysia Lanier

ARC Staff: Cathie Berger, Amanda Pavey, Laura Keyes, Kristie Sharp, Arnisha Norman, Jan Kauffman, Maureen Kelly, Adrian Askew and Grace Trimble

I. FY2012 – 2015 Aging Services Grant Awards

Cathie Berger updated the Committee on the FY2012-2015 Aging Services Grant Awards, and thanked Committee members Mayor Steele, Mayor Lindsey and Nysia Lanier for their participation in the review process. Under the County Based Aging Program RFP ten proposals were received (one from each county) with no competitive proposals submitted. Ms. Berger stated that all of the proposals were in line with the RFP guidelines and that the Aging Services Division is recommending funding all ten. Under the Specialized Services RFP seventeen proposals were submitted. These were reviewed by the Review Panel, including two representatives from the Aging Services Committee, two from the Advisory Committee on Aging and staff. The combined consensus scores were presented along with the recommendation to fund ten (eight agencies) proposals. The Committee approved the recommendation and instructed staff to present levels of funding for these grantees at the next Aging Services Committee (ASC) meeting scheduled for February 10th. The full FY2012-2015 Area Plan on Aging will be presented to the Advisory Committee on Aging on February 1st. Upon approval by the Aging Services Committee, the FY2012-2015 Area Plan on Aging will be submitted to the ARC Commission for approval on February 23, 2011.

The Committee inquired about possible budget cuts affecting the amount available for funding but Ms. Berger stated that staff had already incorporated the 4% cut into the budget. Maureen Kelly informed the Committee that any potential additional cuts will present serious concern over possible funding loss with the Older Americans Act (OAA) should those cuts cause *state* support in certain programs to fall below the required maintenance of effort level. The Committee agreed to write personal letters to Legislators to make them aware of this potential concern.

II. Care Transitions

Cathie Berger updated the Committee on a partnership between the Aging Services Division and Piedmont Hospital to incorporate the Care Transitions model in the Aging Services

Network. Ms. Berger stated that the framework for Care Transitions consists of four components – Community Outreach Education, Physician and Hospital, Home Health, and Community Services. By building teamwork through these four components readmission rates to hospitals will be lowered. Ms. Berger informed the Committee that the Aging Services Division has submitted a proposal to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) for funding to implement the model.

III. Plan 2040 Performance Standards

Laura Keyes presented to the Committee a draft of the Plan 2040 Local Standards document. Plan 2040 was created to provide guidance for sustainable growth by balancing environmental responsibility, economic growth and social needs while maximizing benefits to the population as a whole. This document sets forth standards for Plan 2040 that will be required by local governments. Ms. Keyes stated that the Aging Services Division would like to see the Lifelong Communities standards be presented as incentive based and not mandated. The Plan 2040 Local Standards document has been presented to other ARC Committees as well.

IV. Announcements

Ms. Berger reported to the Committee that the Aging Services Division has recently received two grants for \$25,000 - \$30,000 each. The NCOA grant money will be used link our Chronic Disease Self-Management program with physicians; and the OASIS grant money will be used to work with the Boys & Girls Club and older adult volunteers to address obesity issues in children.

Ms. Berger announced to the Committee that the GA Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) has recently signed an agreement to use our database. Through this agreement DBHDD will pay the Aging Services Division \$15,000 for 250 users.

Ms. Berger provided the Committee with a copy of an article in the *Journal of Housing For the Elderly* co-authored by Aging Services Division staff member, Mary Blumberg, and Atlanta Housing Authority staff members Pat Jones and Marvin Nesbitt, Jr.

V. Adjourn

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled Aging Services Committee meeting is Thursday, February 10, 2011 at ARC's office.



Aging Services Committee

Ken Steele, Chair

Thursday, February 10, 2011

11:30 am

Harry West Conference Room

- I. Welcome and Introductions** *Ken Steele, Chair*
- Public Comment
- II. FY 2012 – FY2015 Area Plan on Aging** *Jan Kauffman*
(Action Item) *Aging Services Division*
- III. Human Services Transportation** *Laura Keyes,*
Aging Services Division
- **JARC/New Freedom Call for Projects**
 - **Funding Impacts**
 - **Lifelong Community: Transportation**
Community Planning Academy
- IV. Georgia for a Lifetime** *Kathryn Fowler, Exec. Director*
Georgia Council on Aging
- V. Status Reports** *Cathie Berger*
- *Be There 4 Seniors*
 - **Community Gardens**
- V. Adjourn**

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

AGING SERVICES COMMITTEE February 10, 2011 Meeting Notes

Members Present

Mayor Kenneth Steele, Chair
Mayor Lorene Lindsey
Ms. Judy Waters
Mayor Doris Jones
Mayor Willie Oswalt
Chairman Tom Worthan
Mr. Josh Unruh
Ms. Nancy Morrison
Dr. Laura Beaty
Dr. Lois Ricci
Ms. Nysia Lanier

Members Absent

Chairman Eldrin Bell
Mr. Kevin Isakson

ARC Staff: Cathie Berger, Amanda Pavey, Laura Keyes, Jan Kauffman, Maureen Kelly, Pete Blomquist, Mary Blumberg, and Grace Trimble.

Guests: Kathryn Fowler, Executive Director, Georgia Council on Aging; and Mary Byrd, Director, Clayton County Senior Services.

I. FY2012 – 2015 Area Plan on Aging

Jan Kauffman presented to the Committee the Executive Summary of the Area Plan on Aging for 2012 – 2015. This summary explains that the Area Plan is ARC's request to the state to access federal funding through the Older Americans Act and state funding for aging services. It also provides a break-down of how the funding requested (\$20,802,112) will be awarded to grant recipients (i.e. specialized agencies and county based agencies) and the services that will be supported through this funding. Ms. Kauffman stated that the Area Plan, which supports all three components of the Lifelong Communities framework, is due to the state by March 1st. Ms. Kauffman requested approval of the resolution approving ARC as the Area Agency on Aging for the Atlanta region and approving the submission of the 2012-2015 Area Plan on Aging to the state.

Nysia Lanier, Committee member and Chair of the Advisory Council on Aging, presented to the Committee an Issue Summary supporting the re-designation of ARC as the Area Agency on Aging and the submission of the Area Plan, and requested the Committee to approve the resolution and forward to the full Commission for approval. Mayor Lindsey motioned to approve the resolution and Mayor Jones seconded the motion. All present Committee members approved the submission of the FY2012 – 2015 Area Plan on Aging.

II. Human Services Transportation

To highlight the progress of the Human Services Transportation (HST) program for the Committee, Laura Keyes played a DVD, Mobility Matters, created by ARC's Communication, Aging and Transportation divisions to be used as a messaging tool for the program. The DVD highlights different transportation options that have been implemented around the

region and were funded by money from the Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC)/New Freedom grant. Ms. Keyes stated the current round of RFPs for the Fiscal Year 2010 JARC/New Freedom Grant are due by February 28, 2011.

Ms. Keyes also informed the Committee of five Senior Mobility Programs that are currently in place around the region.

Transportation Vouchers: A Mobility Option for Older Adults and Persons with Disability -
This allows older adults and persons with disabilities to purchase transportation that best meets their needs. Fayette Senior Services, Cobb County "Cobb Freedom," East Point NORC and DeKalb County Office of Senior Affairs have implemented successful models of this program.

SeniorPool: A Carpool Program for the C. Freeman Poole Center, Cobb County –
This is a pilot program with Cobb County DOT to link older adults in the surrounding community to share rides to the C. Freeman Poole Center in South Cobb County. Once success of the program has been proven ARC will utilize the region's RideSmart computerized database to broaden the program to older active adults who want to share a ride on a one-time basis or recurring trips to similar locations.

