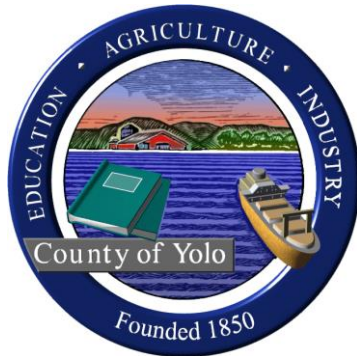


# Yolo County Commission on Aging and Adult Services



Wednesday, February 2, 2022

9am-11am

Via Video Conference only

MINUTES

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Jim Provenza (chair), Elaine Roberts Musser (vice chair), Jill Perez, Seth Brunner, Jeri Wingfield, Suzanne Reed, Laurie Haas, Terry Kelly, Lisa Miller, Marlene Bell, Sue Tarleton, Dawn Myers

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT AND EXCUSED:** Matthew Crider

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Kate Laddish (chair, Yolo IHSS Advisory Committee), Dr. Aimee Sisson (Yolo County Health Officer), Mary Schleeter (Agency on Aging Area 4), Cindi Unger, Mary Nisson, Julie Bates (AARP), John Decker (Director of Community Services from Alta Regional Center), Liz Yeh

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sheila Allen (Staff to Commission)

1. **Welcome and Introductions** (Supervisor Provenza)
2. Declaration of need for remote meeting. The ongoing pandemic and public health direction necessitates meeting remotely **MOTION:** Moved by Marlene Bell, Seth Brunner 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed unanimously.
3. **Review and accept minutes 1/5/22** **MOTION:** Accept minutes as written. Moved by Marlene Bell, Seth Brunner 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed unanimously.
4. **COVID-19 update** (Dr. Aimee Sisson, Yolo Co. Health Officer/Yolo County staff)

The current Omicron variant surge peaked on Jan. 8 with 241/100,000. This week declined to 129/100,000, which is still high. Higher quality masks and boosters are very important to stem the spread and protect yourself and those around you. Hospitalizations peaked last week at 29 (below last surge) which was a significant strain with many caregivers sick. Currently 23 in hospitals. Skilled nursing facility outbreaks, some significant (one in Woodland over 60 residents positive). Vaccinations: Omicron variant is very contagious. Being boosted will protect against hospitalization, severe disease and death. In Yolo Co. vaccination rates for those 65+: 90% fully vaccinated but only 59% have received booster. This population is at significant risk of being hospitalized. Boosters are available through Yolo County home based “door vax” system. Call for a home vaccination. Moderna is now fully FDA approved (joins Pfizer). If vaccinated and boosted, your duration of illness is shorter so overall less likely to transmit virus. Infectious for shorter period of time.

How to get the “vaccine curious” to get the vaccine and booster? What can we do? Additional education is needed regarding the need for the booster. Message to older adults the importance of boosters. **FOLLOW UP:** next meeting request infections by age categories.

Pfizer treatment medication-amount available is limited by production. Total courses in Yolo Co. since start is 100. Currently one course left in Yolo Co. Hospitals and MD prioritize those at most risk of severe outcomes: 65+ and those with underlying conditions. Number of cases and health equity criterion used for distribution of medication from the state.

Boosters are only allowed for persons who have not yet received one with exception of immunocompromised get one additional dose. Boosters are holding up pretty well but we may see future recommendations for more boosters.

If infected, can get your booster after day 10 of infection.

**5. Aging Caregivers of Adults with Intellectual/Development Disabilities** (Mary Nisson, parent of person with ID and advocate, presenter)

ACRC, Alta Regional Center is our local regional center for individual and family supports. Closure of institutions that used to provide services has left care of I/DD individuals to families.

Persons with developmental disabilities (DD) age faster so may need additional services earlier. Persons with DD are living long and are experiencing early onset dementia. There are 1619 persons in Yolo County with I/DD as of June 2021 of which 869 are over the age of 18, of these, 80% are still in parent/guardian home. Estimated 63% adults with I/DD still living with their parents. There is a need for Caregiving Succession Plans when caregiver dies or no longer able to provide care.

John Decker (Director of Community Services from Alta Regional Center) notes that ACRC has a “Coordinated Future Planning Initiative”. State uses aging threshold is 70 years old. ACRC is working on getting more specific data on the issues related to aging of parent/guardian caregivers and aging needs of those with I/DD.

There remain challenges for persons with I/DD, especially to remain independent, but these supports could be improved, especially during the transition to adult services. Families and regional centers need to work together. Currently this planning is largely a responsibility of the family.

Dawn Myers notes that Yolo Adult Day Health Center is strong player in this area. They receive referrals to ADHC. ADHC wants to be a part of the planning. Also has services for the aging parent also.

Suzanne Reed: this is similar to how the Master Plan for Aging started with a recognition that there was a need and the system was disjointed and meeting needs. A similar planning process could be beneficial for this issue. Suggest that the issue also be presented to the YHAA Advocacy Committee to identify interested legislators to bring this issue forward.

Jim Provenza: Also an issue for aging parents caring for adults with severe mental illness.

Challenges:

Housing availability

Which living arrangement models will be desirable long term?

