



City of Seattle

Mayor's Council on African American Elders

C/O – Aging and Disability Services, Seattle-King County
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Meeting Summary

August 18, 2015

Present: Mattie Taplin, Marsha Andrews, Dr. Brenda Jackson, Dr. LaShawnDa Pittman

Excused: Rev. Don Davis, Susan Millender

Guest: Jennifer

Staff: Maureen Linehan, Rowena Rye

- I. Mattie Taplin opened the meeting and welcomed the group, and guest Maureen Linehan, Aging and Disability Services Director.
- II. The council briefly discussed the meeting with HSD Director Catherine Lester, and planned follow up with Josh Hall with the Community Service and Support Division of HSD, inviting him to the September MCAAE meeting. The council will request demographic data from City-funded shelters.
- III. Maureen briefed the council on the recent change in United Way funding priorities. Previous funding of programs/services for older adults in King County was \$1.9 million. The refocusing of United Way funding priorities on homelessness, youth, and income disparity, significantly reduces funding after July 2016 to seniors. Expected impacts will be felt by Senior Services, senior centers, Crisis Clinic, and Adult Day Health Services.
- IV. Maureen also shared that in late 2015, early 2016, there will be additional RFPs. With 18 thousand kinship caregivers in King County, there will be funding opportunities to support this programming. Current ADS funding of \$120 K supports Neighborhood House, Encompass (Eastside), RAYS (Renton Area Youth and Family Services).
- V. The council discussed the three concerns addressed in the report to Mayor Murray last fall, and the intention of strengthening their continuing advocacy to address elder homelessness, racial disparities, and the unique needs of older adults with chronic conditions and/or disabilities. Maureen commented on the diminishing resources for older adults, and the projection that by 2030 25% of King County residents will be seniors. She noted that the messaging around aging needs to be changed. She suggested that the council see section 5 of the Area Plan, and asked council members to contact planner Karen Winston to add their comments, recommendations for the new Area Plan currently under development. Asked about Community Living Connections, Maureen responded that it will roll out in September. The council thanked Maureen for the overview of the current funding climate.
- VI. The meeting was adjourned.

