

Advisory Council meeting minutes

July 25, 2024

Present: Larry Kudej, Art Staed, Kay Fisk, Don Kline, Marianne Hanshaw, Judi Hertle

Excused: Evans Waller

Staff: Harrison March

The Chair being absent, Harrison March called the meeting to order shortly after 1 p.m. Those present introduced themselves.

Acceptance of Agenda

No changes proposed to the agenda.

Consideration of the meeting minutes for May 2024

Don Kline motioned to approve the minutes for May 2024, Judi Hertle second. Motion passed, 6-0.

Agency Report

Harrison March provided the agency report:

- Harrison thanked all for accommodating a new meeting setup, as he hosted from Washington following a meal at the Encore Café site.
- Heritage AAA is happy to announce the hiring of Anna Slife to the nutrition team. The agency is once again fully staffed.
- Caregiver Wellness Day is scheduled for November 4. Registration will open at the beginning of September. Kay Fisk and Don requested promotional materials for the event, which Harrison will share when available.

Review Meeting Calendar

Harrison reviewed a proposed meeting calendar for the coming year. Items of note included a hybrid format, new meeting locations around the Heritage service area, and 'open office hours' during months with no meeting. There being no comments, the schedule was approved.

Election of Officers

All current officers are eligible to return to their positions: Evans Waller as Chair and Kay Fisk as Vice-Chair. Judi motioned to retain current officers, Larry Kudej second. Motion passed, 6-0.

Local Elected Official Position

Harrison shared that Rep. Art Staed expressed his openness to inviting a new Elected Official to the Advisory Council. Rep. Staed is happy to remain on the group, but is also willing to transition in a new person if the interest is there. Heritage has a couple of possible representatives in mind, and Harrison asked members to consider their local officials too. Some of the decision making will depend on the result of November's elections.

County Updates

Benton: Judi attended the County Fair and hosted Heritage info at the ISU Extension booth. She estimated attendance was down this year, which Harrison said he has heard across the region.

Cedar: Harrison reported the group is making plans for its annual fall fundraiser after another year attending the County Fair.

Johnson: Larry shared an upcoming event as part of the educational series honoring former Heritage AAA volunteer Bob Welsh. Monday's event is on Medicaid Eligibility, and the group is planning a fraud awareness event before the holiday season as well. The Older Iowans Legislature meeting is on Sept. 16 and interested people can contact Larry or Kay for information.

Jones: Harrison attended National Night Out to support the efforts of local law enforcement and participate in outreach with other local non-profits.

Linn: Kay reiterated Larry's support for the Older Iowan's Legislature and recommended attendance. She also shared about a survey conducted by Horizons regarding a new senior center facility in Cedar Rapids.

Washington: Don and Marianne said today's Encore Café went very well with strong attendance, a nice program by Harrison and a bountiful HACAP produce pantry. Harrison added that he will be at Festival Latino in Washington next weekend.

Iowa: Harrison has scheduled a couple presentations with local caregiver support groups and is part of a new coalition of service providers for older adults. The latter group meets quarterly and is just getting off the ground.

Annual Orientation

Harrison reviewed the Advisory Council's annual orientation. Copies were sent previously, but if you need another please don't hesitate to ask.

Open Agenda

No items presented.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:15 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 26 at 1 pm at the Heritage AAA office or via Zoom.

Advisory Council meeting minutes

September 26, 2024

Present: Evans Waller, Judi Hertle, Shirley Geadelmann, Marianne Hanshaw, Kay Fisk

Excused: Larry Kudej

Staff: Harrison March, Laura Kriegermeier

Evans Waller called the meeting to order shortly after 1 p.m. Those present introduced themselves.

Acceptance of Agenda

No changes proposed to the agenda.

Consideration of the meeting minutes for July 2024

No changes proposed to the July meeting minutes. Motion to approve tabled due to no quorum.

