

# South Bay Cities Council of Governments

## Senior Services Working Group Meeting Notes

Tuesday, July 26, 2022 @ 9:30 am, Zoom Meeting

Link to Meeting Video: [July 26th Senior Services Working Group Video](#)

### **Elected officials/representatives in attendance:**

Chair & Mayor Pro Tem Huff, Chair (Rolling Hills Estates, H.E.L.P); Councilmember Valentine (Hawthorne); Councilmember Uphoff (Lomita); Aracely Ruvalcaba (Representative Congress Member Barragan)

**Others in attendance:** Jacqueline Soriano (SCAN); Carol Kitabayashi, Marcia Salvary, Carol Patterson (Westside Pacific Villages); Rosalie Rapas (Beach Cities Health District); Rosemary Zavala (Carson); Diane Brown (Hawthorne); Christina Theobald, Linda Barentine (Gardena); Kambria Vint, Isobel Rodriguez (Hermosa Beach); Baz Devlia (Inglewood); Harriet Chase (League of Women Voters Beach Cities); Jacqueline Hernandez (Palos Verdes Library District), Marianne Propst, Laura Diepenbrock, Fran Wielin (PVP Village); McKenzie Bright (Rancho Palos Verdes); Bea Virobik (Focal Point on Aging Torrance); Patti Goldenson (Torrance); Ghislaine Davis (Torrance Commission on Aging, South Bay Village); Ana Abril (PATH); Kathy Hilberg (Manhattan Beach Jocelyn Center); Rosa Pineulas (Rolling Hills Estates); Therese Neustaedter (League of Women Voters); Laurie Ramey (MHALA); Ronson Chu, Laurie Jacobs, Jacki Bacharach, Steve Lantz (SBCCOG)

### 1. **Welcome and Introductions**

2. **Previous meeting notes** are posted on SBCCOG Senior Services Working Group webpage LINK: [May 24 Meeting Notes](#)

### 3. **PATH Update for SPA 8**

#### **Ana Abril, PATH Program Manager**

Ana provided an update on helping seniors experiencing homelessness. Currently they have 19 total senior cases; 3 have been placed in shelters, 7 are awaiting housing voucher matches, and 1 was just moved to recuperative care after living on the streets in her car for 15 years. Still focusing on the limited housing options, especially limited for seniors on a fixed income. People come into the program from referrals or from locating them in encampments on the streets by the outreach teams.

### 4. **Presentation on Independence at Home program with SCAN**

**Jacqueline (Jackie) Soriano**, Supervisor | Homeless Services Independence at Home (IAH), a SCAN community service,

Cell: 562-537-5471 Email: [JSoriano@scanhealthplan.com](mailto:JSoriano@scanhealthplan.com)

Link to Presentation: [Independence at Home Presentation](#)

Link to Independent at Home Supporting Documents:

- [IAH Medication Safety Program](#)



<https://www.facebook.com/SBCCOG/>



<https://twitter.com/SouthBayCCOG>

- [IAH Infographic](#)
- [IAH Insights Behavioral Health](#)
- [IAH Multipurpose Senior Services Program](#)

Jacqueline presented on the Independence at Home (IAH) program with SCAN.

**Please watch the meeting video and view the attachments for specific details.**

The IAH is a community service division of SCAN Health Plan that provides long-term services and supports (LTSS) addressing Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) needs in the community. They provide free services to the community-at-large – all seniors and caregivers are eligible. All services are customized home and community-based, addressing both health care and social needs. They service non-SCAN members only.

Q: Ghislaine Davis asked about costs for this program.

A: If they are a SCAN member, they must go through the SCAN health plan. It is no cost for those with independent healthcare or non-SCAN.

Q: Olivia Valentine asked about how to promote this program in each community

A: Jackie can reach out to each city to assist with marketing the program.

Q: Laurie Ramey asked about their plans to expand the SCAN health plan beyond Hollywood and Long Beach

A: She is not sure about the street medicine team expansion plan.

Q: Rosalie Rapas asked about the “deep cleaning” program.

A: Eligibility for this service is 55+ and be either at risk or homeless. Their team coordinates a cleaning team at no cost to help prepare for a housing inspection.

Q: Laurie Jacobs asked about the computer training.

A: They have a “Cyber Senior” center program to have a staff member go to a home with basic computer training on email, zoom, etc. all at no cost. This is also available for caregivers. Requirement is 55+.

Q: Britt Huff asked about the source of the funding.

A: The IAH program is funded by SCAN as a community benefit.

Q: Many asked about the SCAN Health plan and the State Funded Multi-Purpose Senior Services Program (see above link). We may do a future presentation on this topic.

## 5. **Update on Westside Pacific Village**

**Carol Kitabayashi, Board Secretary of Westside Pacific Village**

Contact information: [carol.kit@outlook.com](mailto:carol.kit@outlook.com)

Carol shared information on the recent changes to the Village program including reduced fees, low-income assistance for fees, and expansion to Inglewood and Hawthorne.