Volunteer Driver Programs: A Transportation Lifeline for Older Adults –
This program provides critical transportation services to medical appointments for older adults. The Atlanta region's most successful model volunteer driver program is ICARE DeKalb County, which has approximately 70 volunteers. A similar program in DeKalb County is a partnership between the Lutheran Services of Georgia and the DeKalb Consortium of Churches called "Friends to Go." ARC is currently working to initiate a similar model for Lifelong Mableton in Cobb County.

Travel Training: Accessing Regional Transportation Options –
Through this program, older adults and persons with disabilities are given the information, safety guidelines and confidence they need to access transit and transportation options in the region. One such model in the region is the "Get on the Bus Gus" Travel Training Program available through the Cobb County Senior Services and Cobb Department of Transportation.

Walkable Communities: Tools to Assess Walkability for community Health and Access to Services – ARC developed a Walkable Assessment model for Lifelong Mableton that can determine pedestrian safety and physical attributes that make a community walkable. This information can then be formerly submitted to local governments to assist in better zoning and planning efforts.

Ms. Keyes also reported to the Committee on two upcoming events. On February 22nd ARC's Community Planning Academy is hosting a seminar titled "Lifelong Communities: Integrating Transportation Options for Older Adults" at Piedmont Hospital – McRae Auditorium. This seminar will focus on the health factor of ensuring transportation for older adults. On February 25th ARC is hosting a Lifelong Communities Update Meeting for participants in the original Lifelong Communities charrette along with recent advocates of the initiative.

Ms. Keyes announced to the Committee that Clayton County Board of Commissioners recently adopted a resolution supporting the Lifelong Communities principles.

III. Georgia for a Lifetime

Kathryn Fowler, Executive Director of the Georgia Council on Aging, presented to the Committee the *Georgia for a Lifetime* final report. The Georgia Council on Aging was created in 1977 to advise the Governor on issues of concern to older Georgians. In 2008, the Georgia General Assembly asked the Georgia Council on Aging to study the effects of the expected older adult population growth by 2030 (over 140 percent) on state and local governments, private and non-profit organizations and to make recommendations for both short and long-term action. On December 15, 2010 the Final Report for Project 2020: Georgia for a Lifetime was presented to the Governor. The Summary of Recommendations breaks down the final report into five sections – Housing, Transportation, Civic Engagement, Health & Economic Self-Sufficiency.

IV. Status Reports

- *Be There 4 Seniors*

Maureen Kelly updated the Committee on the *Be There 4 Seniors* event held the beginning of February at the Capitol during Senior Week. Ms. Kelly reported that attendance was over 600 and that several legislators expressed to the group that they and the Governor were all aware of the issues facing the older adult population.

- Community Gardens

Mary Blumberg invited the Committee to attend the Senior Community Gardening Summit on March 18, 2011 at the Clarkston Community Center. This summit is to celebrate the success of the Senior Community Garden Initiative funded through the Kaiser Foundation. The Summit will be an informative and interactive program on the impact of community gardens, and will teach participants how to start and sustain a garden.

V. Adjourn

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled Aging Services Committee meeting is Thursday, March 10, 2011 at ARC's office.



Aging Services Committee

Ken Steele, Chair

Thursday, March 10, 2011

11:30 am

Harry West Conference Room

- I. Welcome and Introductions** *Ken Steele, Chair*
- Public Comment
- II. Care Transitions**
- **Piedmont Hospital BOOST Project** *Nancy Morrison, 60+Program
Piedmont Hospital*
 - **Aging Network Response** *Cathie Berger,
Aging Services Division*
- III. Plan 2040 Project List and HST** *Cathie Berger*
- V. ARC Regional Forecasts:
Turning Data into Action** *Laura Keyes,
Aging Services Division*
- VI. Status Reports**
- **Legislative/Budget Update** *Maureen Kelly*
 - **Lifelong Communities Forum** *Laura Keyes*
- V. Adjourn**

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

AGING SERVICES COMMITTEE

March 10, 2011 Meeting Notes

Members Present

Mayor Kenneth Steele, Chair
Chairman Eldrin Bell
Mayor Lorene Lindsey
Ms. Judy Waters
Mayor Doris Jones
Mayor Willie Oswalt
Chairman Tom Worthan
Ms. Nancy Morrison
Dr. Laura Beaty
Dr. Lois Ricci
Ms. Nysia Lanier

Members Absent

Mr. Kevin Isakson
Mr. Josh Unruh

ARC Staff: Cathie Berger, Amanda Pavey, Laura Keyes, Jan Kauffman, Pete Blomquist, Mary Blumberg, Arnisha Norman, Carolyn Rader and Grace Trimble.

Guests: Elaine Jackson, Health and Wellness Coordinator, Clayton County Senior Services.

I. Care Transitions

Piedmont Hospital BOOST Project

Nancy Morrison reported to the Committee on the key principles of transitions and how the hospitals and the Aging Network are working together to implement the new Care Transitions program. This program is designed to enhance patient care, promote self-management and ensure a successful discharge by improving coordination and communication flow as patients/clients move across the care continuum. Ms. Morrison reported that 1 in 5 Medicare patients will be readmitted within 30 days. Reasons for readmission range from not seeing the physician for follow-up appointment because the patient didn't have means of transportation, confusion with medication because discharge instructions weren't clear. Piedmont Hospital's BOOST project is a partnership with ARC and Fulton County Office of Aging to ensure the four pillars of Care Transitions - medication self-management, use of a personal health record, knowledge of warning signs and symptoms, and follow-up visit with physician is scheduled and attended - are met. Ms. Morrison stated that the BOOST project has already seen a reduction in readmission rates from 14% to 11.1%.

Aging Network Response

Cathie Berger stated that through the Community Care Transitions program, the Aging Network has been given the opportunity to work with hospitals around the region in ensuring that the older adults and their caregivers are given the support needed upon discharge from the hospital through available services. Mary Blumberg presented a Care Transitions Support Package flier that will be used in the hospitals to market the program to potential participants. The flier provides patients and caregivers the necessary information on what services are offered and contact information for the Care Transitions coordinator at ARC. Ms. Blumberg stated that this is a pilot program and will run through June 30, 2011. During

this pilot timeframe data will be collected to measure the viability of the program according to response time from service providers as well as actual benefits received from the individual. Ms. Berger, responding to a question from Ms. Lois Ricci, explained that the Georgia Medical Care Foundation will be collaborating with ARC in this effort by working with hospitals in implementing Care Transitions.

II. Plan 2040 Project List and HST

Laura Keyes presented an update to the Committee on Human Services Transportation (HST). ARC's video, "A Matter of Mobility," has been very well received in how it demonstrates the success in targeting every dollar of the JARC/New Freedom funds to community based transportation programs. This limited funding source is helping to fill a need for transportation options for three specific demographics – low income, older adults, and person with disabilities. Ms. Keyes reported that at the February meeting of the Regional HST Advisory committee the concern was raised that regional scale HST projects are not included in the Plan 2040 Project List and not reflected as recommendations for the Transportation Investment Act Project List. Relative to HST, one of the biggest issues is the total fragmentation of services – there are over 65 different funding sources funding transit in the region and people are not clear on how to access transportation services that do exist in the region. Ms. Keyes stated that the committee discussed how to advance three major recommendations (Regional Mobility Management; Regional Transportation Management Call Center; and Additional funding for paratransit bus procurement and operations) from the 2009 adopted Regional HST Plan. The HST Committee's recommendation for a Regional Transportation Management Call Center is already supported by the Regional Transportation Call Center Feasibility Study commissioned in 2008. Through ARC's two call centers, AgeWise Connection and TDM RideSmart, ARC has already proven capacity to develop a operate phase 1 of a regional call center. Ms. Keyes stated that in an earlier meeting, ARC staff discussed the recommendations from the HST Committee and agreed it necessary to explore how Plan 2040 can include funding for a Regional Transportation Management Call Center. The Plan will either be part of a larger TDM Study which is already included as a line item in 2012 or a separate line item may be created. Ms. Keyes reported that the Committee is planning to explore the possibility of utilizing pilot project funding identified as part of the State's HST Plan which is currently underway. State HST Plan Consultants are meeting with ARC leadership on March 23rd to discuss the status of the plan and different opportunities. Mayor Steele discussed the need for a regional transportation call center and individual committee members expressed their support and agreed to submit a Regional Mobility Management Center for the Transportation Investment Act Project list. Mayor Steele further undertook to inform Mayors and County Commission Chairs requesting their support and/or similar submissions from their jurisdictions. Mayor Steele requested ARC staff to provide information to him and the other committee members for completion of the TIA Project List application.

