

**Commission on Aging** 

# **ANNUAL REPORT** 2020 - 2021



#### MAINTAIN – ENHANCE – IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OLDER ADULTS IN SAN MATEO COUNTY

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#### **BEFORE WE TALK ANNUAL REPORT...**

THE ROLE OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING: • Created in 1969 by the Board of Supervisors (BoS)

- To serve as the Advisory Council to the Supervisors
  - To help the Board in *its* role as the SMC Area Agency on Aging
  - To assist the County in *its* implementation of the Older Americans Act and the Older Californians Act
- $\circ~$  To advocate for and support senior services throughout the County

<b>CoA FOUNDATIONAL GOA</b>	LS
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Advising the Supervisors

Helping Older Adults learn about available resources Advocating for new services for older adults Educating CoA about events/ actions that relate to its Mission and Advocacy Creating greater awareness of Commission



At May 2020, the Commission on Aging (CoA) had no idea how the developing Pandemic would affect the work of the Commission. 2020-2021 working changes from traditional CoA primarily were:

- From working together "In-Person" to Virtual
- **o** From "Seeing our Publics Externally" to seeing them Virtually
- To adding "Advocating" to "Advising " the Board of Supervisors

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#### THREE KEY COA "UMBRELLA" GOALS AT MAY 2020

- Advocating for improved/new services for County older adults
  - Using current data resources like the Local AAS 2020-2021 Area Plan in Committee work plans and Commission advocacy issues
  - Educating Commissioners regarding California's *Master Plan for Aging* and how to use it as a resource for the County
- Continuing increasing awareness of the Commission and its mission
  - Especially among others who serve/support County older adults
- Researching and implementing how the Commission could help support older adults in emergencies and disasters

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#### THREE KEY CoA FY2020-2021 GOALS AT MAY 2020

Did we meet our FY2020-2021 Goals?

Yes. Our very competent chairs kept CoA committees focused on the needs of County older adults:

- Resource Access Committee Commissioners Lee and Agasid
- **o** Transportation Commissioner Mau
- Middle Income Senior Opportunities Commissioner
  Dimas-Kahn
- Executive Committee Commissioners Clement and Coppock
- Age Friendly Cities Program (Ad Hoc) Commissioner McMullin

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#### **IDENTIFYING AND ADDING PANDEMIC NEEDS**

- A SPECIAL COA MEETING WAS HELD IN AUGUST 2020 TO DETERMINE SPECIFIC ADVOCACY GOALS TO HELP SUPPORT OLDER ADULTS DURING THE PANDEMIC
  - AAS Service Providers+other organizations that serve older adults+ members of the public invited
  - By consensus, these issues were identified as the greatest:
    - Food Insecurity
    - Social Isolation and Depression
    - Emergency Supplies/
      - Preparedness
    - Digital Divide/Technology

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#### **RESOURCE ACCESS COMMITTEE (RAC)**

Key Pandemic Challenge: "Tabling" events cancelled Very few opportunities to meet with older adults in-person

- **o Building Relationships Project Early 2020 to Continuing** 
  - A 2020 Ad Hoc Committee, moved to RAC in 11/2020
    - Commissioners reached out to city staff/others who manage programs for older adults
    - To support cooperation and coordination among cities in their efforts to provide services to County older adults
  - To help cities learn about best practices and available resources
    - To improve the Commission's knowledge of local programs and efforts

#### ✓ Action Taken: Meet and Greet Event, 4/12/2021

- The first of "Building Relationships" periodic meetings
  - Over 30 representatives attended

#### **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

 Action Taken: Already an important continuing goal, review of available transportation options in and related preparedness for disasters and emergencies took on even more importance as the Pandemic grew

#### **OTHER KEY GOALS:**

Goal: Assess customer satisfaction measures for transportation offered by SMC providers who receive OAA funding – *Continuing* 

Goal: Be informed and action-oriented for local transportation issues and initiatives – *Continuing* 



Goal: Assess on-demand transportation services currently available, including accessible services – *On-going* 

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#### MIDDLE INCOME SENIOR OPPORTUNITIES (MISO)

- This Committee was created in 2019 to research concerns shared by middle-income older adults.
  - ✓ Action Taken: CoA resolution to the BoS to include the Middle-Income Seniors needs in the California Master Plan for Aging (MPA) in February 2020
  - Action Taken: Researched MPA to determine how it aligns with MISO goals
- CURRENT GOAL I: Mapping and identifying opportunities to address <u>food insecurity</u> for older adults in San Mateo County – *Continuing*
  - Looking for future possible local programs like post Great Plates (GPD)
  - Advocating for more funding congregate/home-delivered meals contractors
  - ✓ Action Taken: Researched Great Plates as a model for a possible program for San Mateo County
  - ✓ Action Taken: Initiated and coordinated the delivery of the 3000 CoA Help@Home Booklets to recipients in December 2020

