The Advisory Council on Aging was created in 1974 and is a volunteer leadership body mandated under both the Older Americans Act and Older Californians Act. Members are appointed to serve in an advisory capacity to the Office on Aging and the Board of Supervisors.

The Council is comprised of seventeen volunteer leaders from throughout the County. Five are recruited and selected by the Board of Supervisors and the remaining twelve are recruited by the Advisory Council.

Advisory Council leaders have the responsibility to raise issues, recommend changes, and advocate for those changes. Without Council leadership, opportunities to improve services in aging would be fewer and negative attitudes of ageism would be stronger.

As advocates for seniors and adults with disabilities, they identify priority legislative and regulatory issues and recommend strategies for the future.

The Advisory Council considers population trends, unmet needs, and emerging issues affecting seniors and adults with disabilities and they participate in the development of the four year strategic plan on aging.

In order to address the emerging issues and unmet needs the Council develops committees and subcommittees as needed.

Effective volunteer leaders in partnership with community liaisons will continue to make a difference for seniors and adults with disabilities in Riverside County.

Doris Morgan—Richards, Chair

Over 4900 of combined volunteer hours for 2007/2008
Advisory Council Committees

- Intergenerational/Health Wellness Committee coordinated an “Clinical Protocols for Intergenerational Aging” on May 14, 2008. Speakers included Dr. Dilip V. Jeste, Beverly Greer, and Doug Neff covering topics, such as, obesity/diabetes, aging across the continuum, brain fitness and stroke recovery.
- George Telisman Award Ad Hoc committee appointed to update the award nomination guidelines and to oversee the nominations process. The 2008 George Telisman Memorial Award recipient was Jim Collins, Indio.
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program/Task Force coordinated a back to school party in Indio in August 2007.
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program/Task Force hosted a Holiday party in Indio and in Hemet in December 2007.
- The Housing Committee chaired by Leo Sullivan created a housing matrix, a resource list of affordable and assessable senior and adult with disability housing within Riverside County. This matrix will be utilized by other County departments, agencies, professionals, planners, and housing advocates.
- The Transportation Committee chaired by Lenwood Long has developed a blue ribbon report based on the May 2007 Transportation Forum and other conferences and roundtables related to transportation.

Liaisons/Partnerships

- Gary Kelley, Council Member representative served as Chair of the Public Authority Advisory Council.
- Lenwood Long and Erwin Fromm, Council Members served as liaisons to the California Senior Legislators.
- Erwin Fromm, Vice Chair, represented the Advisory Council Chair at the TACC (Area Agencies on Aging (Triple A) Council of California) meetings.
- Gloria Sanchez, Lenwood Long, and Ellis Swing, Council Members served as the liaisons to the Foundation on Aging. Mrs. Sanchez served as Foundation on Aging Board Chair.
- Beverly Greer, Council Member, served as liaison to the 211 Program.
- Gloria Sanchez, Council Member, served as liaison on the Mental Health Older Adults System of Care committee.
- Alice Chandler, Council member, served as liaison to the Veterans Services.
Outreach

“When Trust Becomes a Weapon”
3rd District Supervisor Jeff Stone, in partnership with the Office on Aging and Advisory Council hosted two seminars on identity theft. The first in Temecula on October, 2007 and the second in Sun City on May 2007. Each seminar drew over 200 seniors. Informative presentations from Kelly Hansen, District Attorney’s Office, Anthony Jacobs, US Postal Inspector, and Margo Hamilton and Dorothy Miller with the Riverside County C.A.R.E. Team. Lunch was served to the participants and shredders and 911 Safety Alert Systems were given away in an opportunity drawing. Multiple agencies hosted information tables. The United States Postal Service provide a series of DVD’s on ID theft for every participant that attended.

“Outdoor Senior Information Fair and Free BBQ”
Supervisor Buster in partnership with the Riverside County Office on Aging, Advisory Council on Aging, C.A.R.E. Team, and Wildomar Senior Living Community hosted a free senior information fair and BBQ lunch at the Wildomar Senior Living Community in Wildomar. Over 50 senior service vendors participated with information booths and donated gifts for an opportunity drawing. Supervisor Buster opened the event with a welcome speech. Officer Jason Beeman with the Lake Elsinore Police Department gave a presentation on personal safety and Andi Thralls with Wildomar Senior Living gave a senior fitness demo. Snow cones and popcorn were served along with a free BBQ lunch.

“Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) event in Palm Springs”
Office on Aging participated at the LGBT Pride event in Palm Springs on November 3-4, 2007. Office on aging staff along with Erwin Fromm, Advisory Council member participated in staffing the information table and distributing the comprehensive survey. The comprehensive survey which asked questions about senior issues and services will be used for future focus groups and the 2009-2012 Riverside County Office on Aging Strategic Plan on Aging.
Position Statements/Advocacy

- Letter of Support for AB 927 for a standardized set of program rules and features applicable to all housing types based on the department's California Housing Rehabilitation Program.
- Letter of support and endorsement for Ed Walsh as successor of the Director position in the Office on Aging.
- Letter of recommendation to the County Executive Office to include the Death Certificate Fee Initiative, Older Americans Act and Older Californians Act in the County Legislative Platform.
- Letter of support for AB 380 to create a sustainable rate methodology for the Multipurpose Senior Services Program.
- Letter of support to oppose approval of HR 3043 rescission of $335 million to Workforce Investment Act Formula funding without inclusion of older workers in the letter.
- Letter of Support of AB1900 Death Certificate Fee Initiative
- Letter of Support for AB364 for transition care for frail seniors leaving the hospital
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Recognition/Awards

- New Advisory Council Members welcomed.
  * Frances Wellman, Blythe
  * Luella Thornton, Banning
  * Jerry Corrales, Riverside
- Gary Kelley appointed by Supervisor Buster to represent District 1 on the Advisory Council on Aging.
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force and Program showcased at the October 2007 California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) Conference.
- The 2008 George Telisman Memorial Award recipient was Jim Colins, Indio. The award will be presented to Mr. Colins in the fall of 2008.
**Policy and Procedure**

- Policy/procedure developed to guide the Council on which issues require or are appropriate for the Council to take a position of advocacy or support
- George Telisman Award nomination guidelines reviewed and updated
- Advisory Council Mission Statement was developed

**Presentations/Trainings/Conferences**

- Patrick Arbore, Institute on Aging, San Francisco, gave a presentation on “The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Community”
- Boomer Perception, issues, and preparation strategic planning group activity lead by Linda Swanson, Planner
- Public hearings held for the 2008-2009 Strategic Plan Update of the 2005-2009 Strategic Plan on Aging
- “SMART Team” presentation by Barbara Mitchell, Department of Mental Health Older Adults Services
- Strategic planning exercise led by Linda Swanson, Planner, on the importance of initiating a full assessment of issues before implementing problem solving solutions
- Mark Moran, Parliamentarian, presented the Brown Act Amendments effective July 1, 2008
- “HARC” Health Assessment Survey results presentation by Eileen Packer and Dr. Glen Grayman, both with HARC
- Strategic planning exercise led by Linda Swanson, Planner, focusing on senior issues and locating data related to that issue
- “8 Seconds to Impact” presentation by John Wisor, staff, to highlight the message of the Office on Aging and how to effectively impart the message in the community
- Erwin Fromm, Council member, represented the Council at the fall and spring California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A)
- Hilary Clarke, Deputy Director, gave an overview of the Office on Aging contracts process
- Strategic planning needs focus group session for the Council to identify questions to ask Office on Aging staff to assist in identifying new trends, unmet needs, and emerging issues
- Advisory Council Development Day facilitated by Monique Parrish, Life Strategies Consultant, to review Council roles and responsibilities, setting priorities, obtaining consensus, and development of a mission statement
- Stephen Geist, Alzheimer’s Association, presented an overview of the 2006 Latino Outreach Survey results

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**Advisory Council on Aging Mission Statement**

The Riverside County Advisory Council on Aging is a group of seasoned and diverse community leaders committed to each other and the process of consensus building to meet the needs of older adults, persons with disabilities, and caregivers in Riverside County.
The Board of Supervisors is the governing body of the County, certain special districts and the Housing Authority. The Board enacts ordinances and resolutions, adopts the annual budget, approves contracts, appropriates funds, determines land use zoning for the unincorporated areas, appoints certain County Officers and members of various boards and commissions.
Advisory Council Officers
Chair: Doris Morgan-Richards
Vice Chair: Erwin Fromm
Parliamentarian: Mark Moran
Secretary: Ed Walsh, Office on Aging Director

Board of Supervisor Appointed District Representatives
District I-Gary Kelley
District II-Alice B. Chandler
District III-Gloria Sanchez
District IV-Mark Moran
District V-Lenwood Long

Advisory Council Appointed District Representatives
District I-Carol Tong, Sonja Wilson
District II-Jerry Corrales
District III-Ellis Swing
District IV- Erwin Fromm, Phyllis McGraw, Doris Morgan-Richards, Beverly Greer, Leo Sullivan, Frances Wellman
District V- Venetta Maiden, Luella Thornton

Advisory Council Community Liaisons
Board of Supervisor Legislative Assistants: Sandy Isom, District I—Supervisor Buster; Donna Johnston and Karen Christiansen, District II— Supervisor Tavaglione; Opal Hellweg, District III—Supervisor Stone; Elizabeth Romero, District IV—Supervisor Wilson; Cheri Andelkovic, District V—Supervisor Ashley;
Community Liaisons: Harry Hood, Community Liaison
California Senior Legislators: Walter Brooks, CSL; Phyllis Purcell, CSL; James P. Janis, CSL; Allen Hurst, CSL
Advisory Council on Aging

Mission Statement

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