III. ARC Regional Forecasts: Turning Data into Action

Laura Keyes demonstrated for the Committee how the Aging Services Division is working with the Research Division to plot population projections through a variety of graphs and charts, and how it can be used to support the implementation of the Lifelong Communities principles around the region. The charts tease out the differences among the counties, showing that the metro-Atlanta's counties are growing older and differences between the 65+ groups living within those counties. Ms. Keyes noted how relative housing prices and zoning impact where different age groups live and that these factors should impact decision making associated with the Lifelong Communities Initiative.

IV. Status Reports

Legislative/Budget Update

Pete Blomquist reported on the State and Federal budgets to the Committee. Mr. Blomquist reported that the Amended SFY 2011 Budget (HB77) passed the House of Representatives and the Senate on March 7th. Restorations in the amount of \$344,180 for non-Medicaid Home and Community Based Respite Services and Alzheimer's respite services were made; resulting in an estimated additional \$90,000 for the Atlanta region through June 30th. Mr. Blomquist also stated that COAGE received assurance from the Governor's office that our advocacy efforts were heard and there are no plans to make any changes to the transportation budget. On March 8th the House Appropriations Human Resources Subcommittee unanimously voted to restore to the SFY2012 budget \$1.6 million (statewide) to Alzheimer's respite, non-Medicaid respite, and \$1 million (statewide) for meals -congregate and home-delivered. From the Federal level, Mr. Blomquist reported that the proposed \$65 million cut to AoA would mean reverting to pre-FY2009 funding levels, which would result in a roughly 5.5% (\$450,000) reduction to our budget. The Title V Senior Employment Program could be cut by up to 50% (\$130,000) for the Atlanta region. Potential reductions to federal funding from all fund sources total 1.4 million dollars if funding is rolled back to 2008 levels.

Lifelong Communities Forum

Cathie Berger reported to the Committee that on February 25th the Aging Services Division brought together representatives from the five original Lifelong Communities charette sites, representatives from Lifelong Mableton, Lifelong DeKalb and others for an update of the Lifelong Communities Initiative since the charette in February 2009. The group discussed the need to take a more in-depth look at the financial resources to incentivize communities and developers to continue moving the Initiative forward. Ms. Berger stated that the group expressed interest in functioning as a coalition and meeting monthly.

V. Adjourn

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled Aging Services Committee meeting is Thursday, April 14, 2011 at ARC's office.

Aging Services Committee

Ken Steele, Chair

Thursday, April 14, 2011

11:30 am

Harry West Conference Room

- I. Welcome and Introductions** *Ken Steele, Chair*
- Public Comment
- II. Human Services Transportation:
Regional Mobility Management Center** *Laura Keyes,
Aging Services Division*
- III. Chronic Disease Self-Management Program** *Mary Blumberg
Aging Services Division*
- IV. Advocacy** *Maureen Kelly,
Aging Services Division*
- Federal/State Legislative Issues
 - 2012 Aging Services Budget
 - HR 260
- V. Program Updates**
- Care Consultation *Sue Burgess*
 - Care Transitions *Mary Blumberg*
 - Older Worker's Luncheon *Maureen Kelly*
 - Volunteer Recognition Luncheon *Kristie Sharp*
- VI. Adjourn**

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

AGING SERVICES COMMITTEE

April 14, 2011 Meeting Notes

Members Present

Mayor Kenneth Steele, Chair
Chairman Eldrin Bell
Mayor Lorene Lindsey
Ms. Judy Waters
Mayor Doris Jones
Mayor Willie Oswalt
Dr. Lois Ricci
Ms. Nysia Lanier
Mr. Josh Unruh

Members Absent

Mr. Kevin Isakson
Chairman Tom Worthan
Ms. Nancy Morrison
Dr. Laura Beaty

ARC Staff: Cathie Berger, Amanda Pavey, Laura Keyes, Jan Kauffman, Pete Blomquist, Mary Blumberg, Sue Burgess, Carolyn Rader, Maureen Kelly, Patrice Earnest and Grace Trimble.

Guests: Mary Byrd, Director, Clayton County Senior Services.

I. Human Services Transportation: Regional Mobility Management Center

Laura Keyes and Patrice Earnest provided the Committee with a presentation on ARC's current call center capacity through AgeWise/Gateway. Ms. Keyes thanked the elected officials present for participating in the application submission for the Regional Mobility Management Center, and reported that Cherokee County, Fayette County, and Clayton County all included it on their approved project lists. Ms. Keyes detailed specific elements of ARC's Agewise/Gateway Call Center and its ESP Aging & Disability Long-Term Care Database that already connect callers with transportation providers and services within the 10-county Atlanta region. ARC's current call center capacity operations matches people with providers and services, provides 24/7 services, and utilizes certified counselors. Ms. Keyes indicated that ARC's current call center capability demonstrates the Agency's ability to move toward a Regional Mobility Management Center. Ms. Keyes reported that the staff of the AgeWise Connection/Gateway unit average over 72,000 calls per year. In FY2010 there were 3,447 requests for transportation services in the 10-county region (7% of all requests). Counselors in the AgeWise Connection/Gateway unit use the ESP Aging & Disability Long-Term Care Database, designed for Georgia's Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and has 24,000+ services providers listed. The ESP database produces a variety of reports including individual client data, aggregate data reports, analysis of referral data, service gap reports, and incoming/outgoing call data. Ms. Keyes stated that ARC's current call center structure and operations could serve as a framework for developing the Regional Mobility Management Center. The following are next steps necessary to support the creation of the Management Center include:

- Develop and expand the data to include all relevant transportation services
- Incorporate service eligibility detail
- Create person centered matches
 - trip planning from point A to B
 - trip costing based on available services
 - booking where technology exists
- Create software technology to support ride-matching

Ms. Earnest demonstrated the ESP Aging & Disability Long-Term Care Database that is currently used through-out the State for matching clients with service providers.

II. Chronic Disease Self-Management Program

Mary Blumberg presented the Committee with a report on the Chronic Disease Self-Management program. This program is a pilot project for the National Council on Aging (NCOA) through partnership with Sanofi Aventis and ARC. It is implemented through six weekly 2 ½ hour workshops, at no charge, which teach the participants how to manage their chronic disease through physical activity, healthy eating, medication usage, stress management, communicating with health professionals, and dealing with emotions and depression. Sanofi Aventis reps have provided program information to primary care physicians, who in turn refer patients to the program by using a tear-off pad form. Ms. Blumberg stated that the program is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through March 2012. ARC has contracted with aging programs in four counties and one organization to implement the workshops, Clayton County, DeKalb County, Fulton County, Rockdale County, and Open Hand. Ms. Blumberg reported that ARC has a goal of 424 completed workshops and to-date 72 have been completed, 4 are currently taking place, 20 workshops are scheduled, and 10 potential workshops are awaiting Leaders. Committee member, Dr. Laura Beaty provided valuable feedback to the Aging Services Division's Health & Wellness unit on evaluating the workshops.

