

**Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging (M4A)**

**Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 18, 2015**

The M4A Board of Directors met on Wednesday, November 18, 2015. Board members in attendance were Rev. Glenn Bynum, Mr. Red Turnipseed, Mr. Reginald Holloway, Mr. Billy Luster, and Mr. Richard Lovelady. M4A Staff members in attendance: Ms. Carolyn Fortner, Ms. Debbie Battles, Ms. Laura King and Ms. Lisa Adams. Ms. Aileen Hill was present over teleconference. Ms. Ashley McGee of None Suffers Lack was a guest.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Lovelady at 10:20am. To achieve a quorum Commissioner Jon Parker participated via telephone and gave his proxy to Mr. Reginald Holloway.

- A. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Holloway and seconded by Turnipseed. All others were in favor; no one opposed.
- B. A motion to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2015 Board Meeting was made by Mr. Holloway and seconded by Mr. Turnipseed. All others were in favor and no one opposed.
- C. Executive Director's Report by Carolyn Fortner
  - a. Annual Operating Element for FY2016

The FY2016 Annual Operating Element draft was approved at the last meeting; there were no changes to the final Annual Operating Element which was mailed to Board members at least two weeks in advance to give them time to review. Ms. Fortner provided an overview and discussion.
  - b. FY2016 Conflict of Interest Form and Board Self Evaluation Forms

Conflict of Interest Forms and Board Self Evaluation Forms were first presented to Board members in the September meeting. Those still needing to complete such forms had copies in their packets to complete.
  - c. Board Training February 2016

Ms. Fortner reviewed the tentative agenda and description of this training. She reiterated that the Board of Director's Manual, By-Laws and M4A program overview will be the content of the training. She elaborated that focus will also be placed on Medicaid Managed Care with a proposed invitation to Commissioner Morrison. She asked Board members to submit to her any topics they were interested in by way of Board training. Ms. Fortner also discussed how this training meets ADSS's requirement for (annual) Board training (as per ADSS's new AAA Monitoring Tool) and establishes M4A's compliance with this requirement.

d. **Advisory Council Meeting Schedule and M4A Board Meeting Schedule for FY2016**

Ms. Fortner presented schedules for both the Advisory Council Meetings and M4A Board Meetings. She extended an invitation to Board members to attend the Advisory Council meetings and the importance of their contribution at Advisory Council Meetings.

e. **ADSS Memo Regarding FY2016 Meal Prices**

A handout was presented for the Board members to review. Ms. Fortner addressed the upcoming 2.7% meal price increase and its potential impact on the people receiving meals and especially those senior citizens on the nutrition waiting list. She introduced Ms. Laura King and Ms. Ashley McGee to present solutions to feed senior citizens who are on the nutrition waiting list.

Ms. Laura King, Nutrition & Transportation Supervisor, discussed the needs and deficits of her program's population. She has re-evaluated her approach to defining nutritional need. Previously, she only looked at nutritional risk scores. Now, she will also consider age of the senior citizen on the waiting list. She believes that this approach will save lives and she will continue to focus on younger seniors with acute needs. Ms. King distributed flyers to the Board members; she asked that they distribute flyers to faith-based and civic organizations to encourage them to donate to feed hungry seniors. She also distributed a list of churches by county to each Board member and asked for their assistance to reach out to these churches to make members aware of the waiting lists for food and to encourage churches and church members to make a donation to help feed senior citizens.

Ms. Ashley McGee is co-founder and spokesperson for None Suffers Lack Ministry, a 501 c 3 organization. She gave the history of her organization and its purpose. She discussed the need for partnership and the drive to meet her ministry's goal so that none suffers lack. Because of certain restrictions on M4A's ability to encourage community donations to the meal program, Ms. McGee, under the auspices of her nonprofit ministry, has been contacting churches and civic groups. In addition, donors are encouraged to donate through NSLM and designate for senior meals. During the Board meeting, Ms. McGee awarded M4A a check for \$1,300 dollars to feed seniors on the nutrition waiting list.

D. **Program Status Reports**

Ms. Battles presented a handout outlining the productivity and goals for each program and also the aggregate report of numbers. ADRC continues to work diligently and through special project is launching a drive to collect weather specific items for clients in need. Alabama Cares continues to provide respite to those in need as well as resources and support. Health and Wellness is meeting its goals. The Wellness Coordinator, Mr. Butho Ncube, is project manager for AmeriCorps and he is overseeing 5 AmeriCorps members who are working to increase capacity in each of M4A's five counties. Medicaid Waiver filled all the needed slots before fiscal year end, although the program was still significantly under-budget. Nutrition works tirelessly to feed seniors and address the needs of senior citizens on the growing waitlist. The Ombudsman exceeded his program goals through more visits and more complaint resolution. SenioRx exceeded the goal for new clients served and saved an estimated 3 million dollars on prescriptions. SCSEP has reduced its waitlist by 60%. The SHIP Coordinator is diligently

working in the community during open enrollment and has exceeded all her goals. AESAP served 50% more than its target goal. Finally, Ms. Battles reported that the TEACH program was presented at the SE4A conference and was well received.

E. Fiscal Report (Aileen Hill)

Ms. Aileen Hill provided the fiscal report to the Board. She began by explaining the restrictions on M4A's ability to generate funds and the advantage of partnering with a nonprofit who could provide donors with a tax deduction. Ms. Hill then provided an overview of each program, providing information on how the program funds were expended and whether the program was over-budget or under-budget. Medicaid Waiver Services was under budget but the ADRC was over-budget as well as SHIP and Title V. M4A was covered by over-expenditures in SSAI Title V because of Ms. Hill's and Ms. Baker's diligence to submit a "wish list" to SSAL. Ms. Hill discussed budget cuts and forecasted possible adjustments. She closed by encouraging M4A to live outside the box, to work as a team, to work innovatively, and to work with a vision.

F. Old Business

A motion to approve the Final FY16 Annual Operating Element was made by Mr. Turnipseed and seconded by Rev. Bynum. All were in favor.


G. New Business:

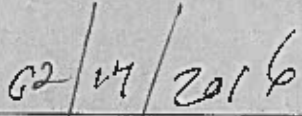
A motion to approve the FY2016 Preliminary Budget was made by Mr. Turnipseed and seconded by Rev. Bynum. All were in favor.

There being no additional or new business, Mr. Lovelady asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was made by Mr. Turnipseed and seconded by Reverend Bynum. All were in favor and none were opposed. Board proceeded to Thanksgiving Luncheon with M4A staff members.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 10:00 am at M4A.

Approved:

  
Richard Lovelady, M4A Board Chairman

  
Date