

DIGNITY FUND OVERSIGHT AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 21, 2022; 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Via In-person and Zoom conference Call

Minutes

Attending: Marcy Adelman, Ramona Davies, Jessica Lehman, Sandy Mori, Allen Ng, Monique Zumba, Wanda Jung, Martha Kunuzan, Diane Lawrence, Julia Brockman, Melissa McGee (DAS), Kelly Dearman (DAS), Cindy Kauffman (DAS), Stefanie Wen (DAS)

Call to Order: Ms. Davies called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Roll Call: Ms. McGee called roll. The unexcused absence was Margie Baron.

Approval of the Agenda: Members approved the OAC meeting agenda for March 21, 2022, with the addition of discussion in regards to future OAC meeting dates.

Approval of the Minutes: Members approved the November 15, 2021, meeting minutes.

2021-22 Dignity Fund Community Needs Assessment Presentation by RDA

Please see attached materials for Dignity Fund Community Needs Assessment, 2021-22

- Project Overview
- Methods
- Participant Profiles
- Equity Analysis Findings
- Gaps Analysis Findings and Recommendations

Service Providers Working Group

Mr. Gallagher stated that RDA had identified the exact high priority needs at the Service Providers Working Group. He briefly described and emphasized these factors, and echoed what he mentioned in the previous report. Because there was no comparison of survey responses from the general San Francisco population, we don't know who's not being heard.

- Significant priority needs are access to information, referrals, and services.
- Outreach and education are perpetual challenges.
- Pandemic has heightened the necessity of digital access and hybrid programming for older individuals.
- Major concern of accessible transportation for elder and disabled adults around the city
- Housing crisis for marginalized populations, particularly LGBT, and long term survivors of HIV is a priority
- Increased need for mental health treatments among older adults in San Francisco

Nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair

OAC was excited to announce Ramona Davies as Board Chair and Sandy Mori as Vice-Chair consecutively.

Elinor Lurie Recognition

We appreciated Mrs. Lurie's presence and wisdom from the beginning, and it's wonderful to have her perspective as she expressed the topic in a way that advances us. Her voice will be missed.

Beverly Taylor Recognition

Mrs. Taylor is a significant loss for the Dignity Fund Group and the community. Many people were impressed by the variety of things she devoted herself to, like her community, including her church, her civic duties as a member of the Advisory Council, and direct service initiatives. We enjoyed how Beverly nurtured us, and it was a pleasure to have known such a great person.

Public Comment

Mr. Guillen commended the Dignity Fund Community Needs Assessment, and how it shows the diversity and inclusion of its participants. Mr. Guillen stated that first, we need to stop Asian Hate. Second, it's essential to pay attention and connect with the transgender community more. Third, minority communities have limited access to senior services, let alone for people who have HIV, are over 50 years old, have mental health issues, etc. Mr. Guillen asked that everyone please keep their ears and minds open, so they can keep hearing and listening to other voices. The last thing he added was reminding people to do wellness checkups is crucial, especially during Covid.

Mrs. Lurie shared a few opinions as well. She thought we should do more outreach to ministers' communities to address people's needs as they may know better. She believed that more information available online and on Zoom would be beneficial, however not for people who cannot reach through electronics. She suggested advertising on radio stations or buses could be accessible. She would also want to see more significant interdepartmental interaction between DAS and the Department of Behavioral Health to aid people with mental health issues and their caregivers.

No Announcements

Next meeting: Monday, 05/16/2022, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Via In-person and Zoom conference Call