Agency Report

Harrison March provided the agency report:

- Heritage AAA wrapped up its Community Needs Assessment with a great number of responses. He thanked members for their help distributing the surveys. Evans asked if anything in particular stood out after initial review. Harrison said three early observations included prevalence of loneliness/isolation, similar priority needs for older adults to adults living with disabilities and counties that may be priorities for more education.
- Registration is open for Caregiver Wellness Day, Heritage's annual event for caregivers. He will send more information via email.
- Heritage had a staff retreat earlier this month which included a visit from staff at Iowa's Aging and Disability Services. Heritage is happy to have a positive relationship with counterparts at the state level and wants to continue open and healthy communication.

Program Report: Elder Rights

Laura Kriegermeier, Elder Rights Coordinator, provided the report:

- Laura's position involves screening the Elder Rights referrals that come to the agency, providing community education about elder abuse prevention and casework.
- Data for the previous year was reviewed, including: 89% increase in cases over the past 5 years; 74% increase in rural Victims of Crime referrals over the past 5 years; most common type is self-neglect, followed by financial exploitation.
- Many cases have multiple kinds of abuse, for example someone being financially exploited and physically abused.
- Seeing lots of scams that are targeting churches lately, so please always beware of those asking for money or personal information online or over the phone.
- Evans asked if recent elder abuse laws are having any local effects. Laura said the new laws have been a positive step forward, but there is still progress to be made. Many county attorneys are declining to press charges on cases that they perceive as family disputes rather than abuse.
- Members thanked Laura for her time and her work to assist some of Heritage's most vulnerable consumers.

Service Data Review

Harrison reviewed caseload data trends for Information Services, Options Counseling and Case Management. The overall theme is that numbers are still very high, but at least are holding steady instead of growing at a dramatic pace like previous years. See provided handouts for data or contact Harrison if you need a new copy.

County Updates

Benton: Judi Hertle attended a program on scam awareness at the Vinton Library that had good information. She recommended programs on this topic, as they usually get a good and engaged crowd.

Cedar: Shirley Geadelmann reported the senior center had a successful supper fundraiser recently. After elections in November, they will invite legislators to speak at lunch about issues concerning seniors.

Johnson: Harrison shared that Johnson County is planning a panel event on scam awareness with speakers from Heritage AAA and other local partners.

Jones: no update at this time

Linn: Kay Fisk shared the Older Iowans Legislature met earlier this month with good participation and informative guest speakers. The state is facing some complex issues this year, including codes/staffing requirements for nursing homes.

Washington: Marianne Hanshaw echoed Kay's thoughts on care center staffing: it's crucial for quality care, but there are big challenges too. Marianne added that Encore Café in Washington today was another great meal.

Iowa: Heritage staff have joined two new local workgroups: Harrison is attending meetings for ICOA (Iowa County Older Adults) and Kimi Hambright has joined a suicide prevention task force.

Open Agenda

Kay shared about a scam text message that she received during the meeting: it alleged that she had unpaid highway tolls and told her to provide payment. She had not previously traveled via tollway, so it was clearly a scam. Marianne said she gets similar messages often.

Evans asked if there are presentations available regarding older adult nutrition. Harrison said he could look into developing something to provide this winter, and that Iowa State University Extension & Outreach may have something already available too.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:10 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for October 24th at 1 p.m. in Tipton with Zoom option available.

Advisory Council meeting minutes

October 24, 2024

Present: Shirley Geadelmann, Rep. Art Staed, Larry Kudej, Judi Hertle, Don Kline, Marianne Hanshaw

Excused: Evans Waller, Lisa Tallman

Guest: Chris Ackman, HACAP

Staff: Harrison March

Harrison March called the meeting to order shortly after 1 p.m. Those present introduced themselves.

Acceptance of Agenda

No changes proposed to the agenda.

Consideration of the meeting minutes for previous meetings

No changes proposed to the July or September meetings. Shirley Geadelmann motioned to approve as presented, Marianne Hanshaw second. Motion passed, 6-0.

