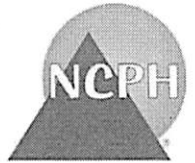




RICHMOND COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

127 Caroline Street
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Phone: 1-910-997-8300
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North Carolina
Public Health

Tommy Jarrell, PhD
Director of Health & Human Services

Jacqueline Welch
Director of Aging Services

AGING SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: July 25, 2019
TIME: 2:00pm
LOCATION: Human Services Building, Large Classroom

1. ATTENDANCE:

Neel Peacock, Chairperson / Area of Richmond Transportation Director
Jacqueline Welch, Richmond County Aging Services Director
Tommy Jarrell, Health & Human Services Director
Hilda Pemberton, Ellerbe Senior Center
Laura Williams, Ellerbe Senior Center
Lisa Luckey, Community Home Care & Hospice
Carolyn Walker, Rockingham Senior Center Participant
Don Bryant, Richmond County Commissioner
Twillia Allen, LRCOG Aging Program Administrator
Sharon Morrison, IHA Supervisor
Matthew Sessions, Legal Aid Attorney
Sheila Brosier, Administrative Assistant

2. WELCOME:

Jacqueline Welch opened the meeting and introduced Matthew Sessions, Staff Attorney of the Senior Law Project with NC Legal Aid.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (April 25, 2019):

Mr. Peacock asked for a motion to approve the April 25, 2019, meeting minutes.

- **Motion Offered By:** Tommy Jarrell
- **Motion Seconded By:** Hilda Pemberton
- **Motion Carried:** Yes

4. REVIEW OF MONTHLY REPORTS (June 2019):

Ms. Welch reviewed the RCAS and ART Home Community Care Block Grant Monthly Report for 2018-2019, highlighting activities and expenditures for the month of June 2019. The fiscal year ended with 100% of funds spent. Some of the program areas were underspent while others had a surplus. Funds were realigned as approved at the last meeting and some funds were moved to cover salaries. Aging Services received additional funds for Nutrition which were also spent. The 2019-2020 budget includes funding for a part time meal site driver which will improve delivery service and decrease the waiting list for home delivered meals. The current waiting list is 131 for home delivered meals; 62 for in home aid program; and 0 for congregate nutrition.

Twilla Allen presented the 4th quarter 2019 final report for Richmond County HCCBG Services. The block grant covers two years and is funded at \$438,919.00. Funds were realigned based on recommendations from the advisory board. It was noted legal services budget was underspent (since the program began mid-year) and those funds were re-allocated to Senior Center Operations. She noted Richmond County is fiscally responsible and spent 100% of the funds allotted.

In the absence of Lee Anne Sago, Jacqueline Welch reviewed the report on services provided to seniors during the month of June 2019. A total of 28 seniors were assisted and 59.75 hours were billed to MAC. Ms. Sago has served in her position for many years assisting senior citizens with enrollment in various programs and services. She is retiring on July 31, 2019, and a social breakfast will be held on Monday, July 29, from 8:00am – 9:00am at the Rockingham Senior Center. All were invited to drop in.

Ms. Welch provided handouts with summary and financial reports for the Senior Centers in Ellerbe, East Rockingham and Rockingham. **Ellerbe Senior Center** touts high participation in bingo, chair volleyball, and board games. Special events during the month of June included a trip to Albemarle, Spring Fling, Senior Symposium, Veteran's Breakfast & Learn, and indoor yard sale. A Family Fun Day is scheduled for August 16th, with food and activities for seniors and their families.

Events sponsored by the **East Rockingham Senior Center** in June included a trip to Albemarle, Veteran's event and Spring Fling which were well attended. She noted several programs with very little or no participation in the past year should either be canceled or highly promoted to encourage participation. An indoor yard sale was held along with a hotdog sale. Proceeds from the hot dog sale will go towards the 2019 Alzheimer's Walk. A new part-time Nutrition Manager was hired and began employment. The center is seeking to fill the maintenance worker position to be responsible for cleaning the senior center after activities and events. The senior center was rented 57 times during the fiscal year, earning a revenue of \$7,056.25.

The **Rockingham Senior Center** welcomed six new participants at the exercise room, for a total of 66 unduplicated visits in June. Fourteen seniors met at Peking Wok in June for the Alive After 55 Supper Club. Due to the high temperatures, 67 fans were issued to seniors this month. A total of 177 fans were issued in fiscal year 2019. Fans will continue to be issued while supplies last, and we are seeking fan donations from the public.

