

City of Albuquerque Department of Senior Affairs Advisory Council



Anna M. Sanchez, Director

714 Seventh Street SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

DSA Advisory Council Meeting
Zoom Meeting
June 21, 2021

Minutes

- I. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Evan Thompson – 12:06 pm
 - a. Present: Evan Thompson, Louis Carlentine, Lucy Lopez, Steve Borbas, Dubra Karnes-Padilla, Jennifer Roth, Havens Levitt, Onastine Jaramillo, Allison Weber, Bobbi Carmona-Young, and Henry Shonerd
 - b. Absent: none
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Evan motioned for approval of May minutes, Lou seconds. May minutes approved.
- III. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Evan motions for approval of June agenda, Lou seconds. June agenda approved.
- IV. Public Participation
 - a. No public present during this virtual meeting.
- V. Welcome new Deputy Director – Chris Sanchez
 - a. Anna introduce Chris Sanchez as the Deputy Director for the Department; Chris has over 20 years' experience in the public sector. He has done a lot of work with youth and families and has a passion for working with older adults. Chris stated that he was raised by his grandmother and he has a special place in his heart for senior advocacy and is looking forward to working side by side with the staff members and meet each of the council members in person.
- VI. DSA Performance Measures – Kyle Kemp
 - a. Anna reported that Kyle's role has been extremely helpful during COVID as he has tracked the changes the Department has had to make and the data to measure the impact of services and programs and to make sure DSA is reporting its numbers correctly. He helped with input for the initial COVID report the department put out a few months ago. Kyle shared the reports for the council members to view, the report included data through the end of June and encompassed a count of DSA's major services to include congregate meals, emergency meals, home-delivered meals, transportation, case management, home services, and information and assistance/referrals.
 - b. Kyle also showed graphs that displayed the percentage of units and clients served pre-COVID vs. COVID to show the difference. Steve asked if reports could be provided in terms of numbers rather than percentage to paint a better picture for

- those that may not be as knowledgeable on who DSA normally serve or what they provide. Kyle will change the graphs and Jenifer will send out to council members.
- c. Kyle discussed DSA's proposed performance measures for the upcoming fiscal year and covered what attributes will be tracked to measure outcomes and achievements. Evan asked if the COVID-related data is something they can share with the public? Anna responded that council members are welcome to share the department's initial report with the public as need be. DSA is working on a good snapshot of the annual report which will include accomplishments that can also be shared, when available.

VII. Administrative Reports

- a. Nutrition/Transportation Division – Tim Martinez
 - a. Tim reported that his team is focusing on the transition to fully reopening and resuming normal operations. Transportation will resume with 5 fixed routes to the centers and averaging 22 trips per day. The meal sites are slowly coming back on line, including Bernalillo County sites; Raymond G and South Valley Senior Centers, and Tijeras Senior Center. Onastine asked if DSA should partner with community centers to provide seniors and their grandchildren that resource? Tim responded that he is working on an MOU with Family and Community Services to add Westgate Community Center. Anna added that there is a total of 4, including Westgate. DSA dropped Thomas Bell Community Center over the last year for poor performance, DSA will revisit if necessary.
- b. Recreation Division – Nikki Peone
 - a. Nikki reported that her team has also been focusing on transitioning to welcome folks back on June 7. Looking forward to fully reopening on Tuesday, July 6, when folks will no longer be able to take their meals to go. For now, the lunch option is to dine in at the center or come in to the center and take the meal to go. Roughly 65% of folks are taking the meals to go. As they were making decisions on how to proceed they recognized that socialization is just as important as a nutritious meal to this population. They have been working on communication to send out to folks to remind them of the benefits and purpose of the centers. Nikki shared the first flyer that will be going out.
 - b. Nikki shared that they will be holding open houses at the centers. The centers will be welcoming back returning folks as well as seeing some new faces and signing up new members. Jenifer will send a calendar of what is scheduled so far, if council members can join.
- c. Director – Anna Sanchez reported
 - a. Anna reported that DSA will be reconnecting with journal as in the past, they had a portion dedicated to the activities calendar and featuring the monthly menu. DSA is also working on more targeted marketing, now with Denise on board, with some surrounding community organizations that can help spread the word on services. DSA is also working on filling the vacancies of some of the most significant positions. Anna reminded folks that DSA is waiving the membership fee for current members due to COVID. There is also an option for new members who cannot afford it to waive the fee. Lastly, DSA is watching the numbers closely for the youth program, they are currently at

approximately 80% capacity, and has asked the council members to communicate that availability out. Onastine commented that the reopening is great, especially for those seniors that don't have air conditioning in their home. She also commented that given the communication DSA is putting out regarding services, a commercial is not a bad idea to circulate.

- b. Anna reported that DSA is working with KRQE to air a 30 second commercial. The money came from funds from AAA so it had to be social services focused. It will run July-August and will highlight the assistance line for the community to call and get their questions answered.
- c. Tim and his team have been awarded a federal grant of \$75,000 to implement a local food buying program for DSA to undertake with Aging. The goal of the dollars is to buy from local vendors for the meal program.
- d. DSA is preparing to open the South Valley Respite Center. It has not yet been occupied by the provider, Cornucopia, due to COVID. It will serve about 14 individuals at this location in about a month or so. Jenifer will invite council members to the grand opening when the date is confirmed.

VIII. Council Member Reports

- a. Bobbi asked when we could begin meeting in person? Jenifer responded that we received the guidance from City Boards and Commissions to begin meeting in person. She will send a revised calendar of meetings out for the remainder of the year with in person locations, but will continue with a hybrid-model for a few more months. Jenifer will also send the reports that Kyle shared to all council members to review more closely.
- b. Bobbi reported that the renovations at Los Volcanes Senior Center look amazing, it looks like a brand-new building. The new floors, new furniture, she is very proud to be a part of the center. Participation is pretty slow, she thinks the commercial will help with getting people informed, but what else could they do to let people know the centers are reopen? Anna responded that in addition to the commercial, the department will begin working on a direct mail piece out to the community. They would have to look into the cost. One thing Denise is working on is getting an informational insert added into the water utility bill from DSA highlighting services and programs.
- c. Lucy thanked Anna and the Department for everything they have done for the community during the pandemic, from feeding seniors to helping them battle isolation with the drive-thru coffees. Anna thanked Lucy and mentioned that these comments are shared with City Councilors to continue to highlight the work of the department. They are provided with quarterly strategic reports.

IX. Advisory Council Business

- a. None at this time.

X. Old/New Business

- a. None at this time.

XI. Announcements: Upcoming Events, Etc.

- a. None at this time.

XII. Adjournment – Evan calls for motion to adjourn, Steve seconds. Meeting was adjourned at 1:02 pm.