

## **LONG TERM CARE COORDINATING COUNCIL (LTCCC) MINUTES**

*Guiding the development of an integrated network of home, community-based, and institutional long term care services for older adults and adults with disabilities.*

**DATE:** Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 **TIME:** 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** remote Zoom meeting

**Present:** Alex Jackson, Akiko Takeshita, Amie Haltman-Carson, Ana Ayala, Anne Romero, Bernadette Navarro-Simeon, Bill Hirsch, , Eileen Kunz, , Fiona Hinze, Jacy Cohen, Jennifer Walsh, Jessica Lehman, Julie Lifshay, Kelly Dearman, Laura Liesem, Marie Jobling, Mark Burns, Michael Blecker, Samantha Hogg, Sandy Mori, Shireen McSpadden, Susie Smith, Traci Dobronravova

**Absent:** Benson Nadell, Cathy Davis, Cathy Spensley, Erin McAuliff\*, Jesus Guillen, Margaret Baran, Michi Yukawa, Patty Clement-Cihak, Ramona Davies, Valorie Villela

### **AGENDA**

**WELCOME.**

**ROLL CALL, MINUTES & INTRODUCTIONS.**

**PRESENTATION & PANEL: The Impact of COVID-19 on the Health and Dignity of People with Disabilities and Older adults**

**Presentation by** Dr. Anna Chodos provided an overview of the community impact and spread of COVID within the San Francisco within skilled nursing homes, assisted living and other congregate settings. Presentation is included with minutes.

**Following Dr. Chodos' presentation, four panelists expanded on the topic, shared their own experiences and highlighted where they experienced gaps or challenges.**

**Panelists include:**

Wendy, a local community member, shared her experience of the level of stress and uncertainty this time brings. She mentioned concerns including the shared spaces programs (the overcrowding and lack of accessibility); lack of access to technology equipment and/or high-speed internet, which limits people's ability to engage remotely; the changing bus lines and increasing costs of public transportation is challenging; and the overall increase in isolation and loneliness. Healthcare options have been helpful (zoom and phone appts) but are also challenging, as it requires additional capacity to fully capture the info (as opposed to requesting a visit summary when doing an in-person visit). Also, a burden for patients when clinics do not have a patient portal.

Joana Mattero, works with caregivers and their families at Mission Neighborhood Center (MNC) and talked about the stress and immediate needs of family caregivers at the beginning of the epidemic. Depending on the different types of caregivers, family

members, friends or paid caregivers, staff were seeing a different response to problem solving and addressing needs initially, based on the relationship. For example, it was hard to know if paid caregivers were seeing other patients, following protocols, etc. Staff have also seen increased isolation and depression among folks. Discussed benefits of technology but also the concern about the older adults that do not have caregivers or support that can help facilitate connections, exercise, etc.

Carmel Dolcine-Joseph (staff with Alma Via) shared her experience as a staff member from an assisted living community. Talked about their protocols and discussed that when they did have outbreaks, how they handled it and noticed that it was often the result of residents coming back from the hospital. Another county has a weekly check-in between their DPH and facilities to monitor about legislation, challenges, etc. wondered if that would be a viable option for San Francisco.

Benito Del Toro (Executive Director with Alma Via) discussed broadly how the COVID pandemic has shut everything down for their facility and residents, including: limited visitation, residents stayed in apartments with staff bringing them food, etc. Seeing a big difference among residents by being able to allow more engagement and safe visitation.

There was a robust Q&A for the presenters although not enough time for the Council to really determine possible next steps. The LTCCC will hold a meeting **December 10<sup>th</sup> 1-3pm** to further discuss the information shared and potentially develop policy next steps.

**Announcements:**

Next Mayor's Office on Disability Council meeting will be Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> and more information can be found here: <https://sfgov.org/sfmdc>

**Add public comments:** There were additional comments and suggestions based on the presentation and panelists.

**Meeting adjourned.**

Meeting minutes and agendas can be found here:  
<https://www.sfhhsa.org/about/commissions-committees/long-term-care-coordinating-council-ltccc>

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>