Agency Report

Harrison March provided the agency report:

- Caregiver Wellness Day is coming up on November 4 and registration closes soon. There are just a couple spots left. Please contact Heritage AAA if you wish to attend.
- Meetings with Iowa's Department of Health and Human Services, Aging Services Division, are ongoing regarding the next Area Plan on Aging. Heritage previously conducted a community survey regarding the plan and will soon begin writing the first draft.

Partner Report: HACAP

Chris Ackman, Communications & Volunteer Manager at HACAP, spoke on services offered at HACAP and how the agency partners with Heritage AAA:

- Service region includes all of the Heritage AAA area and beyond, including Dubuque
- Most known for the food reservoir, which is different from a food bank. The reservoir stocks items to help stock other local pantries and nutrition services. Partners include Heritage AAA, Four Oaks, and many local pantries.
- HACAP is part of the Feeding America network
- HACAP uses a mix of food and monetary donations to stock the reservoir. Chris explained that both have benefit: food drives are a fun way for the community to get involved, while monetary donations help the organization leverage its buying power on bulk orders.
- The reservoir stores all types of food items: shelf stable, produce, meat, dairy, etc.
- Other programs offered include LIHEAP (Low Income Heat Energy Assistance Program), Headstart child care, veterans housing and low income housing
- HACAP recently purchased the Olivet Neighborhood Mission building and plans to open a food pantry/resource center in the space

Questions from Advisory Council members included:

- Shirley: how does HACAP market the pantry? Chris said the emphasize "helping up" over "handing out" and the importance of educating patrons about nutrition options.
- Rep. Staed thanked Chris and the staff at HACAP for their work serving community
- Larry Kudej: what other ways does HACAP partner with Heritage? Chris said that Heritage orders food from the reservoir for local events, Heritage's Tim Getty is on the Reservoir Advisory Committee and HACAP staff often set up produce pantries at Heritage dining sites. Marianne complimented the produce selection at Encore Express.

Harrison thanked Chris for his time, and Chris encouraged anyone with questions to reach out to him.

Older Iowans Legislature (OIL) Report

Larry reported on the recent OIL Annual Meeting:

- Happy with the turnout and panelists from the state of Iowa. Attendees received timely info from the Dept. of Inspections and Appeals regarding nursing homes.
- Members voted on the top four issues they will advocate for in the coming session. See attached minutes for a recap.
- Harrison asked about OIL's preference for approaching advocacy this year. Larry said the group is considering priority figures to engage on issues, whether that is legislators or state administrators. Rep. Staed said stories about constituents with experience on the priority issues are very helpful for illustrating importance.
- Larry and/or other members of OIL will provide more updates after the session begins in January.

County Updates

Benton: no updates to share since the last meeting

Cedar: planning a Lunch with Legislators event at senior dining, as well as the annual Fill the Plate fundraiser

Johnson: hosted a couple of recent programs at local nursing homes. A program on scams and fraud in North Liberty had great turnout.

Jones: not present

Linn: not present

Washington: Participation at Encore Express has been strong and steady. Socialization is a key component of making diners feel welcome and creating a positive atmosphere.

Iowa: no updates to share since the last meeting

Nutrition Education Programming – Brainstorming

Harrison asked members for further thoughts on discussion at the previous meeting regarding Nutrition Education programs for older adults. Ideas included:

- Shirley: older adults don't want to focus only on being restricted in their diets. They want to have fun, too. Marianne voiced agreement.
- Judi: any time a component about scams can be included, that gets attendees interested. Maybe something to consider with the rise of online payment for food delivery.
- Larry: older adults are always budget conscious. A topic like "Healthy Nutrition on a Budget" will get interest.

Open Agenda

Rep. Staed encouraged members to vote in the upcoming elections.

Adjournment

Shirley motioned to adjourn the meeting, Judi second. Motion passed, 6-0, and meeting adjourned at approximately 1:45 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for January 23 at 1 p.m. at the Heritage AAA office.

