

**Community Partnerships Committee  
Of the Orange County Commission on Aging**

**Tuesday, May 2, 2017 \* 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

Holden Heights Community Center, 1201 20th St., Orlando, FL 32805

*Bringing together local organizations that work directly with & provide services for seniors, their caregivers & their families in the Central Florida community. Providing the Commission on Aging input on proposed projects & identifying needs of older Orange County adults.*

**Members Present**

Carolyn Austin, Representative Bruce Antoine's Office, Florida House District 46  
Sue Boudier, Flourish in Place  
Katie Bridge, Orlando Health Memory Disorder Clinic  
Gena Brooks, Hand in Hand  
Audrey Hauser Burnett, Orlando Health Memory Disorder Clinic  
Diane Burns, Florida Hospital Centre for Aging and Wellness  
Edith Gendron, Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center  
Maura Hassey, Seniors First, Inc.  
Luisa Hicks, Hand in Hand  
Ken Jenkins, Easter Seals Florida  
Sally Kopke, VITAS  
Kim Lee, Flourish in Place  
Nikki Magyar, Right at Home  
Bridgett Monroe, Cornerstone Hospice  
Nancy Nix, Sawyer & Sawyer, P.A.  
Stephanie Palacios, Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy's Office, Florida Congress District 7  
Joanna Perez, Hand in Hand  
Brian Sanders, Orange County Transportation Planning  
Michael Scimeca, Representative Rene Plasencia's Office, Florida House District 50

**Staff Present**

Mimi Reggentin, Office on Aging

**Minutes**

- Ms. Gendron opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

**Presentations**

- Presentation – Creating an Elder-Friendly Transportation Environment
- Ms. Gendron introduced Mr. Sanders and stated he would be leading the presentation for Mr. Renzo Nastasi. Mr. Sanders stated the Metropolitan Planning Organization, known as the MPO, was comprised of key elected officials from the tri-county area. The MPO is responsible for approving regional transportation priorities.
- Mr. Sanders provided an overview on older drivers. Nationally, there were 48 million drivers age 65+ in 2015, which is a 29 percent increase from 2006. Mr. Sanders reviewed the crash and fatality data for accidents involving vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists. He stated that

Central Florida has one of the highest rates of pedestrian fatalities in the county. Recent planning efforts have reduced this rate to some extent. Locally, regional transportation engineers have installed larger and more advanced warning signs, improved bike and pedestrian features, added travel lane improvements and provided community education.

- Mr. Sanders reviewed Central Florida's transit system, which includes 77 fixed routes, ADA accessible buses and a door-to-door paratransit system. He also provided an overview of the Road Ranger system on the interstates and future trends in transportation.

### **Minutes**

- Ms. Gendron asked the Committee to review the minutes of March 7, 2017. No changes were made. Upon a motion by Ms. Monroe, seconded by Ms. Hassey, the minutes of March 7, 2017 were unanimously approved.

### **Commission on Aging Update**

- Elder Ambassador Program – Ms. Gendron stated 24 individuals were accepted in the Elder Ambassador Class of 2017. Training begins on May 3 and continues on May 4, 9 and 11. The sponsors for this core training are Cornerstone, WellCare and Humana. In addition, Health Central Park is providing breakfast on May 4. Ms. Gendron also encouraged attendees to call the Office on Aging to book an Elder Ambassador to provide educational outreach for their groups or upcoming events.
- LIFE Information for Elders – Ms. Gendron stated staff has contacted the speakers identified by the Community Partnerships Committee and the fall 2017 schedule is in the final stages of approval.
- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – Ms. Gendron provided a brief summary of the annual symposium held in acknowledgement of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. This symposium will be held June 16 from 8:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community United Methodist Church in Casselberry. The program is free and open to the public. This year's symposium will provide an overview of elder abuse in different settings including the general community, medical setting and assistive residential communities.

### **Partnership "Go Around"**

- Ms. Gendron asked attendees to share any new programs or events associated with their organization.
  - Ms. Monroe, Cornerstone Hospice – Ms. Monroe stated she does community presentations in the seven counties that are served by Cornerstone.
  - Ms. Burns, Florida Hospital Centre for Aging and Wellness – Ms. Burns provided an overview of the expertise and professionals involved with the Centre for Aging and Wellness.
  - Ms. Hassey, Seniors First – The emergency meals program, which can provide meals for 30 days, and the congregate meals program both have no waiting lists and are open to individuals regardless of income.
  - Mike Scimeca, Representative Rene Plasencia's Office, Florida House District 50 – Mr. Scimeca introduced himself and provided an overview of Representative Plasencia's Office.
  - Ms. Gendron, Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center – The next Savvy Caregiver program begins on May 10 and is a seven week pilot program that includes an additional week focused on finances. The agency just received a grant from the West

Orange Health Foundation and will be opening a satellite office in Winter Garden that will be open half a day a week starting in June.

- Ms. Bridge and Ms. Burnett, Orlando Health Memory Disorder Clinic – This clinic is one of 15 state-funded memory disorder clinics that provide full medical evaluations for their clients. The Florida Legislature had proposed cutting funding for these clinics, which would have closed most of the clinics statewide. On April 29, the Florida Senate elected to reinstitute funding for all 15 clinics.
  - Ms. Austin, Representative Bruce Antoine’s Office, Florida House District 46 – Representative Antoine will be hosting a town hall meeting in the summer to talk about the new programs being funded by the Florida Legislature.
  - Ms. Nix, Sawyer & Sawyer, P.A. – Ms. Nix stated she is retiring and the new marketing staff will be at the next meeting. Sawyer and Sawyer is an elder law office that provides full estate planning services.
  - Ms. Kopke, VITAS – Ms. Kopke stated VITAS is hosting a Memorial Day Service for veterans and the community on May 29th at 11 a.m.
  - Mr. Lee and Ms. Boudier, Flourish in Place – A new program is being offered that focuses on in-home brain care. It includes an in-home assessment and a daily plan tailored to your individual cognitive ability. Plans can be developed for the worried well as well as individuals with different forms of dementia. It was noted the Brain Fitness Club at Orlando United Methodist Church has moved to Broadway United Methodist Church.
  - Ms. Magyar, Right at Home – Ms. Magyar will be hosting a CEU event on health care.
  - Ms. Palacios, Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy’s Office, Florida Congress District 7 – Congresswoman Murphy’s staff can assist constituents’ who are experiencing difficulty accessing services.
  - Ms. Hicks, Ms. Brooks and Ms. Perez, Hand in Hand – This organization has a contract with Florida Hospital to provide transition services to individuals being discharged from the hospital. Hand in Hand is also exploring whether to begin providing transportation services.
  - Mr. Taylor, Easter Seals Florida – Easter Seals will be hosting a Crealde art exhibit on May 20 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- The meeting ended at 10:00 a.m.

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