

Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging (M4A)
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 29, 2015

The M4A Board of Directors met on Wednesday, July 29, 2015. Board members in attendance: Mr. Red Turnipseed, Mr. Billy Luster, Mr. Dan Acker, Mr. Reggie Holloway, Mr. Richard Lovelady, and Ms. Lee Ann Clark. M4A Staff members in attendance: Ms. Carolyn Fortner, Ms. Debbie Battles, Ms. Lisa Ranieri, and Ms. Aileen Hill. Billy Cox and Scott Grier from Aldridge Borden were presenting visitors.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Lovelady at 10:18 am. A quorum was declared. There were no proxies.

- A. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Turnipseed and seconded by Mr. Acker. All others were in favor; no one opposed.
- B. A motion to approve the minutes from the April 22, 2015 Board Meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Turnipseed and seconded by Mr. Acker. All others were in favor and no one opposed.
- C. Report from Billy Cox of Aldridge Borden: A folder was presented describing findings. The conclusions covered Medicaid Waiver, Aging and the Senior Aide Programs. The overall findings were satisfactory. The report shows an unmodified opinion, internal control and compliance. Mr. Cox presented highlights indicating M4A is in good financial standing at this time. He also discussed RSA generally.
- D. Fiscal Report by Ms. Aileen Hill
Ms. Hill began with an overview of each fiscal year since 2013. Budget cuts are anticipated. Ms. Hill discussed the connection between less funding resulting in serving less people and the rising cost of services per person again resulting in serving less people. She discussed the emergent need for proactivity in program assurance through obtaining more grants and the development of unique partnerships. Ms. Hill summarized Aldridge Borden's findings. She also discussed RSA factors.
- E. Executive Director's Report by Carolyn Fortner
 1. Updates:
 - A. Medicaid Waiver: Carolyn Fortner outlined the progression of the probation notice as evidenced by dated letters, emails and reports. M4A's corrective action plan has been accepted by ADSS. There will be a Medicaid Waiver Fiscal audit on August 10, 2015.
 - B. Medicaid Managed Care for Long Term Care: Integrated Care Networks: The Board was presented with two handouts which discussed the upcoming challenges for Alabama's Area Agencies on Aging. The first handout was a PowerPoint developed by AUM which outlined considerations for the Area Agencies on Aging to address in

order to compete in the new Medicaid Managed Care markets. The second handout was done by ADSS and outlines SB431 which creates the Integrated Care Networks for Long-term Care Medicaid Managed Care.

- C. FY16 General Fund Budget: Ms. Hill presented information on potential federal cuts to senior services and projected these as to possible impact on M4A. In addition, Ms. Fortner stated that the legislature was proposing a 9% cut to senior services with potentially deeper cuts (up to 50%) to SeniorRx.
- D. ADSS Monitoring Visit - June 16-18 2015: Ms. Fortner provided a summary of the ADSS monitoring visit. The summary was based on feedback from the coordinators and feedback M4A coordinators received from their ADSS counterparts during the monitoring visit. An official report has not been submitted by ADSS.
- E. Nutrition and Senior Centers: ENP Policy 13.0: Ms. Fortner explained that during the monitoring visit by ADSS, the state nutrition coordinator referred the M4A nutrition coordinator to ENP Policy 13.0 which outlines considerations for the Area Agencies on Aging and communities who want to move, change, or start a senior nutrition center funded by federal meal program. The State Unit on Aging (ADSS) must be given 30-day prior written notice and a report of relevant considerations and statistics in order to approve/disapprove the proposed change in status. ENP 13.0 is new as of FY15; however, Ms. Fortner explained that M4A is required to comply and this new policy would affect Cordova, Columbiana, and Hayden.

2. Staff News:

- A. Aileen Hill is relocating and will be working remotely to support fiscal as needed.
- B. Sharon Echols' mother passed away and hence she was not present at ADSS nor available to call/send her normal reminders to the Board members. A sympathy card was presented to Board members to sign.

3. Advisory Councils:

- A. M4A continues to partner with the University of Alabama and the Alabama Research Institute on Aging (ARIA formerly the Center for Mental Health and Aging).
- B. SHIP has a 5 county list of Medicare Open Enrollments.

F. Program Report by Ms. Debbie Battles

Ms. Battles spoke on each program. ADRC has a streamlined process utilizing PeerPlace software. Maranda Johnson was promoted to Programs Manager and will continue to supervise the ADRC team. The Farmer's Market participation has increased due to Ms. Johnson's outreach strategies. There is proposed legislation to eliminate the vouchers in 2016. Alabama Cares is a consistent program. Health and Wellness was awarded the AmeriCorps Grant. One person will be assigned to each county and to promote Wellness, Disaster/Emergency Planning, Home Safety, Preventive Services, outreach, and to develop partnerships. M4A will provide local funds as cash match for AmeriCorps. Ms. Alexia Barbour will assist Butho Ncube, the project manager, as many of the responsibilities of the AmeriCorps participants will enhance the senior centers and the nutrition program, which are

functions of the nutrition department. Medicaid Waiver has slots open due to deaths and nursing home admissions. Ms. Battles explained the process of placement on the program and discussed peak times to plan ahead to anticipate the slots availability. Nutrition served more clients this year. The Ombudsman Program is reduced to 1 staff member and Mr. Lewis is satisfactorily meeting the needs of the program as a department of one. SenioRx is rising to the challenges of increasing unduplicated clients they serve and an action plan is in place. SCSEP can boast that at June's month end the program met and exceeded goals for SSAI and M4A is anticipating the same report from ADSS. SHIP has increased client contacts and Mr. Shackelford and Ms. Jones, both SHIP volunteers, will be inducted into the Alabama Senior Citizen Hall of Fame on August 16, 2015 for their community work. They were nominated by Ms. Andrea Carter (SHIP Coordinator) for their excellent work through the SHIP program. Definitions and numerical findings were attached for the aggregate report. Ms. Battles discussed and presented a video presentation explaining and demonstrating the TEACH Program.

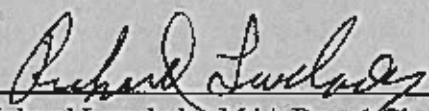
G. Old Business: None

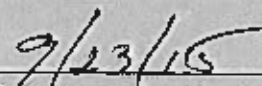
H. New Business: Mr. Lovelady asked for a motion to pass a resolution to acknowledge Ms. Aileen Hill and commend her for her service to the M4A Board of Directors, staff, and community in her fiscal position. This motion was made by Mr. Turnipseed and seconded by Mr. Holloway. There was no opposition; the motion was carried.

There being no additional business, Mr. Lovelady asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was made by Mr. Turnipseed and seconded Mr. Holloway. All were in favor and no one opposed.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 10:00 am at M4A.

Approved:


Richard Lovelady, M4A Board Chairman


Date