Older Iowans Legislature
Annual Meeting
September 16, 2024
Iowa State Capital Building and via Zoom
Summary

The Annual Meeting of the Older Iowans Legislature was held via Zoom and in the former Iowa Supreme Court Room with 10 OIL Board members, 27 Zoom participants and 19 individuals present on site participating. OIL Chair Kay Fisk opened the meeting at 8:30 am. Opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance took place. Kay F. welcomed everyone present and online and gave an overview of the agenda and reviewed the OIL's past year's work for Iowa's seniors. Dr. Bob Welch, Linda Miller, and Diane Nauokaitis were given special recognition for their work for OIL.

Zach Rhein, IA HHS Division Director, Aging and Disability Services, was the keynote. He walked us through the work of his department. A PowerPoint presentation will be available to view on OIL's website.

A panel of presenters consisting of Zach Rhein, IA HHS Division Director of Aging and Disability Services, Liz Matney, Director of Iowa Medicaid and Larry Johnson, Director of the IA Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing discussed and answered questions related to the current state of Iowa's senior needs and services and answered questions from the participants.

Participants then were presented with the following Concerns/Priorities –

1. Providing Education to Seniors on Available Services- _____
2. Address Direct Care staffing shortages- _____
3. Update for Miller Trust administration Fees – Jenny Dorman, IA BAR Assoc.
4. Tax Credit for Iowa Caregivers – Paige Yontz, IA AARP
5. Education/Training for Dementia Specialists across the state- _____
6. Transition to Home Funding utilizing Iowa Lottery funds – Lionel Foster
7. Property Tax Reform - Angelo Stefani
8. Addressing the Needs of Direct Care Providers – Bomhoff

Each of the Concerns/Priorities was discussed and question asked by the participants. A vote was then taken to create the top Concerns/Priorities for OIL during the 2024-2025 Iowa Legislative Year. The following received the most votes:

- Meeting the demands of Dementia Services through the Area Agencies on Aging
- Funding for the Return to Community Programs
- Improved Information availability for older adults to assist in the aging process
- Increase support for Direct Care Workers

Kay F. thanked the participants for their active involvement and passion for the needs of older Iowans and closed the meeting.

Linda Linn, OIL secretary

Advisory Council meeting minutes

January 23, 2025

Present: Larry Kudej, Don Kline, Marianne Hanshaw, Evans Waller, Kay Fisk

Excused: Rep. Art Staed, Shirley Gadelmann

Staff: Harrison March, Bryan Bruner

Evans Waller called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. Those present introduced themselves.

Acceptance of Agenda

No changes proposed to the agenda. Larry Kudej motioned to approve, Don Kline second. Motion passed, 5-0.

Consideration of the meeting minutes for previous meetings

No changes proposed to the October meeting minutes as presented. Larry motioned to approve, Marianne Hanshaw second. Motion passed, 5-0.

Agency Report

Harrison March provided the agency report:

- Harrison recently mailed updated copies of the Self-Declared Composition form to all members. It's similar to past versions, just with some new categories. Completed forms are needed back by the end of February so that Heritage can include the responses in the next Area Plan.
- Writing continues on the next Area Plan on Aging, with the first draft section due to Iowa HHS later this month.
- Heritage's next series of caregiver educational sessions, Caregiver 101, starts next week and will go through March. Topics include nutrition, dementia conversations and sadness/depression. All programs will be presented live on Zoom and are free to attend. No registration required.

Questions included:

- Kay Fisk: what period of time will the Area Plan cover? Harrison said it is another four-year plan covering Fiscal Years 2026-29 (or July 2025 – June 2029). Evans added that the four-year timeline allows for more regular reevaluation and adapting as opposed to a longer timeframe like ten years. Larry agreed, noting that funding is also easier to forecast on the four-year cycle.