III. Advocacy

Maureen Kelly reported to the Committee on the Federal and State legislative issues. Ms. Kelly recently attended the N4A Legislative Briefing in Washington, DC. While there attendees were briefed on the five top Federal priorities facing Aging Services;

- 1) Reauthorizing the Older Americans Act with priority given to strengthening the Aging Network's role and capacity in coordination & provision of long-term services and supports; expanding evidence-based health promotion; improving community preparedness for an aging population and; setting authorized funding levels.
- 2) Enhance health and security of older adults by recognizing the pivotal role of Aging Network in the health and security of older Americans in implementing key provisions of affordable Care Act CLASS program, ADRCs and other transitions efforts; and by rebalancing long-term services & supports by investing in Older Americans Act and state Medicaid programs,; offsetting additional cutbacks at state level and; expanding home and community based services programs.
- 3) Fiscal Year 2012 Appropriations – increase 2012 funding for Older Americans Act (OAA) programs by 12% over 2010 levels.
- 4) Livable communities for all ages – prepare America's communities to meet the needs of today's and tomorrow's older Americans by creating a national resource center to support interagency partnerships for sustainable communities for all ages.
- 5) Senior Mobility Options – reauthorize senior transportation programs to improve availability and accessibility of transportation services for older Americans. N4A recommends 7 steps to ensure adequate mobility options.

Committee Vice Chair, Eldrin Bell, requested that all legislative issues and agendas be shared with the elected official on the Committee so that they can also talk to the appropriate Representatives during their Legislative visits.

Ms. Kelly then reported that SB 178 (Assisted Living Levels of Care), which passed after sixteen years, creates a new assisted-living designation for facilities with 25 beds or more and lets such facilities provide more services to help residents stay longer. Under current laws, assisted-living facilities were licensed as personal care homes and residents were forced into nursing homes if they couldn't take their own medications or were not mobile enough to get around in an emergency. Also, SB 166 (Continuous Care Retirement Communities – CCRC) passed. This

legislation clarifies the law relating to CCRCs, provides additional consumer protections (while at the same time better protecting the integrity of CCRCs in GA), and provides options for CCRCs regarding their reserve funds.

Ms. Kelly also presented to the Committee a Resolution from the GA House of Representatives commending Fuqua Center for late-Life Depression at Emory University, the Atlanta Housing Authority, the Atlanta Area Agency on Aging/Atlanta Regional Commission, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the J.B. Fuqua Foundation and the Jesse Parker Williams Foundations for creating public/private partnerships to provide community education programs, professional training and clinical services to make sure that older adults and younger persons with mental health disabilities living independently in affordable housing get the care they need.

IV. Program Updates

Care Consultation

Sue Burgess updated the Committee on the Care Consultation program which is sponsored by the Atlanta Regional Commission, Area Agency on Aging; the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving; the Benjamin Rose Institute and the U.S. Administration on Aging. This program provides telephone-based information and support service for adults with health challenges and their family or friend caregivers. Through the Care Consultation program individuals with memory impairment and their caregivers can receive assistance with awareness and use of community services; healthcare-related information; and coaching and support. Ms. Burgess stated that ARC is the first Area Agency on Aging to receive the twelve month funding for the program; which has been very successful thus far.

Care Transitions

Mary Blumberg updated the Committee on the Care Transitions program. This program is available to individuals for 30 days after being discharged from the hospital. Ms. Blumberg reported that Fulton and Cobb counties have each taken six referrals for the program to-date. Services available to participants include home delivered meals, 2 transportation trips for medical appointments during the 30 days, and in-home services such as: light housekeeping, meal preparation, grocery shopping and prescription pick-up. Ms. Blumberg also reported that Clayton County has just recently implemented the program and is currently working on their first 2 referrals.

Older Worker's Luncheon

Maureen Kelly informed the Committee that the 2011 Metro Atlanta Experienced Leaders (Employees 60+) Awards luncheon will be held on May 5th at 11:30am at Maggiano's Little Italy on Peachtree Road. Ms. Kelly invited the Committee members to attend the luncheon, and to nominate an older worker or an employer of older workers.

Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

Cathie Berger informed the Committee that the 2011 Volunteer Recognition Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd, at 11:30am at Maggiano's Little Italy on Peachtree Road. Ms. Berger stated that through our volunteer program we are able to reach a larger number of people in the communities around the region, and this luncheon is a great way to show our appreciation to them. The ARC Commission Chair, Tad Leithead will be the keynote speaker that day. Ms. Berger invited all Committee members to attend.

V. Adjourn

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled Aging Services Committee meeting is Thursday, May 12, 2011 at ARC's office.



Aging Services Committee

Ken Steele, Chair

Thursday, May 12, 2011

11:30 am

Harry West Conference Room

- I. Welcome and Introductions** *Ken Steele, Chair*
- Public Comment
- II. Lifelong Communities Coalition** *Laura Keyes,
Aging Services Division*
- III. Transportation Investment Act:
AARP Tele-Town Hall** *Kathryn Lawler
Office of the Director*
- IV. Money Follows the Person
Nursing Home Transition Program** *Sue Burgess
Aging Services Division*
- V. Program Updates**
- Experienced Leaders Awards *Maureen Kelly
Aging Services Division*
- VI. Adjourn**

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

AGING SERVICES COMMITTEE

May 12, 2011 Meeting Notes

Members Present

Mayor Kenneth Steele, Chair
Mayor Lorene Lindsey
Mayor Willie Oswalt
Chairman Tom Worthan
Dr. Lois Ricci
Mr. Josh Unruh
Mr. Kevin Isakson

Members Absent

Ms. Nancy Morrison
Dr. Laura Beaty
Chairman Eldrin Bell
Ms. Judy Waters
Mayor Doris Jones
Ms. Nysia Lanier

ARC Staff: Cathie Berger, Amanda Pavey, Pete Blomquist, Mary Blumberg, Sue Burgess, Kathryn Lawler, Arnisha Norman, Carolyn Rader.

I. Lifelong Communities Coalition

Cathie Berger briefed the Committee on the Lifelong Communities Coalition. Ms. Berger stated that as the Lifelong Communities (LLC) Initiative moves forward the request to identify communities that are effectively meeting the LLC goals of promoting housing and transportation options, encouraging healthy lifestyles and expanding access to services continues to arise. Discussions on handling this request led to the concept of Lifelong Community Certification, similar to the Green Communities Certification. To avoid negative perception of “retirement communities” staff researched the Louisiana Retirement Community Certification Program. This program recently went through a redesign led by consultant and leader in marketing, branding and advertising for the boomer demographic, Helen Foster, who developed a consumer driven approach to identify community assets meaningful to older adults in Louisiana. Ms. Berger requested from the Committee for guidance and input on moving forward with an approach for the Atlanta region similar to Louisiana’s. The Committee agreed that a consumer driven approach, including a survey to determine a community’s assets, which are both meaningful to older adults and support the goals of the LLC Initiative, is the direction to go. Ms. Berger stated that as a follow-up to the February 25th initial meeting of the Lifelong Communities Coalition, a second meeting has been scheduled for May 17th and the consultant from Louisiana, Helen Foster, will be facilitating the group in creating the “Best of the Best” survey. The survey will have three goals:

- Reinforce understanding of the needs and wants of older adults to communities
- Emphasize specific assets that contribute to quality of life in the Atlanta region
- Serve as a valuable resource to the region’s older adults

II. Transportation Investment Act: AARP Tele-Town Hall

Kathryn Lawler briefed the Committee on the outreach effort currently underway for the Transportation Investment Act (TIA). The TIA of 2010 created the opportunity for residents to vote on a penny sales tax to support transportation improvements throughout the Atlanta region. All funds raised will stay in the 10-county region and can be used to support a wide range of projects that would combat congestion. On May 3rd, AARP hosted a Tele-town Hall

meeting to educate it's members on the TIA who live in the metro Atlanta region, are 60+, have a high school education and are registered voters. The call was very successful and at any one time there were 500+ participants on the line. The three main concerns that were voiced by this group were:

- Accountability on creation of the project list
- Concern that the needs of the older adult population will be represented on the list
- The need for more transportation services and the willingness to pay more for those services

Ms. Lawler reported that the Mobility Management Call Center proposed for the transportation project list has received great support and attention; and in fact, the GDOT Planning Director has stated there would be no way this project could not be on the list.