Funding-models to assist families with planning

**FOLLOW UP:**

1-Create a subcommittee to work with partner organizations and community members to identify gaps in Yolo County. Volunteers to begin: Mary Nisson, Dawn Myers/staff of YADHC, Seth Brunner, Terry Kelly.

2-Panel for future agenda item-what happening local, what working, what not, identify gaps. Include NAMI and mental health board.

3-Work with ACRC-proposal for affordable housing options for adults. John Decker (Director of Community Services from Alta Regional Center) reports the regional center has funds to build the housing in Yolo County for rental costs of what persons receive SSI.

4-Jim will bring brief update on this issue to Board of Supervisors to introduce topic.

**6. Emergency Preparation & Evacuation of Persons with Access and Functional Needs Subcommittee update** (Jill Perez/Elaine Roberts Musser)

Commission Emergency Prep Recommendations to Board of Supervisors Report was included in the packet for today's meeting and will be presented to Board of Supervisors on Feb. 8. This item will be an update from the Board Subcommittee on Emergency Prep (Supervisors Provenza and Sandy) but not an action item. Will receive and file.

Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance received funds from Yolo Co. American Rescue Plan for Emergency Preparedness. Meeting was held with this commission's Emergency Prep Subcommittee and Resources for Independent Living to discuss plans for use of the funds.

SNAP-Senior Needs Alert Program In Winters have had 17 people sign up for their version of SNAP which has nothing to do with subcommittee intent to identify people who may need assistance in an emergency. It is meant to identify people who have communication difficulties so first responder interactions go smoothly. Will reconvene

subcommittee in future for additional issues such as this. It is suggested to change the SNAP name as this is also an acronym for a state nutrition program

Public Comment:

Mary Nisson-Regarding the Dementia/Alzheimer's training being planned: Can first responder training for *Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)*, and other Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities be added? Elk Grove Police are well-versed in this area: [http://p1cdn4static.civiclive.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_118017/File/EG%20Emergency%20Packet%20Updated%2011282018.pdf](http://p1cdn4static.civiclive.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_118017/File/EG%20Emergency%20Packet%20Updated%2011282018.pdf)

Regarding emergency go-kits for future IHSS consumers: Clients ("consumers") registered with the Alta California Regional Center (ACRC) received free go-kits from the CA State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD). They had over 8000 kits, and might still have plenty. If so, perhaps Yolo County clients of IHSS who are also clients of ACRC can get theirs from SCDD instead.

Yolo County lacks any representation on SCDD's "Regional Advisory Committee". This is bad because it means Yolo County's ACRC clients ("consumers") miss out on resources, thus unnecessarily burdening and duplicating the efforts of Yolo County's other agencies.

- 7. Yolo Co. American Rescue Plan-Food Security** (Jill Perez/Jim Provenza) Staff recommended project to the board on Jan. 25 which included Yolo Food Bank and Meals on Wheels. YHAA fund request for expansion of food truck to rural areas was held until a meeting to coordinate this outreach was done with Meals on Wheels and Agency on Aging-Area 4. There are additional funds for Senior Food Security.
- 8. Update from Agency on Aging-Area 4** (Pam Miller/Mary Schleeter) Looking forward to working on food insecurity ARP funds. Yolo Aging and Disability Resource Connection is fully designated. For AAA4, 6 of their 7 counties now have ADRCs. Agency is conducting needs assessment at regional level. Hubs and Spokes state model change-still no word.
- 9. Update from Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance**

Sheila Allen, Executive Director is half time starting this week as she has accepted a half time job as Deputy Supervisor to Supervisor Provenza. Will be recruiting and hiring a new Executive Director at which time Sheila will become a full time deputy. Current additional staff are Program Coordinator, Julie Langston, a nurse practitioner, Nancy Gifford, Care Manager, a gerontologist, Sarah Allen-Sutter digital and media manager and various interns. New Phone Number 530-776-5006

Mobile Meals for Healthy Aging Food Truck serves hot and chilled meals along with education and resources to 5 locations throughout Yolo County each month.

Yolo Aging and Disability Resource Connection (YADRC)-YHAA is core partner. As part of this Nancy Gifford provides information and connection to services and short term case management. All 3 partners will be opening a branch on Main St. in Woodland later this year.

**10. Future Agenda Items – provide a handout with long term calendar**

March-Update from Yolo Meals on Wheels from Executive Director Joy Cohan.

April-DD/I Caregiver Crisis update

“Supportive Care” through Dignity not palliative care. Request presentation.

Brain Boosters (Cindy Unger)

**11. Public Comment on items not on the agenda-none**

**12. Announcements**

- a. Senator Bill Dodd will be a guest speaker at the YHAA Advocacy Committee meeting, Thurs. Mar. 3, 10am. All are welcome.
- b. Staff are working on creating a county webpage that includes Aging Commission meeting agendas and minutes, commission members and purpose and reports.
- c. Yolo Hospice has changed its name to Yolo Cares
- d. YHAA Fundraiser is Sunday, April 3, 5p, outdoors at Galileo Place (a program of Yolo Cares) in Davis. Tickets, sponsorships and information at <https://www.yolohealthyaging.org/annual-fundraiser-1>
- e. Reimbursable home COVID testing from their health insurance, up to 8 per person.  
**FOLLOW UP:** send out to group. Not provided by Medicare.

**13. Next regular meeting** Wednesday, March 2, 9am-11am, via Zoom