Program Report: Health Promotion

Bryan Bruner, Health & Wellness Coordinator, reported on his programs at Heritage AAA:

- Bryan leads a variety of classes including Tai Chi (the most popular), Powerful Tools for Caregivers and the relatively new Dementia Friendly Iowa.
- This fiscal year he has had 67 Tai Chi participants, on track to meet his annual goal of 100.
- Tai is offered 8-10 times per week at locations across the region. He is currently scheduling classes to start in the summer, including locations in West Branch, Vinton and Newhall.
- Powerful Tools will open registration for Spring 2025 in the near future.

Questions included:

- Kay: what is Dementia Friendly Iowa? Bryan said it's a group of service providers and community members who spread awareness about dementia symptoms, reduce stigmas and encourage public spaces like restaurants and shops to accommodate patrons with dementia. He is a 'Dementia Champion' for the organization, meaning he is certified to lead training sessions with these target audiences. Trainings are one hour and free to attend.
- Evans: what is the response to tai chi? Bryan said most participants share happiness about better balance and fewer (if any) falls. Bryan shared the activity reduces his pain from arthritis.
- Larry: how old is the oldest tai chi participant? Bryan has attendees that are 92 and 94 years old. Because tai chi can be adapted for sitting, the 94-year-old is able to participate with ease.

- Marianne: how long is a tai chi class? Bryan said his class is 12 weeks long with each weekly lesson around 45 minutes.
- Harrison: how can someone set up a tai chi class in their community? Bryan said to contact either himself or Harrison to get started. All he requires is space comfortable for at least a dozen to participate.

2024 Service Data Review

Harrison reviewed Heritage AAA service data for 2024 across some of the core services: 1-on-1 support for older adults, caregiver support and nutrition. See attached charts for data.

County Updates

Benton: not present

Cedar: Evans reported another successful Fill the Plate fundraiser for the local dining center, which included soliciting local businesses for sponsorships as well.

Johnson: Larry said the next public forum will be held in March at Solon Retirement Village and the program will be from the Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

Jones: not present

Linn: Kay shared that the Life Enrichment Center is still meeting twice weekly, and that Horizons has also started a feasibility study related to opening its own senior center. The City of Cedar Rapids has expressed a willingness to consider support for the Horizons project.

Washington: Don said that Encore in Washington today had about 50 diners, which is lower than normal but understandable with the cold weather and a less popular entrée (though Don and Marianne both enjoyed it). Don appreciates when staff put Heritage AAA info out on the tables to help diners understand there is more support available.

Iowa: Harrison reported that Heritage AAA recently wrapped up a partnership with Iowa County Public Health to help 75 local seniors get flu shots. The program was funded by a federal grant.

Open Agenda

Evans asked Larry if there was anything to report from the start of the legislative session. Larry said not much at this time. The State Bar Association presented a bill regarding trust funds that passed committee, but the Older Iowans Legislature has not had time to review and determine an official position as of today. Kay added that is the case for a handful of early issues, which OIL will consider soon.

Larry added that March 27 will be a “Day on the Hill” for the Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging to meet with legislators and advocate for older Iowans. Board members and some Heritage staff plan to attend. Contact Harrison if you would like more info.

Kay asked if recent changes to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives would have any effect on the aging network. Harrison said no changes are expected at this time, but as with other cases Heritage AAA will keep an eye out and adapt if needed.

Adjournment

Larry motioned to adjourn the meeting, Don second. Motion passed, 5-0.

The next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for Feb. 27 at 1 pm at the Heritage AAA office or via Zoom. Attendance will be important to review and consider the draft of Heritage’s next Area Plan.

Advisory Council meeting minutes

February 27, 2025

Present: Evans Waller, Shirley Geadelmann, Kay Fisk, Larry Kudej, Marianne Hanshaw, Lisa Tallman, Don Kline

Excused: Judi Hertle, Art Staed

Staff: Harrison March, Jill Sindt, Kaylie Springer (AmeriCorps)

Evans Waller called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. Those present introduced themselves.

Acceptance of Agenda

Don Kline motioned to accept the presented agenda. Shirley Geadelmann second. Motion passed, 7-0.