#### **MISO CONTINUED**

- GOAL II: Educate and prepare older adults for disaster preparedness and power outages *Continuing* 
  - MISO researched emergency preparedness and response resources
  - Investigating how to educate older adults to prepare for disasters/emergencies by virtual and in-person presentations
  - ✓ Action Taken: Developed Emergency Resource Sheet for Great
    Plates recipients to be distributed in June 2021
- GOAL III: Employment training for older adults who would like more financial security or "more money to live on" – *Continuing*
  - Identifying agencies that provide employment training and job placement
  - Scheduling meetings with these employment agencies
  - Host or assist with scheduling a community forum on senior employment
  - Action Taken: Invited Phase Two Careers to present at CoA in April 2020

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#### **CoA WORK MATCHED TO MASTER PLAN TO AGING**

FY2020-2021 Committee Goals match to Master Plan 2021-2022 goals:

MASTER PLAN FOR AGING	CoA GOALS AND WORK
Outdoor & Community Spaces for All Ages	Age-Friendly Cities Ad Hoc Committee
Emergency Preparedness	Middle Income Seniors Committee
Inclusion and Equity in Aging	Middle Income Seniors Committee
Support for services for middle income older adults	Resource Access and Middle Income Seniors Committees
Transportation Beyond Cars	Transportation Committee

- ✓ The Commission endeavors to look ahead about new issues that might affect the County's older adults, either positively or negatively.
   Here are some issues CoA will be researching:
- Lingering Post-Pandemic Issues: Food Insecurity, Social Isolation and Depression, Emergency Supplies/Preparedness and Digital Divide/Technology
- **o** CoA Age-Friendly Cities Committee
  - In January 2021, CoA created an Ad Hoc Committee:
    - To research how CoA and the County can provide support to cities in their Age-Friendly efforts
    - Will develop a recommendation as to how the County and CoA might support momentum
- Ageism: In Society, the Work Place (Discrimination), Healthcare (Discrimination)

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#### MAY 2020 - MAY 2021 PRESENTATIONS

General Meeting (now Virtual) presentations have helped Commissioners continue learn about available resources for County older adults

- May 2020 CoA Annual Report
- June 2020 LGBTQ Community in San Mateo County
- July 2020 2020 Census
- September 2020 Continued Discussion on Additional Advocacy
- October 2020 CoA Procedural Rules and Roles of Commissioners
- November 2020 Office of Emergency Services
- January 2021 Kaiser and Its Senior Support Services
- February 2021 Villages of San Mateo County
- March 2021 Public Hearing on the 2020 -2024 Area Plan
- April 2021 Meet and Greet/City OA Programs Managers

#### **GOING FORWARD**

- Find additional ways that the CoA can help County older adults:
  - Especially to prepare for and sustain in disaster situations
  - To be a resource to older adults, service providers and, most of all, to the Board of Supervisors
  - To help with the "re-opening" of senior support programs across the County
  - To reach out to the County's older adults in order to understand what they need so that the Commission can advise and advocate to the Board of Supervisors

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**COA INCLUDES 17 VOLUNTEER COMMISSIONERS** Elsa Agasid Joan Kilroe **JoAnne Arnos** Monika Lee Maria Elena Barr **Marita Leth** Walter Batara **Michael Mau** Patty Clement, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Scott McMullin

Karen Coppock, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Cl Christina Dimas-Kahn Li Angela Giannini Ka

Jean Hastie, Chair

Cherie Querol Moreno Liz Taylor Kathy Uhl

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## CoA is so much more than 17 Commissioners

- San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
  - Especially Supervisor David Canepa
  - ✓ Legislative Aide, Ann O'Brien

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## CoA IS SO MUCH MORE THAN 17 COMMISSIONERS

- The staff of Aging and Adult Services
  - Lisa Mancini, AAS Director
  - Anna Sawamura, Program Services Manager
  - Andrew Eng, Community Program Analyst II
  - Cristina Ugaitafa, Community Program Analyst II
  - Diane Madriz, Community Program Analyst II
  - Lindsey Joyner, Office Specialist

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#### **CoA IS MORE THAN 17 COMMISSIONERS**

The AAS service providers who continuously strive to meet the needs of older adults in the County:

**Alzheimer's Association Catholic Charities City of Belmont Senior Center City of Daly City – Doelger Center City of Daly City – Lincoln Community Center City of East Palo Alto Senior Center City of Menlo Park Senior Center City of Pacifica Senior Center City of San Bruno Senior Center City of San Mateo – Martin Luther King** Center **City of South San Francisco Adult Day Care Coastside Adult Day Health Care** 

**Daly City Peninsula Partnership** Collaborative **Edgewood Center for Children and** Families **Family Caregiver Alliance** Kimochi, Inc. Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County **Ombudsman Services of San Mateo** County, Inc. **Peninsula Family Service** Peninsula Volunteers, Inc. Self Help for the Elderly **Senior Coastsiders**