

# Mayor's Council on African American Elders

C/O – Aging and Disability Services, Seattle-King County  
Mailing Address: PO Box 34215, Seattle WA 98124-4215  
Office Address: Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, 51<sup>st</sup> Floor  
(206)684-0706 \* TTY(206)684-0274 \* FAX (206)684-0689  
Website: [www.seattle.gov/MCAAE](http://www.seattle.gov/MCAAE)

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## Meeting Summary

May 19, 2017

**Members Present** – Mattie Taplin, Chair, Brenda Charles (Appointment pending); Jim Watkins (Appointment pending); Cynthia Winters (Appointment pending)

**Guest:** Christina Davis

**Excused** – Dr. Brenda Jackson, Susan Millender

**ADS Staff** – Karen Winston; **HSD Staff** – Jenifer Chao

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### I. HSD Innovation Fund Request for Proposals (RFP)

Jenifer Chao, Interim Human Services Department (HSD) Strategic Advisor, attended the meeting to discuss the HSD Innovation Fund. The funding will allow applicants to test new ideas that focus on achieving results and racial equity. This fund will make available \$225,000 for new ideas related to one of the department's six impact areas: (1) Preparing Youth for Success, (2) Addressing Homelessness, (3) Supporting Affordability and Livability, (4) Responding to Gender-Based Violence, (5) Promoting Public Health, and (6) Promoting Healthy Aging.

In addition, as part of the City's [Age-Friendly Seattle](#) initiative, HSD is designating \$125,000 of the total Innovation Fund to support up to six projects at \$21,000 each. These projects will need to advance the "Promoting Healthy Aging" impact area, and how they align with one or more of the *Age-Friendly Seattle* goals. In July 2016, Seattle joined the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities, an affiliate of the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. This Network is focused on eight domains for an age-friendly community. The balance of the Innovation Fund will be awarded to five projects at \$20,000 each. These remaining projects will need to advance one of HSD's other five impact areas.

The traditional view of capacity-building can range from hiring extra staff, to providing special training, to sharing resources across different organizations. The goal of the Innovation Fund pilot is to move beyond traditional methods by supporting the type of capacity that is developed through experience and the ability to take a risk to try something new.

Eligible applicants may include, but are not limited to, non-profit organizations, for-profit companies, government agencies, researchers and individuals. The application process will be through a Request for Proposal (RFP) and consist of a one-page document with less than 500 words describing the proposals.

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The Innovation Fund RFP will be released on June 1, 2017. MCAAE members were asked to assist with outreach. Awards will be made in August 2017, with projects beginning in September 2017. For more information on HSD's work and six impact areas, visit [seattle.gov/humanservices](http://seattle.gov/humanservices).

## **II. Special Guests**

Two guests attended the meeting, Christina Davis and Steve Lee.

Christina is a retired consulting registered nurse, from Florida. She recently relocated to Seattle to live closer to her children. During her introduction, she commented on how difficult it is to find affordable housing in Seattle. Her application for SHAG housing was declined. Mattie offered to assist her with housing resources.

Steve is a Senior Policy Advisor, in the City of Seattle Office of Policy and Innovation. Steve represents the Mayor's Office on the Age-Friendly Seattle initiative. He has also been instrumental in recruiting commissioners for the MCAAE.

## **III. MCAAE Focus on the Future**

Mattie discussed past MCAAE accomplishments and expressed how she would like the commission to be a resource for the community. Members requested brochures for distribution at upcoming spring and summer events. Karen will get the brochures to members and will also create business cards for new members. Members also requested a MCAAE banner, to display at upcoming community events, including Juneteenth, Festival Sundiata, etc.

Steve discussed some of the Mayor's priorities and encouraged members to connect with other City departments, such as the Department of Education and Early Learning, and the Seattle Police Department's Elder Crime Unit. He will provide more information about the Mayor's priorities before the next meeting. Other ideas included education on the signs of financial abuse, caregiver advocacy, and advocating for affordable senior housing. He suggested connecting with the King County Housing Developers, and the Urban League.

## **IV. June Meeting**

Possible ideas included:

- Dr. Jim deMaine, "Our Lives Our Choices"
- Identifying signs of financial abuse

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.