Consideration of the meeting minutes for previous meetings

Don motioned to approve the presented meeting minutes for January 2025. Larry Kudej second. Motion passed, 7-0.

Agency Report

Harrison March provided the agency report:

- With recent headlines about disruption to federal funding, Heritage AAA has had no disruptions to OAA funds or programs. He will update the Advisory Council of changes.
- Zach Rhein, Director of Aging and Disability Services for the State of Iowa, recently spent a couple hours meeting with Heritage AAA staff. He provided updates on state priorities, Disability Access Points and answered staff questions.

Questions included:

- Evans asked for an update regarding the location of Heritage AAA's office. Harrison summarized the current offices' statuses as aging buildings with occasional maintenance needs. This has led to talks about relocating the office within another Kirkwood-owned facility. Some potential locations are identified but no in-person tours have occurred yet. A timeline is not determined yet, but Harrison will keep the Council updated.

Area Plan Update

Jill Sindt, Community Advancement Director, presented the Area Plan on Aging for FY2026 – 2029.

Information included: Area Plan background and timeline; main Goals, Objectives and Strategies to address local aging and caregiving concerns; and opportunities for feedback today and into the future.

Copies of the presentation were provided. Please see Harrison for additional copies as needed.

Discussion included:

- Kay Fisk: what are the most common concerns? Harrison referenced the Community Needs Assessment showing top issues as social isolation, finances and caregiver burnout.
- Evans: can added transportation programs help address isolation? Shirley said that local transportation services prioritize medical needs over leisure. It's the right choice, but unfortunately does limit the number of social activities that can be supported.
- Evans stressed the importance of Elder Abuse Prevention programs and the need to address more than just physical abuse. All present agreed.

Evans asked for a motion to approve or amend the Area Plan as presented. Larry Kudej motioned to approve the presented Area Plan, Kay second. Motion passed, 7-0.

Disaster PrepWise Program Report

Kaylie Springer, Americorps member serving with Heritage AAA this academic year, presented on the Disaster PrepWise program and its efforts to help older Iowans prevent negative outcomes from natural

disasters. Copies of the presentation were provided. Please see Harrison for additional copies as needed.

Discussion included:

- Evans: would like to see rural areas have more emphasis in disaster responses. It can be challenging for EMAs and first responders to services those areas.
- Shirley asked Kaylie to please send a flyer for the upcoming PrepWise clinic at Heritage AAA. Kaylie will get contact information from Harrison to do so.

County Updates

Benton: not present

Cedar: Shirley said the Fill the Plate fundraiser was a success, raising around \$1,800 for senior dining.

Johnson: Larry reported an upcoming forum with the Long-Term Care Ombudsman in Solon next month.

Jones: Lisa Tallman said new ownership of the local paper has been supportive in continuing the Dining Dollars program. She is also coordinating an upcoming food drive.

Linn: Kay reported that the Life Enrichment Center is holding steady and considering new locations for the future.

Washington: Marianne said they are working on a program at the local library possibly in May

Iowa: no updates from Harrison

Open Agenda

Evans asked Larry for updates on the legislative front. Larry said that notable still-active bills include appropriations for Dementia Specialist positions and uniformity for Accessory Dwelling Units. A bill for a caregivers' tax credit may still be introduced, but passage this session is unlikely and it would be a long-term goal for 2026.

Adjournment

Shirley motioned to adjourn the meeting, Marianne second. Motion passed, 7-0. Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m.

The next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for May 22 at 1 pm at the Heritage AAA office or via Zoom. Harrison will host open office hours via Zoom as well on March 27 and April 24.

Advisory Council meeting minutes

May 22, 2025

Present: Judi Hertle, Larry Kudej, Don Kline, Marianna Hanshaw, Kay Fisk

Excused: Evans Waller, Shirley Geadelmann

Staff: Harrison March

Harrison March called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Acceptance of Agenda

No changes proposed to the agenda. Due to no quorum at the time, no formal vote was held.

Consideration of the meeting minutes for previous meetings

No changes proposed to the minutes. Due to no quorum at the time, no formal vote was held. Harrison will send the minutes for an electronic vote.

