

*Riverside County Advisory Council on Aging
Year End Report – 2004-2005*

PLANNING/NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Provided expertise, guidance and input to the 2005-2009 Strategic Plan- Strength in Aging.

- Approved the RFP process and revised, ranked, and approved contracts for the 2005-2009 contract periods.
- Conducted a public hearing on the 2005-2009 Strategic Plan-Strength in Aging.
- Provided expertise, guidance and input to the 2005-2009 Strategic Plan-Strength in Aging.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Convened Committees to address affordable housing, food bank, and public relations issues.

Members attended N4A Aging Policy Briefing and Capitol Hill Day in Washington, DC

- Revised Advisory Council By-Laws.
- Planned and participated in the Advisory Council Leadership/Development Day.
- Recruited four new Advisory Council members.
- Hosted presentations from C.A.R.E. (Curtailing Abuse Related to the Elderly) on Adult Protective Services and AARP on Social Security Reform.
- Continued leadership participation and close alignment with TACC (Triple A Council of California).
- Members attended N4A Aging Policy Briefing and Capitol Hill Day in Washington, DC.
- Attended annual Mental Health Conference.
- Attended Senior Inspirational Awards Luncheon in Coachella Valley.
- Established an Ad Hoc Food Bank Committee to address food bank distribution issues.
- Established Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee.
- Convened a Public Relations Committee to examine how public relations activities of the Advisory Council can be coordinated with Office on Aging.

ADVOCACY

Approved principles in the N4A Annual reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, the position statement by the Coalition for Integrated Advocacy, and a resolution related to older workers.

Hosted a focus group for Proposition 63 Mental Health.

- Supported Barbara Affolter for membership on the TACC.
- Supported affordable housing, AB 484 for subsequent violations from caregivers, and AB 472 requiring background checks for caregivers, AB 1605 concerning elder abuse.
- Approved principles of the N4A Annual reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, the position statement by the Coalition for Integrated Advocacy, and a resolution related to older workers.
- Supported Mental Health Department Strategic Plan and took a position on Proposition 63.
- Hosted a Focus Group for Proposition 63, Mental Health Services Act.
- Discussed affordable housing with the Palm Springs City Council.
- Attended White House Conference on Aging Solutions Session in Sacramento.
- Members attended the Mobility Summit in Sacramento.
- Attended 1st Annual Riverside County/Workforce Development Summit.
- Supported the California Commission on Aging's position on prescription drug medications, including on-line purchase alternatives.
- Took a position in support of In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) in opposition to wage and benefit reductions.
- Hosted Annual George Telisman Award for outstanding service and advocacy in conjunction with the Health and Wellness Forum.

INNOVATION/PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Established the Riverside County Foundation on Aging as a 501(C)(3) organization.

Defined the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force One-Stop-Shop vision, mission, resources required and services provided.

- Established Riverside County Foundation on Aging as a 501(C)(3) organization.
- Chaired Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force.
- Submitted Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and "Fit After Fifty" programs to County Executive Office for nomination to the CA State Association of Counties for award consideration as innovative government programs.
- Retreat held for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force One-Stop-Shop Plan to define vision, mission, resources required and services provided.
- Approved Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force Annual Report to Board of Supervisors.
- Promoted "Fit After Fifty" Video
- Launched and promoted Network of Care Website.
- Co-sponsored the Palm Springs Senior Forum, which was designed as a means for seniors of Palm Springs to voice concerns or views.

COORDINATION

Explored feasibility of attaching a fee to death certificates.

- Served as a resource for the Mental Health Department under Proposition 63.
- Advisory Council liaison serves on the In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Public Authority Advisory Committee.
- Explored the feasibility of attaching a fee to death certificates, which could be targeted to provide services for seniors.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Convened Health and Wellness, Housing and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Conferences.

- Convened a Health and Wellness Conference, May 2005 and Housing Conference, October 2004
- Approved new agency brochure outlining senior services.
- Convened the 5th Annual Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Forum.
- Celebrated Older American's Month.
- Promoted the Senior Nutrition Program.
- Disseminated Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Advisory Council Year End Report to community groups and leaders.
- Submitted a quarterly column in Agency Newsletter on Advisory Council activities and issues.
- Merged Health and Generations of Addiction conferences to one conference, the Health and Wellness Conference.

**Advisory Council on Aging members
provided an estimated 4800 volunteer hours
in
Fiscal Year 2004-2005**