III. Money Follows the Person – Nursing Home Transition Program

Sue Burgess reported to the Committee on the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Initiative. MFP began as a five-year grant award to shift Medicaid Long-Term Care from its emphasis on institutional care to home and community-based services. In 2005, before Georgia received the MFP grant, the state's long-term care expenditures were \$1.5 billion, with 70% expended on institutional long-term care, and 30% expended on home and community-based services. Ms. Burgess reported that currently there are 10,500 people in nursing homes in the Atlanta region, which is 30% of the state's total number. The initial grant Georgia received (over \$36million in federal funds) will operate through December 31, 2011; however, through recent health care reform, Georgia will now be able to access additional funds to continue the grant through 2016. Ms. Burgess stated that MFP is a joint effort between the Georgia Department of Community Health, the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and the Georgia Department of Human Services Division of Aging Services to transition 618 individuals from institutional settings to the community through waiver programs, which include: the Independent Care Waiver program (ICWP), the Service Options Using Resources in a Community Environment program (SOURCE), the Community Care Service Program (CCSP) and the new Options (NOW) and Comprehensive Waiver Programs (COMP). Since 2009, 217 people in the Atlanta region have successfully been transitioned out of nursing homes, and the goal for the next fiscal year is to transition an additional 29 individuals. In response to the Committee question regarding how an individual gets selected to participate, Ms. Burgess stated that family, ombudsman, advocacy groups as well as the individual themselves can place the referral. The cost of caring for an individual in the community through waiver programs is 35-40% less than in a nursing home; thereby making the goal of the program to reduce the financial burden on Medicaid. Ms. Burgess also stated that an individual selected for the program does not have to have housing readily available, assistance in locating housing is provided in the counseling.

IV. Program Updates/Announcements

Recognitions

Cathie Berger announced that Mayor Lorene Lindsey won the 2011 Martha Eaves Advocating for Positive Change – Atlanta Region award. Since retirement Mayor Lindsey has dedicated herself to volunteerism as a member of the Silver Haired Legislature for 6 years, the AARP Legislative Chair for 4 years, a representative of the Advisory Committee on Aging at ARC for almost 16 years. She has the distinction of being the first woman elected mayor of Locust Grove and is entering her 12th year as Mayor.

Mary Blumberg reported to the Committee on the winners of the 2011 Experienced Leaders Awards. Employee of the Year award went to Ms. Josephine Dorris with WellStar Health System. The Employer of the Year award went to the Gwinnett Braves for its commitment to

hiring and promoting older adults. Along with the top two awards, six other individuals were recognized with Distinguished Service Awards for their outstanding achievement as mature workers: Randy Ellis, Draper & Associates; George Howard, The Kroger Co.; David Keyes, Fulton Workforce Board; Juan Shumate, Clayton county Aging; Gail Taylor, Publix; and Druscilla Walker, the Westin Buckhead Atlanta. Mr. Joseph Perling, at the age of 93, received the Encore Spirit Award having worked for Publix post-retirement for almost 18 years.

N4A Update/Older Americans Act Reauthorization/Aging Services Priorities

Cathie Berger reported to the Committee that Sandy Markwood, Executive Director of the National Association on Area Agencies on Aging (N4A) will be in Atlanta on May 24th, to address the Urban Land Institute regarding Lifelong Communities and the need nationally for these types of initiatives. Ms. Markwood will also be making a brief presentation to the ARC Commission at the May 25th meeting regarding the Older Americans Act reauthorization and the aging priority issues at the national level.

The Committee unanimously voted to cancel the June Aging Services Committee meeting due to various conflicts, so the next scheduled meeting will be Thursday, July 14, 2011 at ARC's office.

V. Adjourn

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Aging Services Committee

Ken Steele, Chair

Thursday, July 14, 2011

***12:30pm**

Harry West Conference Room

- I. Welcome and Introductions** *Ken Steele, Chair*
- Public Comment
- II. FY2012 Aging Services Budget** *Pete Blomquist,
Aging Services Division*
- III. Care Transitions Application:
Centers for Medicare/Medicaid** *Cathie Berger
Aging Services Division*
- IV. Plan 2040** *Cathie Berger*
- V. Transportation:**
- **Transportation Investment Act/Update** *Kathryn Lawler
ARC*
- Maureen Kelly
Aging Services Division*
- Nysia Lanier, ACA*
- **Independent Transportation Network Report** *Judy Waters
Community Foundation
for NE Georgia*
- V. Announcements**
- VI. Adjourn**

***Delayed Start Time due to Citizen District Elections at 11:30am**

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

AGING SERVICES COMMITTEE

July 14, 2011 Meeting Notes

Members Present

Mayor Kenneth Steele, Chair
Chairman Eldrin Bell
Mayor Willie Oswalt
Ms. Judy Waters
Mayor Doris Jones
Ms. Nysia Lanier
Dr. Lois Ricci
Ms. Nancy Morrison

Members Absent

Chairman Tom Worthan
Dr. Laura Beaty
Mayor Lorene Lindsey
Mr. Josh Unruh
Mr. Kevin Isakson

ARC Staff: Cathie Berger, Amanda Pavey, Kathryn Lawler, Arnisha Norman, Carolyn Rader, Kristie Sharp, Maureen Kelly, Grace Trimble

Guests: Mary Byrd, Clayton Senior Services; Olivia Rader (MARC) Druid Hills H.S.; Clarke Martin (MARC) Elite Scholars School; Mrs. Tracy Martin

I. FY2012 Aging Services Budget

Cathie Berger reported to the Committee that ARC's Department of Human Services' allocation for services for FY2012 was \$20.5 million. Effective July 1st ARC received a new funding allocation for SFY2012 increasing funding to \$21.5 million, a net increase of approximately \$1 million. Approximately \$700,000 was funding that was previously allocated and included nearly \$200,000 to replace ARRA funding for home delivered meals, nearly \$500,000 SSBG funds for care transition and other supportive services, \$100,000 under the federal NSIP meals program, and \$260,000 for implementation of the Money Follows the Person (MFP) funding. Ms. Berger stated that the MFP funds will be used to provide care coordination, transition planning and ombudsman services to persons residing in nursing homes who wish to live in their communities.

Additionally, Ms. Berger reported that ARC's CCSP care coordination allocation was reduced by \$62,000 due to a reduction in percentage of clients served in the region as compared to the number of clients served statewide.

