

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

Friday, September 7 * 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

Lelia Allen, Guardian Care

Annie Artis, VA Medical Center

Carolyn Austin, Representative Bruce Antoine's Office, Florida House District 46

Alexandra Bonilla, Davita Medical Group

Diane Burns, Centre for Aging and Wellness at Florida Hospital

Matt Carli, Burgos and Brein

Latasha Copper, Community Legal Services of Mid Florida

Hannah Farber, Legal Aid Society of Orange County Bar Association

Janet Fogg, Florida Department of Children and Families

Nancy Gavaghan, FUNctional Independence Training

Edith Gendron, Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center

John Hazelroth, JPH & Associates

Helen Jones, AARP Florida

Kerrin Kuhn, Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center

Sarah Lightell, Senior Resource Alliance

Kathy Mascitelli, Home Care Assistance

Bridget Monroe, Cornerstone Hospice

Maritza Perez, Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling

Fred Robinson, VITAS

Nancy Sharifi, Orange County Housing and Community Development

Wynter Solomon-Cutherbert, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court

JacQuie Walker, Florida Department of Elder Affairs

Tracy Wosaba, Winter Park Meditation and Mindfulness

Staff Present

Mimi Reggentin, Office on Aging

Minutes

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

Presentation – Affordable Housing Update

- Ms. Gendron introduced John Hazelroth, JPH & Associates, and Nancy Sharifi, Orange County, Housing and Community Development. Mr. Hazelroth stated many of the senior highrises built in the 1970's and 1980's in Central Florida were constructed with HUD Section 202 funds. Residents of these highrises are only charged 30% of their income for

rent. The HUD 202 program is no longer being used to construct new affordable housing complexes. Today's affordable housing challenges include a lack of affordable housing stock, no connection between housing and services and a lack of funding. Mr. Hazelroth reviewed the federal, state and local options for building affordable housing. Tax credits for developers are now the primary source of funding for new affordable housing stock. Developers typically have multiple different funding sources for each new project and, as such, the projects are extremely complex from a financing aspect.

- Ms. Sharifi provided an overview of affordable housing in Orange County. Market rents for 2018 run from \$849 for an efficiency to \$1,745 for a four-bedroom apartment. Orange County Government does not own or manage any affordable housing complexes; however, the County does manage the Section 8 program. The waitlist for Section 8 recently opened for three days and the county had almost 25,000 applicants. A lottery system will select the 850 applicants to be placed on this waitlist.
- Ms. Sharifi stated Orange County Government manages the low-income tax credits for new housing proposals in this community. The County also reviews and funds renovation projects for existing affordable housing complex in order to help maintain the existing stock of affordable housing. Recent affordable housing projects include Brixton Manor in Apopka, Tuscany in Winter Park and senior housing development in Maitland. Emerald Village Phase II, which was recently approved, will begin construction next year.
- Ms. Sharifi stated that individuals interested in finding affordable housing should visit www.floridahousingsearch.org.

Minutes

- Ms. Gendron asked the Committee to review the minutes of June 29, 2018. No changes were made and the minutes were approved.

Commission on Aging Update

- Ms. Gendron stated the topics for the spring 2019 series of the LIFE Information for Elders program have been selected. She asked for input on speakers for these topics. The Committee made the following recommendations.
 - Hidden benefits under Medicare – SHINE was recommended. Mr. Carli also stated he would forward a name to staff
 - Depression, dementia, mental health and normal aging – Dr. Rosemary Laird or Jennifer Trotter were recommended
 - Cultural classes and opportunities – It was recommended this be a smorgasbord of providers including Central Florida Community Arts, Winter Park historical, and more
 - Energy healing and homeopathic options – Tracy Wosaba
 - Tai Chi for improving balance – Diane Burns will forward a recommendation
 - Law enforcement safety and scam tips – Laura Lang

Partnership “Go Around”

- Ms. Gendron asked attendees to share any new programs or events associated with their organization.
 - Ms. Gendron, Alzheimer's & Dementia Resource Center – Ms. Gendron stated their agency has moved to One Senior Place in Altamonte, but continues to serve the Central Florida community. Their telephone number has changed to 407-436-7750.

Upcoming programs include Joyful Music Therapy on October 4 and a new Savvy Caregiver program that begins on October 5. Their annual fundraiser event will be May 2 and will feature Kim Campbell.

- Sarah Lightell, Senior Resource Alliance – Their agency was awarded a contract to manage a veterans' home and community-based program. This program has the ability to financially compensate caregivers for their care. The Senior Resource Alliance was also awarded the Senior Medicaid Patrol contract for Central Florida.
 - Ms. Reggentin, Office on Aging – Staff is revising the *Community Resources for Elders* document and asked people to send in their recommended changes.
 - Diane Burns, Centre for Aging and Wellness at Florida Hospital – Their agency hosts a Healthy Bones seminar series on the first Friday of every month at noon.
 - Ms. Walker, Florida Department of Elder Affairs – Staff conduct in-home (or community) visits to complete pre-admission screenings and resident reviews.
 - Ms. Copper, Community Legal Services of Mid Florida – Ms. Copper stated she focuses on disaster recovery, including FEMA or insurance appeals for residents at or below 150% to 200% of Federal Poverty Level. Their agency also helps with wills and legal documents for individuals in this same income bracket. Their agency helps individuals of any income bracket with fair housing complaints.
 - Ms. Artis, Orlando VA Medical Center – Ms. Artis was nominated and was selected as one of the most influential veterans in Central Florida.
 - Ms. Austin, Representative Bruce Antoine's Office, Florida House District 46 – Ms. Austin stated their office is working with OUC to host several community meetings in targeted communities to help homeowners learn about the energy assistance programs offered by OUC. Meetings are scheduled at Rock Lake and at the Smith Center.
 - Ms. Gavaghan, FUNctional Independence Training – Ms. Gavaghan stated their organization is hosting three falls prevention series this fall, including at the Center for Independent Living, Mayflower and St. James Cathedral.
 - Ms. Monroe, Cornerstone Hospice – Ms. Monroe stated she can provide senior sensitivity training in the community.
 - Ms. Farber, Legal Aid Society of Orange County Bar Association – Ms. Farber stated their organization can help with fair housing complaints and other landlord tenant issues.
- The meeting ended at 10:15 a.m.

MMR/