Harrison's note: the minutes were approved by electronic vote, 7-0.

Agency Report

Harrison March provided the agency report:

- No major changes as Heritage AAA closes out the fiscal year on June 30.
- Heritage's Area Plan has been submitted to the state. Earlier this month Heritage and other AAAs presented their Plans to Iowa's HHS Director. Harrison thanked members for their approval of the Plan at the prior meeting.
- Caregiver Wellness Day is in the works for November 2025. Harrison hopes to have a Save the Date ready to share within the next month.

Older Americans Act / Federal HHS Update

Harrison reviewed the status and changes related to the Older Americans Act (OAA) and Federal HHS.

Regarding the OAA:

- The OAA is funded through September 2025 as part of a previous Continuing Resolution.
- The OAA is up for reauthorization this year, which is a normal occurrence every 4-5 years. The bill has been reauthorized regularly in its 60-year history, most recently in 2020.

Regarding OAA Program Funding:

- Some OAA funded programs will be zeroed out in the federal budget proposed for FY2026 and passed in the US House last night. The programs hardest hit are not Heritage AAA programs.
- Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) and Adult Protective Services are among programs zeroed. They could continue with funding from other sources in theory, but Harrison is unsure if that will happen.
- Funding for Heritage programs related to elder abuse intervention and health promotion may be zeroed out in the federal budget, but Heritage already funds the majority of both programs through other sources of funding. There will be work to do redistributing or securing new funds.

Regarding Federal HHS:

- Heritage and all AAAs previously reported to the Administration for Community Living (ACL). The ACL was recently disbanded and programs are being reassigned.
- Older adult nutrition programs will reportedly move to the Administration for Child and Family Services (ACF). All other programs will reportedly move to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
- USAging, the national body for AAAs, is advocating to keep all OAA programs together and reassign them all to the ACF. USAging feels ACF is better suited for OAA programs. Keeping programs together also means less administrative work and more resources allocated to program delivery and development.

No questions were asked at this time. Harrison encouraged members to reach out as needed for updates or questions.

County Updates

Benton: Judi Hertle said the Iowa State University Extension & Outreach office is hosting a booth at the County Fair and has invited Heritage to staff the booth for a day or shift. Harrison will contact their office to make arrangements.

Cedar: Harrison shared that volunteers in Cedar County recently invited the local police chief to present on scams targeting older adults.

Johnson: Larry Kudej said Johnson County is hosting a legislative forum with state representatives and senators. Some have confirmed plans to attend and the group is hoping for 2-3 more. Larry added that the two bills most relevant to older adults from this session are likely those regarding accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and cryptocurrency fraud prevention.

Jones: Harrison reported the formation of a small event committee to revive Anamosa's old health fair.

Linn: Harrison said that the Cedar Rapids Mayor plans to visit with diners at Encore Café next week during Older Americans Month. Later that same day, Harrison will accept a proclamation from the City of Cedar Rapids.

Washington: Don Kline said about 60 diners enjoyed meals at Encore Express today, and he was happy to see some extra info about Heritage available on the tables. Marianne added that HACAP staged a produce pantry during lunch for diners to pick up on the way out. They are also working on a scam awareness program at the library this summer.

Iowa: Harrison is part of a coalition of service providers that hopes to do some outreach at the county fair later this summer.

Open Agenda

Larry asked Harrison to share about an upcoming Elder Abuse forum. Harrison said that Iowa's Area Agencies on Aging have worked together to plan the event on Tuesday, June 3, from 1 – 4 p.m. It will be live on Zoom with registration requested, but not required. Topics will include hoarding, the effect of dementia on self-neglect and more. Harrison previously sent information via email and will do so again before the event.

Adjournment

Judi motioned to adjourn, Larry second. Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:40 p.m.

The next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for July 24 at 1 pm at the Heritage AAA office or via Zoom. Harrison will host open office hours via Zoom as well on June 26.