Mayor Steele requested that Staff provide an update at the next committee meeting on the results of the care transitions programs currently being implemented

II. Care Transitions Application: Centers for Medicare/Medicaid

Cathie Berger reported to the Committee that Aging Services staff are responding to an announcement issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid in Section 3026 of the Affordable Care Act requesting proposals for enrollment in the Community Based Care Transitions Program. The purpose for the application is to ensure safe transitions from hospital to home, to reduce available readmissions and reduce Medicare expenditures (20%/17 billion), and to bridge the gap between the acute care system and community based support system. Ms. Berger stated that staff are proposing to implement a transitions programs that will be based on the Coleman Evidence based model. This model begins with transition/discharge work done in the hospital, followed by care transitions coaching

conducted by a trained coach during a home visit, as well as telephone contacts by a Care Transitions coach employed by ARC, and include the provision of a support package for those who need immediate services. ARC will partner with six hospitals in the region (Piedmont, Gwinnett Medical, Wellstar-Kennestone and Cobb General, Emory Midtown and Southern Regional) and collaborate with Georgia Medical Care Foundation (GMCF) to provide technical support and data relative to admissions and readmission. This data will be used to develop the program budget. Ms. Berger stated that the anticipated number across the six partner hospitals will total 2,000 to 3,000 individuals, which will result in a budget request of approximately \$1.4 million per year. ARC anticipates, based on the final numbers, needing to hire 7-8 coaches. This is a 5 year program with an initial approval for 2 years and subsequent continuation depending on performance

III. *Plan 2040*

Cathie Berger reported to the Committee on an update of the *Plan 2040*. The Regional Assessment demonstrates the significant changes in demographics and diversity that the region will experience over the next 30 years and:

- Reveals a mismatch between current housing stock and the needs of current and future households.
- Recognizes the impact the significant growth in the numbers of older adults will have on an already strained aging and social service delivery network
- Assesses and depicts the barriers and challenges with housing options and transportation accessibility and mobility for older adults

Ms. Berger stated that *Plan 2040* has a comprehensive approach to integrating the needs of older adults into the regional transportation planning process. Specifically, key program recommendations included in *Plan 2040*:

- Mobility Management and the establishment of a centralized system that provides information about transportation options, coordinates responses to requests for transportation services and serve as a clearinghouse for information about transportation
- A Comprehensive Human Services Transportation (HST) program that includes a broad range of service options designed to meet the needs of the region's transportation disadvantaged including older adults, persons with disabilities and individuals with lower incomes. Also, ARC and MARTA administer the JARC and New Freedom programs for the Atlanta region and the goals and objectives for these programs are documented in the region's Coordinated HST Plan.

Ms. Berger reported that *PLAN 2040* supports the continuation of the Lifelong Communities (LLC) Initiative in the Implementation Program and requires, as a minimum standard, that local government adopt a resolution to support and integrate LLC principles in the local planning process.

IV. **Transportation:**

Transportation Investment Act/Update

Kathryn Lawler updated the Committee as to the status of the recently shortened Transportation Investment Act (TIA) project list, as well as the process needed to move the projects toward a final list to be included in the 2012 tax referendum. A discussion led by committee member Eldrin Bell as to the two types of projects, roads and transit, outlined in the TIA project list followed Ms. Lawler's update. Chairman Bell also inquired about the Mobility Call Center falling just outside those two definitions and how that would be handled. Chairman Bell requested additional projections for the project.

Maureen Kelly, briefed the committee as to the groundswell of support that is growing among older adults due to the inclusion, thus far, of the project recommending a Call Center and Enhanced Transportation Services for Older Adults and persons with Disabilities. She noted that the Call Center could improve information and coordination for people of all ages and abilities.

Nysia Lanier, Committee member and Chair of the Advisory Committee on Aging, brought forward a recommendation from the members of the Advisory Committee requesting the Aging Services Committee support for inclusion of the Call Center/Enhanced Transportation Services project in the final constrained list citing that older adults have been identifying the unmet needs for transportation services for over 30 years.

Independent Transportation Network Report

Committee member, Judy Waters, reported to the Committee that on June 8, 2011 the Community Foundation for NE Georgia and ARC brought together leaders in the Gwinnett community to hear a presentation/webinar led by Katherine Freund of the Independent Transportation Network (ITN) America based out of Portland, Maine. ITN America is a nationally based non-profit to provide dignified transportation options to older adults (60+) and persons with visual impairments.

ITN America now totals approximately 19 affiliates across the country. Affiliates are connected through a main web page and web portals with, shared software and technical support with ITN America and other affiliates across the country. Ms. Waters reported that Gwinnett is currently exploring the possibility of becoming an affiliate or creating a similar program of their own.

Ms. Waters stated that in other ITN's – 30% of riders are visually impaired, and that ridership is a cross-section of the community. Center for Visually Impaired, Harvey Clark, verified that this is correct for the Atlanta region as well. Other characteristics of the program are: rides available for any purpose within the service area; rides may be booked at any time, discounts are applied for shared rides and advance notice; door-through-door service with help for packages, heavy doors and aides to daily life.

The ITN America presentation stated that the program is a 24/7 transportation service using private automobiles and a combination of screened and eligible volunteers and paid trained drivers. There is a membership fee (\$40-\$100/year) and a per trip rider cost but there are 'road scholarship' and other innovative programs available to assist low-income riders. Additional costs include a per trip rider costs are averaging \$9.00 to \$11.00, as well as potential pick-up fees and/or mileage fees, similar to a taxi service. Each ITN America affiliate sets its own fee structure according to its demographics and other factors.

Ms. Waters stated the start-up capital and operating costs to be approximately \$125,000 total estimated budget for year 1 (Salary, operations, fees to ITN). Federal funds such as FTA's New Freedom can provide 50% of start-up costs, but ITN's goal is for non-profit status with funding sustained by private money, foundations and other donations. There are programs to support the cost of ITN such as car donation, sale of car is credited to the donor of the vehicle, used as a vehicle in the program, or sales are used to purchase appropriate vehicles for the service. Also, volunteer drivers can 'bank' volunteer hours for ride credits for themselves or others, and even donate their credits to a loved one or friend in another city where ITN is located.

V. Announcements

Maureen Kelly invited members to the upcoming Aging Workforce Dynamics Forum being held Aug. 10th at the Loudermilk Center. Ann Cramer, IBM and Sandra Timmermann,

MetLife Mature Market will be keynote speakers and panelists will represent WellStar, IBM, Georgia Power, and other prominent employers.

Grace Trimble, with the ARC Communications division, informed the Committee of an article in the New York Times titled "Aging Boomers Strain Cities Built for the Young" which mentions ARC's Lifelong Communities Initiative and quotes from Laura Keyes. The article will be emailed to the Committee members.

VI. Adjourn

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting for the Aging Services Committee is August 11, 2011.

Aging Services Committee

Ken Steele, Chair

Thursday, September 15, 2011

11:30pm

Harry West Conference Room

- I. Welcome and Introductions** *Mayor Ken Steele, Chair*
- Public Comment
- II. SFY 2012 Aging Services Budget** *Pete Blomquist,
Aging Services Division*
- III. Overview of FY2012 Goals** *Cathie Berger
Aging Services Division*
- IV. Grant Applications**
- Care Transitions Application (CMS) *Mary Blumberg
Aging Services Division*
 - Senior Community Gardens (Kaiser)
 - Mobility Management - Call Center (VA) *Laura Keyes
Aging Services Division*
- V. Transportation Legislative Update** *Maureen Kelly
Aging Services Division*
- VI. Announcements**
- VII. Adjourn**

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

AGING SERVICES COMMITTEE September 15, 2011 Meeting Notes

Members Present

Chairman Eldrin Bell
Mayor Lorene Lindsey
Mayor Willie Oswalt
Mayor Doris Jones
Ms. Nysia Lanier
Dr. Laura Beaty
Mr. Josh Unruh

Members Absent

Mayor Kenneth Steele, Chair
Chairman Tom Worthan
Ms. Judy Waters
Dr. Lois Ricci
Ms. Nancy Morrison
Mr. Kevin Isakson

ARC Staff: Cathie Berger, Amanda Pavey, Kathryn Lawler, Arnisha Norman, Carolyn Rader, Maureen Kelly, Mary Blumberg, Grace Trimble

Guests: Elaine Jackson, Clayton Senior Services

I. FY2012 Aging Services Budget

Cathie Berger informed the Committee that the Governor directed the Department of Human Services to submit its SFY2012 budget reflecting a 2% cut. These cuts, if implemented, will result in reductions to Aging Services programs including, \$186,000 for Center for Visually Impaired, \$225,000 for the Alzheimer's Association and \$403,000 for respite care services. For the Atlanta region this will translate into a \$181,600 reduction in respite funds. Chairman Bell requested that the information be shared with other Board members so monies could possibly be replaced as necessary, if this happens.

