

# Aging & Disability Resources: Draft 2018-2019 Area Plan Update

## Pierce County Human Services

### Public Hearing

Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2017

10:00 to 11:00 am

Pierce County Sound View Bldg – SV1

### Attendance

- ADR Advisory Board members = 11
- HS/ADR staff = 7
- Community members / guests = 2

### Meeting Summary

Bonnie Gill, ADR Advisory Board Chair opened the public hearing for presentation of the 2018-2019 draft Area Plan Update, followed by the opportunity for discussion, questions and public comment / testimony. ADR Social Service Supervisor Connie Kline presented an overview of the public planning process, reviewed the prioritization of discretionary services established during the original 2016-2019 Area Plan process, and discussed updates to planned activities for 2018-2019. The presentation also included a summary of the proposed 2018 budget, including significant fiscal impacts and notable changes in projected revenues. The following questions were addressed:

### Questions

- **Who is supported by Kinship Caregiver Services?**
  - Kinship Caregiver Support and Kinship Navigator services are available to relatives raising and providing primary care to family children under the age of 18 who reside with them on a permanent basis. Eligibility for the Kinship Caregiver Support Program requires that the child(ren) not be in the formal child welfare system and that the caregiver meet certain income guidelines.
- **What services does ADR support that are targeted for ethnic / diverse populations?**
  - ADR's Medicaid Case Management program provides language-specific / culturally-appropriate case management services to a number of ethnic populations, including the Korean, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Tagalog (Filipino), Samoan, Spanish, and Russian-speaking communities. Language-specific staffing capacity is monitored closely in order to add bilingual staff as targeted caseloads grow. ADR also contracts with two home care agencies that employ a high percentage of home care aides of diverse cultures and languages in order to best serve clients in this program.



- ADR funds senior congregate meal sites serving culturally appropriate menus targeted to the Korean, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Japanese, Latino and African-American populations, as well as foot care for seniors at each of these locations.
- Language-bank / interpreter services are accessed as needed to assist clients contacting the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC).

## Comments / Discussion

- ADR Advisory Board member Tommy Manning voiced support for Kinship Services and would like to see more funding available for this program. Advisory Board members briefly discussed potential legislative advocacy efforts to increase state funding for Kinship Services.
- ADR Advisory Board member John Ernest Berry III noted he would like to see enhanced foot care services available to persons under the age of 60 with a disability. Current ADR-funded services are only available to persons 60+ years of age due to funding requirements.
- ADR Advisory Board member Tommy Manning commented on his belief that everyone needs support and should be able to receive the services they need. A brief discussion followed regarding age-eligibility requirements and program standards for Older Americans Act nutrition services.
- ADR Advisory Board member Katrina Simmons thanked the Advisory Board and the ADRC for the help provided to her neighbors whom she referred to the Family Caregiver Support Program.
- Guest Shannon Newman – a paid home care aide for Chesterfield – commented on concerns that home care clients on state-funded programs often have unmet service needs that are not being addressed and that case managers can be unresponsive. She also voiced concerns about SHUTTLE transportation services and the lack of access to the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition program for clients who do not meet age requirements, or who could benefit from year-round assistance.

## Written Comments

Written comments on the draft plan were accepted from the date of publication on Sept. 5, 2017 through Sept. 19, 2017. No written comments were received prior to or up through the public hearing.

## Conclusion

Following the public hearing, the full ADR Advisory Board voted to approve a motion recommending approval of the 2018-2019 Area Plan Update as presented.