



## Staff Report May 4, 2021

### 1. Area Plan Update.

Area Plan completed and community meetings held with ACOA and Oversight Board. Comments from the community were incorporated into the Area Plan Update and the plan was sent to CDA before the May 1 deadline.

### 2. Program Monitoring preparation.

Reports, forms, monitoring documents uploaded in preparation for CDA program monitoring visit the week of May 17<sup>th</sup>.

### 3. 2021-2022 CDA Contract.

We received the contract from CDA for 2021-2022 and began creating contracts for service providers. Area Plan funding increased by \$111,577 but overall funding decreased by \$367,531 due to the elimination of Families First funding and Dignity at Home funding. We anticipate receiving additional money to distribute from the America First federal program and an increase from the state budget when passed. We anticipate receiving the additional funding in 2-3 months. Bottom line, most service providers are starting the year with less money.

### 4. Legal Services.

Bay Area Legal Services declined to renew their contract to provide no-cost legal services to seniors in Napa County. Legal Services of Northern CA is picking up the contract and will serve both counties.

### 5. Technology and Older Adults.

I attended a webinar about introducing technology to older adults to reduce isolation. Key take-aways:

- Seniors who received training on smart devices who were not contacted again for 6 months, reported going back to their landline because “something went wrong” and they became frustrated. Training needs to be continuous for older adults to adopt the new technology.
- Seniors must use technology daily or they will not adopt.
- Training must be in person or using the phone, not online.
- Senior Resources: Home Connect, Sourcewise, Seniorplanet.org, Cyber Seniors, oats.org
- “Aging with Attitude” new phrase.
- When seniors become more comfortable with technology, it takes the burden off the family caregivers.



## **6. Legislation**

Digital Equity Bill of Rights is the umbrella call to action by Sunne McPeak and others in the state legislature.

2 parts to digital legislation

Infrastructure

Deployment

AB 32 expands MediCal reimbursement to include reimbursing telehealth visits at the same rate as in person. Want to expand full reimbursement to all health plans.

Telehealth COVID study for mental health showed a 30% no-show for appointments (in person prior to COVID) to 0% no-show for telehealth appointments.

Solano Board of Supervisors approved unanimously, support for AB 98, Frazier bill for reusing durable medical equipment at the 4.27 meeting.

## **7. Nutrition Consultant Hired.**

CDA agreed to pay for a consultant to review senior nutrition in CA to quantify the current and future unmet need. C4A had been pitching the idea for months. The consultant will be hired by AAA in Ventura County and report to C4A and CDA. Goals are to quantify the unmet need for nutrition among older adults in CA and proposed solutions. This will allow C4A and CDA to ask for additional nutrition funding and flexibility from the state legislature.