Link: [Westside Pacific Village Presentation](#)

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6. **Presenter for the 24-7 Senior Care Group** was not able to attend. Ronson gave a brief recap about the offering of shared housing for seniors and in-home services

through IHSS. They are an independent non-profit based in Orange County, just now moving into our area.

Website Link: [24-7 Senior Care Group](#)

## 7. Update from Legislative Offices

None presented at this meeting

## 8. SBCCOG Updates

### Jacki Bacharach, South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Jacki shared updates on SBCCOG actions which included:

- Very involved in a grant application to look at a needs assessment for all fiber broadband in the South Bay to address underserved areas. Seeking funding for neighborhood centers offering broadband services.
- The legislation for the housing trust is in the legislature however funding is still needed. A letter was sent to the state legislature that if there is a budget clean up bill, we would like them to put some money in there for this housing trust and for other programs identified. A housing trust will help cities build affordable housing.
- The SBCCOG is doing four studies with SCAG to promote housing. One of those studies is on Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) to determine if they are really affordable and are they serving the purpose of creating more affordable housing. Another study is on commercial redevelopment to identify possible housing opportunities. The last study is on a housing education forum for planning commissions and elected officials to review the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) and related topics in a 10-session course.
- The SBCCOG is working very hard on the Local Travel Network (LTN) by forming a committee to select the branding for signage and implementation. The LTN is a network for slow speed, zero emission vehicles to be used on 25 mph existing streets to share with automobiles to use our streets more efficiently and safely in the South Bay.
- Jacki mentioned that the SBCCOG will be voting at this week's board meeting to oppose the mandatory mask mandate. This zoom meeting starts at 6pm.

Q: Harriet asked where we are at with age-friendly city designations.

A: Ronson advises we don't have funding for this so are considering applying for a grant to pay for the work that needs to be done. We ask for help in finding a grant.

## 9. Round-robin member updates and announcements

- Isobel Rodriguez from Hermosa Beach announced that their "Green Belt" from Manhattan Beach to Redondo Beach is incorporating changes to make it more accessible to people with disabilities. This does not include bike accessibility, pedestrian only. They have also planted native plants in Hermosa. Isobel also mentioned that people, especially teenagers, need bike safety reminders.
- Ronson announced the Hermosa Beach Homeless Court opened last week to help people experiencing homelessness deal with criminal justice issues.
- Ghislaine Davis of the South Bay Village shared how much the seniors appreciated the Village volunteers helping them to get to vaccination appointments.
- Marianne Propst, the outgoing Executive Director of the PVP Village shared they now have 115 paying members, most looking for more community activities and connections. The Village helps with many services offering assistance. The

membership fee remains at \$675 and \$975 for a couple, however, offer a due subsidy plan as needed.

- Rosalie Rapas, interim Acting Manager of Beach Cities Health District Community Services Department, offered a reminder that they are a free care management service for beach cities residents age 60+ or 18-59 and disabled. Many changes are happening in their organization, so they are looking forward another year of growth as they are helping even more unduplicated clients.
- Patti Goldenson, the new Manager of Senior Services in Torrance, shared updates on the senior center opening up offering many programs. They are attached to Focal Point who is an amazing organization to help seniors. The Bartlett Center is now fully open offering craft and exercise programs.
- Jacqueline Hernandez, an adult services librarian in the Palos Verdes Library District announced the August 13<sup>th</sup> talk on Home Share South Bay. [Home Share South Bay Flyer](#)
- Rosa Pineulas, Community Services Supervisor for Rolling Hills Estates, shared they finished another round of senior care packages sending 80 packages to the community this time. They are moving along with a perimeter park path and working on outdoor equipment survey for seniors.
- Christina Theobald, Gardena Senior Bureau and Program Manager for Senior Services, shared updates such as they have resumed the in-person dining for seniors, have their excursion program for Seniors on the Go taking seniors to different places monthly such as to Dodger Games and the original Farmers Market at the Grove. They offer technology help classes, a monthly dinner with this month being “Christmas in July”, they are prepping for the November Senior Health Fair and a Casino Night fundraiser in mid-November.
- Laurie Jacobs announced the South Bay Cities Council of Governments will host a table at the August 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Update and Senior Briefing at the Carson Community Center from 9am to 2pm. [Senior Briefing and Health Fair Flyer](#)
- SBCCOG Interview on Home Sharing [KCRW NPR Home Share South Bay Interview](#)
- Ronson shared information on the California Mortgage Relief program to help those who may have fallen behind on mortgage payments due to COVID hardships: [California Mortgage Relief flyer](#)
- Laurie Ramey, Senior Director of Outreach and Street Based Medicine with Mental Health America, oversees 5 outreach teams servicing SPA 8. Her teams are all multi-disciplinary teams that each include a social worker, substance abuse counselors, and someone with lived experience. In addition to mental health, they provide services to those experiencing homelessness including mediation management, financial guidance as well as full-service programs. The way to refer people to her is through the LA-HOP.org portal. [LA-HOP.org Portal Link](#)

## **10. Adjournment to September 27**

**2022 Meeting Schedule – January 25, March 22, May 24, July 26, September 27**

*Notes submitted by Laurie Jacobs*