

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

Friday, March 2, 2018 * 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Pine Hills Community Center, 6408 Jennings Road, Orlando FL 32818

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
Diane Burns, Florida Hospital Centre for Aging and Wellness
Judy Clark, Florida Hospital
John Davis, USA Dance
Heather Frebe, Orlando VA Medical Center
Nancy Gavaghan, FUNctional Independence Training
Edith Gendron, Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center
Maura Hassey, Seniors First
Helen Jones, AARP Florida
Kim Lee, Flourish In Place
Kayla Lopez, Cornerstone Hospice
Anne Maley, FUNctional Independence Training
Monarcha Marcet, Adventure in Building
Taylor Martin, Flourish In Place
Delilah McKay, Volunteers for Community Impact
Jeanne McKnight, Keller Williams
Bridget Monroe – Cornerstone Hospice
Carlos Morales, Orange County Consumer Fraud
Stephanie Palacios, Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy
Fredrick Robinson, VITAS Health Care
Wynter Solomon-Cuthbert, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court
Francis Steloi, Florida Hospital
Ken Terrell, OAK Central Florida
Shelly Terwilliger, Florida Hospital / Hospice of the Comforter

Staff Present

Mimi Reggentin, Office on Aging

Minutes

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

Presentation – Orlando VA Medical Center

- Ms. Gendron welcomed Heather Frebe with the Orlando VA Medical Center.
- Ms. Frebe stated the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has three sections – health services, benefits and cemetery services.

- With regards to the health services, approximately 70 percent of all U.S. practicing physicians have been trained by the military or had a “rotation” through a VA medical center during their medical training.
- Ms. Frebe stated that 62 percent of the VA’s clients served during the Vietnam era or earlier and approximately 60 to 70 percent of the clients in Orlando are older adults. A typical day at the Orlando VA Medical Center includes 6,000 clinic visits, 130 emergency room visits, 20 hospital discharges and 1,400 prescriptions filled.
- In an effort to continue to serve the needs of Central Florida’s veterans, the Orlando VA Medical Center will soon be opening a Fisher House for families of veterans who are hospitalized. They will also work to expand ICU and mental health beds.
- Ms. Frebe stated the Orlando VA Medical Center covers Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Lake, Volusia and Brevard counties. This area has approximately 300,000 – 400,000 residents who are veterans. The Orlando VA Medical Center has approximately 100,000 clients.

Minutes

- Ms. Gendron asked the Committee to review the minutes of January 5, 2018. No changes were made. Upon a motion by Ms. Gavaghan, seconded by Ms. Austin, the minutes of January 5, 2018 were unanimously approved.

Commission on Aging Update

- Ms. Gendron stated that it is time to select the speakers for the fall 2018 schedule of the LIFE Information for Elders seminar series. Past attendees of this program have recently completed a survey to select the six topics for the fall. Ms. Gendron asked for speaker recommendations. The following recommendations were made:
 - Understanding Probiotics – Patti Cantillo-Kodzis or Dr. Laird were recommended
 - Researching and Evaluating Agencies and Facilities – Mimi will identify a speaker
 - Art of Meditation – Rebecca Gilbert was recommended
 - Best Smart Phone Apps for Elders! – Delilah McKay and Taylor Martin were recommended
 - Blue Zone Tips to Staying Healthy – Edith Gendron was recommended
 - Oriental Medicine and Alternative Therapies 101 – Nicole Craven was recommended.

Partnership “Go Around”

- Ms. Gendron asked attendees to share any new programs or events associated with their organization.
 - Ms. Gendron, Alzheimer’s and Dementia Resource Center – Ms. Gendron stated that Brent Trotter is the new executive director of their organization. There are a number of educational presentations happening in March, including on a presentation on slow medicine at the Reeves United Methodist Church at 10 a.m. on March 7. There will also be a four-part series on preventing dementia on Tuesdays from 1 – 3 p.m. at Brookdale Living, Lake Orienta.
 - Maura Hassey, Seniors First – Ms. Hassey stated the emergency meals program has no waiting list. This program provides meals to adults age 60+ who are in crisis for up to 30 – 45 days. There is no income eligibility requirement.
 - Judy Clark, Florida Hospital – Dr. Laird’s medical office is being redesigned and will soon be designated a memory disorder clinic by the state of Florida.