The Savings Report for Regular Travel revealed total year to date savings of \$8,130.98 for fiscal year 2018-2019. The Savings Report for Volunteer Hours revealed 2,1152.52 total hours of service, which equals total year to date saving of \$49,770.97.

5. **UPDATE ON LEGAL SERVICES FOR OLDER AMERICANS UNDER THE HCCBG FOR FY 18-19:**

Matthew Sessions, Staff Attorney, Senior Law Project with NC Legal Aid gave an overview of the services and legal assistance he provides to seniors through the hotline and at the senior centers. Legal Aid services provides assistance to seniors who are 60 years of age or older and who meet income and other eligibility requirements with the following:

- Unemployment compensation
- Applying for Medicaid, food stamps
- Housing (Section 8, public housing and landlord-tenant matters)
- Education
- Debt collection, unfair trade collection
- Disaster recovery
- Family law (domestic violence protective orders)

Much of Mr. Sessions' assistance has been with preparing wills, power of attorney, and revocation hearings. He can be reached by calling the senior legal helpline on Monday-Friday, 9:00am-11:00am and 1:00pm-3:00pm. He also visits all of the senior centers in Richmond County and five other counties. NC Legal Aid does not allow their attorneys to conduct home visits to provide services for senior who are home bound or on hospice, due to policy and safety factors. Dr. Jarrell noted that there is a need to address homebound seniors, and expressed the support of the Health Department and Aging Services in meeting the need.

6. **DEMENTIA FRIENDS INITIATIVE UPDATE:**

The number of Dementia Friends made in Richmond County to date is 283.

Three door alarms were issued to caregivers of Alzheimer/Dementia residents. Ms. Welch explained the procedures for caregivers to apply for door alarms and the distribution. The committee discussed the importance of reminding the community to change batteries in door alarms and smoke detectors. Ms. Welch will include a reminder in future newsletters. She added during meal deliveries, staff have assessed the need for smoke detectors in homes and assisted seniors with the 911 call list.

"Dementia Friends NC" Information Sessions are now available and can be provided by Dementia Champions to join in learning about dementia and helping people who are living with it in our communities. Individuals who participate in the training will receive a Dementia Friends button and businesses will receive a Dementia Friends sticker to display in their window. If anyone is interested in training for their church, business, or organization, contact Jacqueline Welch at 910-997-4491 to schedule a date.

Please LIKE our newly created Facebook page for "Dementia Friendly Richmond County NC": <https://www.facebook.com/Dementia-Friendly-Richmond-County-NC-379709965964114/>

7. **GENERAL DISCUSSION & IDEAS:**

Ms. Welch revealed Aging Services raised \$4,075.56 in May through June from fundraisers, such as TV Raffle, (\$1,562.00); Yard Sale (\$1,359.57); Fans for seniors (\$500.00); Aging/DSS Intergenerational Gala (\$250.00); Jean days (\$67.00); RADA Cutlery (5.00); and Office canteen (\$34.54). A hotdog sale was held at the yard sale and raised \$297.45, which will be donated to the 2019 Alzheimer's Walk.

Alive After 55 Supper Club meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00pm. The next event is scheduled on August 15th at The Grille in Rockingham. An AARP Driving with seniors class was held at the Cole Auditorium on July 24th with ten participants.

Twillia Allen discussed the Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging (SE4A) 2019 Conference to be held on September 8-11, 2019 in Nashville, Tennessee. Based on the accomplishments and recognition of the Richmond County Dementia Friendly Community, Jacqueline Welch and Robby Hall were asked to submit a proposal to participate in the conference, and were subsequently selected to attend. They will conduct a workshop on "Opportunities and Challenges in Creating a Dementia Friendly Community Movement". They will be among 43 other agencies from 9 states to present a workshop during the conference.

Ms. Welch concluded the meeting by expressing a goal for the new fiscal year to develop marketing ideas to promote the Meals on Wheels Program, to solicit volunteers, and to decrease the waiting list.

10. **NEXT ADVISORY MEETING:** Meeting is held on the last Thursday of January, April, July and October at 2:00pm, unless a Special Called meeting is planned.

DATE: October 31, 2019

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: Health Department, large classroom

11. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

- **Motion Offered By:** Tommy Jarrell
- **Motion Seconded By:** Carolyn Walker
- **Motion Carried:** Yes



Neal Peacock, Chairperson
Director, Area of Richmond Transportation



Jacqueline Welch, Director
Richmond County Aging Services