II. Overview of FY2012 Goals

ARC's interim Director, Emerson Bryan commended the Committee on the work that has been done by the Aging Services Committee and the Aging Services Division over the past five years. He stated that through decisions made and programs implemented \$47 million has been spent through-out the region in the past five years to help seniors and those with disabilities. Mr. Bryan stated that in reviewing ARC's 2012 Strategic Plan the common theme throughout was Regional Impact and Local Relevance; each division in ARC working together to create sustainability.

Cathie Berger presented to the Committee the Aging Services Division's 2012 goals and how these operationalize ARC's Strategic Plan. The Aging Division's Work Program is derived from three areas – Mandated Work Programs, New Projects and Initiatives, and Ongoing Programs and Initiatives.

Mandated Work Programs:

- Area Plan on Aging Implementation
 - Nutrition Programs (i.e. congregate and home delivered meals)
 - Supportive Services (i.e. adult daycare, in-home respite services and care management services)
 - Senior Employment Programs
- Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)
 - AgeWise Connection (information services/options counseling)
 - GA Cares (insurance counseling)
 - Aging Resource Database (including 24,000 statewide listings)

- Medicaid Funded Programs
 - Community Care Services Program & SOURCE (Waiver programs allowing older adults & persons with disabilities to receive services at home)
 - Money Follows the Person (assist individuals with making the transition from nursing home to the community).

New Projects and Initiatives

- Care Transitions Program – to facilitate safe transitions from hospital to home
- The Mobility Management Call Center – to enhance access to and deliver of human services transportation options.

Ongoing Programs and Initiatives

- Health & Wellness (CDSM, SPARC, Farmers Markets, & Community Gardens)
- Housing & Community Development – integrating housing options for older adults in the community
- Community Involvement – including advocacy and community outreach & education

III. Grant Applications

Care Transitions Application (CMS)

Mary Blumberg reported to the Committee that an application for the Atlanta Community Care Transitions Program (CCTP) was recently submitted to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in partnership with six area hospitals – Emory University Hospital Midtown, Gwinnett Medical Center, Piedmont Hospital, Southern Regional Hospital, WellStar Cobb Hospital, and WellStar Kennestone Hospital. The goal of the Atlanta CCTP is to reduce hospital readmissions by 30% by assisting patients to safely transition from hospital to home or other community setting, and thus reduce Medicare spending on preventable readmissions. The care transition program will include transition coaching and a support services package, and will be offered to all Medicare patients admitted to these hospitals with the diagnosis of coronary heart failure, heart attack or pneumonia. It is projected that the program will serve approximately 4000 persons and save Medicare 1.6 million dollars per year. Chairman Bell offered his full support with the application including writing a letter of support and/or making appropriate phone calls expressing support if necessary.

Senior Community Gardens (Kaiser)

Mary Blumberg also informed the Committee that an application to Kaiser Permanente had recently been submitted to expand the Senior Community Garden Initiative. The purpose of the proposed project is to establish and support the operation and maintenance of eight community gardens at senior centers, affordable housing communities and other underserved communities. Ms. Blumberg reported the gardens will provide the opportunity for increased physical activity; improve nutritional status by increasing consumption of fresh produce; and provide opportunities for social interaction. The grant will also provide cooking demonstrations with nutrition education using seasonal produce. This project will expand upon the successful 2010 Kaiser Community Health Initiative grant that established eleven community gardens and created a Community Gardening Manual to guide organizations on starting and sustaining a garden. Ms. Blumberg stated that the target population is persons 60 and over. An evaluation process of this project will be completed that will measure the impact of participation in the community gardens

Mobility Management – CallCenter (VA)

Cathie Berger reported to the Committee that the Aging Services and Transportation Division are collaborating in a cross divisional effort to begin the development of the Mobility Management Call Center. The Call Center has been included in the TIA Priority List under

review and staff remains confident that it will be included in the final list. Committee member, and Chair of the Advisory Council on Aging, Nysia Lanier, reported that ACA members were unanimously behind the Regional Mobility Call Center/Enhanced Transportation Services being included on the final project list. With the Transportation Roundtable scheduled to meet the following day, Ms. Lanier motioned to move the ACA recommendation to the TIA Roundtable requesting full support of the initiative. The motion was seconded by Mayor Lindsey and unanimously approved by the Committee.

Ms. Berger stated that in preparation of the Call Center's inclusion on the final project list staff have designed a phased approach and have identified possible funding for two key components critical to the development of the call center – the FTA Veterans Community Living Initiative Grant; and the Mobility Management Program.

Ms. Berger reported that staff has recently submitted a grant proposal for the FTA Veterans Community Living Initiative Grant requesting \$525,000 to establish a technology platform that will link the different software programs currently in operations and support an integrated transportation resource database. This software platform will be developed and initially tested by 5 partner service agencies (the Dept of Veterans Affairs, Cobb Community Transit, Disability Link, ARC/ADRC and TDM and Goodwill Industries) to be made available to multiple agencies. Laura Keyes in the Aging Division, with much support from Transportation staff and the VA Administration, has taken the lead in completing this grant application, and will assume lead responsibility for overseeing the coordination of transportation and the establishment of the regional transportation call center.

Ms. Berger reported that, in order to establish the call center, much work will need to be done to facilitate communication and agreements between the various transportation systems, departments and agencies; to review regulatory processes, streamlining eligibility requirements and strengthening the HST network. To support a mobility management position, ARC staff have identified \$290,000 in the JARC/New Freedom FY 2011 allocation available to the Region for human services transportation and the Aging Services Division has identified the required match of \$72,000 already budgeted for transportation.

Ms. Berger also reported to the Committee that the Aging Division has submitted another request to support transportation services; specifically requesting to use approximately \$150,000 of the AoA Aging In Place Grant funds available for Lifelong Mableton to establish an ITN in south Cobb County. Funds will be used for the ITN model package and for a one year staff position to launch the program, which under direction from ITN will attain non-profit status and function as an independent entity. ITN provides a low-cost alternative to individuals who no longer wish to or are no longer able to drive. Ms. Berger stated that members pay an annual fee and a low fare for rides, or they can donate their car as payment for future rides.

IV. Transportation Legislative Update

Maureen Kelly reported to the Committee on the historical context of senior advocates' support for transportation issues over the past few years. Using the process of the Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly (COAGE), they helped to successfully pass the creation of an HST Transportation Coordinating Council included in TIA bill - HB277 and advocated through the Be There 4 Seniors campaign to ward off any budget cuts to transportation funding.

Again this year, CO-AGE voted transportation as its 2012 priority supporting the creation of a Regional Transit Governance. CO-AGE has assembled a workgroup of multiple statewide partners to craft a fact sheet which will be provided to the Committee upon release.