- Delilah McKay, Volunteers for Community Impact – Ms. McKay provided an overview of the federal Foster Grandparents program and RSVP program. She also overviewed the Cyber Senior program.
- Monarcha Marcet, Adventure in Building – Ms. Marcet provided an overview of her company, which helps coordinate improvements that make homes more accessible.
- Kim Lee, Flourish In Place – Mr. Lee provided an overview of his home companion agency.
- John Davis, USA Dance – Mr. Davis said his nonprofit organization focuses on ballroom dancing and provides dance shows at local events as well as sponsors special events in the community.
- Ms. Austin, Representative Bruce Antoine’s Office, Florida House District 46 – Ms. Austin stated the Florida Legislature is in session. One of the emerging issues is economic crimes and, specifically fraud occurring in institutions.
- Wynter Solomon-Cuthbert, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court – Ms. Solomon-Cuthbert stated she is the court monitor for the guardianship program. She stated that the Florida Legislature is considering several bills and amendments that affect the state guardianship program.
- Stephanie Palacios, Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy – Ms. Palacios stated Congresswoman Murphy’s office has staff that can help constituents navigate through federal benefits programs such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and the VA.
- Ms. Jones, AARP Florida – Ms. Jones stated that AARP is currently meeting with state and national officials to lobby on behalf of seniors. AARP was active in lobbying for the newly passed caregivers act. Ms. Jones stated the Winter Park Chapter hosts meetings and sponsors travel events. The next meeting is March 20 and Todd Ulrich from WFTV Channel 9 is the featured speaker.
- Ms. Maley and Ms. Gavaghan, FUNctional Independence Training – The next falls prevention class will begin on March 14 at Center for Independent Living and will run from 10 a.m. to noon for eight consecutive weeks. The Center for Independent Living will host their “stroll and roll” walk at Cranes Roost on March 10.
- Jeanne McKnight, Keller Williams – Ms. McKnight stated her real estate practice focuses on older adults and helping elders transition to their next home.
- Ms. Burns, Florida Hospital Centre for Aging and Wellness – Ms. Burns stated their office hosts two educational series. The monthly healthy bones program is held on the first Friday at noon in Winter Park. The caregiver college series is held monthly on the second Monday. Staff also leads a support group for people caring for someone with dementia on their third Thursday of the month.
- Shelly Terwilliger, Florida Hospital / Hospice of the Comforter – Ms. Terwilliger provided an overview of the programs offered by Hospice of the Comforter.
- Ken Terrell, OAK Central Florida – Mr. Terrell state National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is March 10. On March 16, the Sisters Organizing to Survive is hosting a HIV awareness event on March 16.
- Mr. Robinson, VITAS Health Care – Mr. Robinson stated he is the VA liaison for VITAS, which is a Level Four recipient of the We Honor Veterans program.
- Kayla Lopez, Cornerstone Hospice –Ms. Lopez stated that as the volunteer coordinator, she helps coordinate volunteers for art programs, respite care, pet care, and patient care. She also offers continuing education programs for her volunteers.

- Bridget Monroe, Cornerstone Hospice – Ms. Monroe stated state as the community liaison, she gives a variety of presentations in the community, including the senior sensitivity training. She is also trying to form a golf team.
 - Carlos Morales, Orange County Consumer Fraud – Mr. Morales stated March 4-10 is National Consumer Protection Week. He provided an overview of the services offered by his agency.
- The meeting ended at 10 a.m.

MMR/