

# LAWRENCE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVOCACY COUNCIL ON AGING

Independence Inc., 2001 Haskell Avenue, Lawrence, KS 6044

Minutes of November 21, 2017

**Attending:** Mary Johnson, Ellen Paulsen, Susan Harris (JAAA-Topeka), Brenda Nunez, Saunny, Lisa Barnes, Administrator (Medicalodges) Kathy Bockrath, RN (Medicalodges), Tamara Cash, Marvel Williamson (Senior Resource Center), Daejah Martin (JAAA-Lawrence), Jenn Preston (Project Lively), Marlene Merrill (League of Women Voters)

Note – we had new attendees as the meeting, so I added their organizations to their names.

Judy welcomed all attendees and talked about passing the chair and secretary to new people.

Program- Community Village Lawrence – Judy introduced the staff and board members. The staff provided updates on progress of the village since inception.

- The LDCACA in 2012 formed an exploratory committee to see if Lawrence residents would be open to a village. From the first Town Hall meeting in July, 2012, public meetings gained momentum until Community Village Lawrence opened for business in January 2016 with new members and services.
- There are currently over 50 members with more applications arriving every week. Volunteers number 90 plus. (note- on Nov 30 at 11:30am, a volunteer performed the 1,000<sup>th</sup> service for members)
- Ellen Paulsen, CVL board member provided information on the Village to Village national convention which she attended in October.

Judy announced that she had received a \$100 check from Lucy McCallister as a donation to LDCACA. Because the group does not have a need for funds, Judy will call her about directing the money to a different organization.

CARE ACT legislation – Our group needs to help educate our community about the CARE Act and how it will benefit those who are hospitalized. AARP will have advertising money from the national office to assist in the education efforts. The legislation takes effect July 1, 2018 so we have 6 months to hold educational meetings.

## Discussion

- Education programs can be held at the Senior Resource Center.
- Daejah JAAA – said that people respond well to panels as it is easier to engage the audience.
- CHAMPS sites, Assisted living places, Senior communities
- Tamara mentioned the Senior Resource Health fair in the spring
- Ellen suggested that we could have tables with information for pickup.
- Judy said that information should be at the rehab centers. She also mentioned that the hospitals did not like the bill and home health organizations were afraid of losing business.
- Susan mentioned the caregiver support people need this information.
- Marvel suggested that an event that targets the professionals and highlights the difference between discharge planning and the CARE Act.

The next meeting will be December 19 at 11:30 for eat and greet so bring your lunch and visit.

- December speaker will be Shannon Oury – Housing Authority

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Johnson, Secretary

### **Breakout groups:**

**Transportation** – Brenda, MaryJ, Ellen, Dawn

**Caregiving** – Michele D, Tamara, Judy

**Accessibility** – Saunny, \_\_\_\_\_?

**Affordable Housing** – Tamara, Brenda, Dawn