Ms. Kelly also reported that the seniors have remained engaged in local TIA hearings in support of the TIA project for mobility management/enhanced transportation services and will continue to support passage of the TIA referendum with this project in it.

V. Announcements

Grace Trimble with ARC's Communication Division announced to the Committee that the State of the Region breakfast is scheduled for Friday, November 4, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency Downtown.

Amanda Pavey with the Aging Services Division presented the Committee with ARC's draft 2012 Year at a Glance.

VI. Adjourn

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting for the Aging Services Committee is October 13, 2011.

Aging Services Committee

Ken Steele, Chair

Thursday, November 10, 2011

11:30am

Harry West Conference Room

- I. Welcome and Introductions** *Mayor Ken Steele, Chair*
- Public Comment
- II. Lifelong Clayton Initiative** *Mary Byrd*
Clayton Senior Services
- III. Senior Wellness Clinic – Piedmont Hospital** *Nancy Morrison*
Kila Dabney-Smith, MD
- IV. Transportation Call Center Update** *Kathryn Lawler*
ARC, External Affairs
- V. Program/Grant Announcements** *Cathie Berger*
Aging Services Division
- CMS Care Transitions Enrollment
 - Senior Community Gardens,
Kaiser Permanente Foundation
 - FTA – Veterans Transportation Grant
- VI. Program Reports** *Mary Blumberg*
Aging Services Division
- Public Hearing on Aging Services Results *Patrice Earnest*
Aging Services Division
 - 2011 Aging Services Forum
- VII. Adjourn**

ARC COMMITTEE MEETING FOLLOW-UP

AGING SERVICES COMMITTEE November 10, 2011 Meeting Notes

Members Present

Chairman Eldrin Bell
Mayor Willie Oswalt
Mayor Doris Jones
Ms. Judy Waters
Dr. Lois Ricci
Ms. Nancy Morrison
Ms. Nysia Lanier
Mr. Josh Unruh

Members Absent

Mayor Kenneth Steele, Chair
Chairman Tom Worthan
Mayor Lorene Lindsey
Mr. Kevin Isakson
Dr. Laura Beaty

ARC Staff: Cathie Berger, Amanda Pavey, Kathryn Lawler, Arnisha Norman, Maureen Kelly, Mary Blumberg, Grace Trimble, Patrice Earnest, Serena Weisner, Karen Bear and Sue Burgess

Guests: Mary Byrd, Director, Clayton Senior Services; and, Dr. Kila Dabney-Smith, Piedmont Hospital – Senior Wellness Clinic

I. Lifelong Clayton Initiative

Mary Bryd, Director of the Clayton County Senior Services, updated the Committee on the Lifelong Clayton Initiative. Ms. Byrd stated that a year ago the Clayton County Board of Commissioners approved the Lifelong Communities resolution. Ms. Byrd's office and the County Commission have determined several key focus areas within the county to begin implementing the Lifelong Communities Initiative. The City of Morrow is currently undergoing re-development efforts. Ms. Byrd stated that because of this the city has been chosen to be the first city to have the Lifelong Communities principles implemented. Also, Ms. Bryd reported that AARP is funding a Walkability Initiative and on December 1st will host a Walkable Assessment Day in Clayton County. Chairman Eldrin Bell invited anyone who would like to participate in the Walkable Assessment Day to please join them.

II. Senior Wellness Clinic – Piedmont Hospital

Nancy Morrison introduced Dr. Kila Dabney-Smith, the Senior Wellness Physician at Piedmont Hospitals new Senior Wellness Clinic. Dr. Dabney-Smith stated to the Committee that Piedmont recognized a need in the community for older Medicare patients who had aged out of their current healthcare practice or perhaps their current physician is retiring. The new Senior Wellness Clinic was designed to be the healthcare facility for these patients from wellness to disease management, as well as to provide support to family members who are caregivers. The clinic is located on the Piedmont Hospital campus.

III. Transportation Call Center Update

Kathryn Lawler briefed the Committee on an issue recently raised by AARP regarding the 1% sales tax Transportation Investment Act Referendum (TIA). The local office of AARP was greatly involved in the recent discussions of the TIA project list. Upon approval of the project list AARP GA inquired with the national office what future role they should play in the remaining process. Ms. Lawler stated that after reviewing the 1% sales tax AARP realized that the tax would be applied to groceries, which goes against their core organizational beliefs. Ms. Lawler stated that as the legislation is currently written it includes exemptions such as motor fuel and some car purchases. The Committee members agreed that the issue be brought to the attention of the ARC Policy Committee and that consideration be

given to recommending to the State Legislators that the grocery tax be replaced with a motor fuel tax or that the tax on groceries be exempted and the lost revenue be captured by a one year extension of time.

IV. Program/Grant Announcements

Cathie Berger updated the Committee on the following grant announcements:

Senior Community Gardens, Kaiser Permanente Foundation – Kaiser Permanente Foundation awarded ARC \$68,000 to provide eight additional community gardens at senior centers, affordable housing communities and other underserved communities. This grant allows for the continuation of the successful 2010 Kaiser Community Health Initiative which established eleven community gardens and created a Community Gardening Manual to guide organizations on starting and sustaining a garden.

FTA – Veterans Transportation Grant – ARC was awarded \$410,000 in federal funds (with ARC to match \$100,000) from the FTA Veterans Community Living Initiative Grant. These funds will be used to begin the initial work on the OneCall Transportation Center to establish a technology platform that will link the different software programs currently in operations and support an integrated transportation resource database. This software platform will be developed and initially tested by 5 partner service agencies (the Dept of Veterans Affairs, Cobb Community Transit, Disability Link, ARC/ADRC and TDM and Goodwill Industries) to be made available to multiple agencies. This grant award highlights the joint venture between the Aging Services Division and the Transportation Division.

CMS Care Transitions Enrollment - ARC received notification of being awarded \$1.6 million from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Care Transitions Enrollment project. The grant application was submitted in partnership with six area hospitals – Emory University Hospital Midtown, Gwinnett Medical Center, Piedmont Hospital, Southern Regional Hospital, WellStar Cobb Hospital, and WellStar Kennestone Hospital. The goal of the Atlanta CCTP is to reduce hospital readmissions by 30% by assisting patients to safely transition from hospital to home or other community setting, and thus reduce Medicare spending on preventable readmissions. This program is projected to save CMS \$3.9million dollars.

V. Program Reports

Public Hearing on Aging Services Results - Mary Blumberg updated the Committee on the Public Hearing on Aging Services held on November 9, 2011 at the Helene S. Mills Multipurpose Senior Center to seek input from the public concerning programs and transportation services for older adults, persons with disabilities and caregivers. 54 persons attended.

A voting device was used to gather information on transportation issues affecting the older population. In addition, public input was received regarding the need for Alzheimer services, refurbished medical equipment, grandparents raising grandchildren services and adult day care. The public hearing provided useful information which will be used by Aging Services Division staff to prepare the Area Plan on Aging.

2011 Aging Services Forum – Patrice Earnest briefed the Committee on the recently held 2011 Annual Aging Forum. The Forum consisted of eleven session ranging in topics from Stress Management to dealing with end-of-life issues. The Forum was held at Trinity Presbyterian Church off Moore's Mill Road and was very well received. The attendance for the Forum consisted of 300 registrations, representing 20 agencies from

around the region. A total of 27 presenters participated in the sessions. Ms. Earnest pointed out that the Forum held at this year's location cost approximately 15% of the Annual Aging Work Sessions held in the past at out-of-town locations.

VI. Adjourn

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned. The next scheduled meeting for the Aging Services Committee is January 12, 2012.