

River Valley Aging and Disability Resource Connection Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes  
February 28, 2019

**Persons Attending**

LaCarole Lloyd, RVRC/AAA  
Raven Allred, A Hand to Hold  
Katie Howard, RVRC/AAA  
Kia Barrow, RVRC/AAA  
Cat Young, LTCOR  
Kristi Denney, LTCOR  
Pamela Bruce, APS  
Felicia Rathel, WellCare  
Lisa Frantz, WellCare  
David Roberts, WellCare  
Kendra Coleman, Direct Services Corporation  
Dwan Grooms, DAS/Public Guardianship  
Milton Levy, Mercer University  
David Marlowe, Alzheimer's Association, (conference call)  
LaTorey Howard, WellCare, (conference call)

The meeting was held at the offices of the River Valley Area Agency on Aging in Columbus and was opened by Kia Barrow. The minutes of the past meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion made by Kendra Coleman and seconded by Raven Allred. Kia discussed the No Wrong Door Policy with the group. It was explained to them that anyone is allowed to contact our agency and receive assistance.

Kia then introduced our speaker, Pamela Bruce, with Adult Protective Services. Ms. Bruce gave an overview of what type of cases are acceptable for investigations. APS investigates cases of clients that are 65 and older or if they are 18 and older with a documented disability. They investigate abuse, neglect and financial exploitation. She reminded everyone that APS are not first responders. Reports are taken through Central Intake and they have 10 days to respond. They have 2 days to respond to priority cases such as wandering and no utilities). If APS can't make the 2 days for priority cases they contact law enforcement to lay eyes on the client. The case worker can make contact with the reporter to get additional information, but can't give them information on the case. APS has 45 days to complete a case. If it is more than 45 days it goes into ongoing status. The Public Guardianship Office takes guardianship as a last result.

Kia reviewed the ADRC Report for the months of October, November, December and January. She reviewed the age groups, disability types, call topics, contacts, referral sources and numbers added to the waiting list for each month. She discussed with them how the report was broken down into several different parts. If anyone wants a copy of the reports they were advised to let me know and a copy would be provided.

Kia asked if there were any specific cases that needed to be discussed and reminded the group of the confidentiality agreement. Ms. Bruce with APS needed assistance with a client that has severe memory issues, lack of family support, and limited information can be retrieved on this client. After further discussion during and after the meeting this client was also referred to our HCBS case manager. A face to face assessment was completed with Ms. Bruce present and the client was referred for HDM due to her lack of food in her home.

ADRC staff also had a case of an overwhelmed caregiver of a person with Alzheimer's disease. She made threats of just leaving the client at the hospital. A report was made to APS and the caregiver is also considering Nursing home placement. The CG was frustrated because all nursing homes she reached out to had refused the client. Mr. Grooms with PGO suggested that GCAL should have been called also.

Katie presented the Legislative Updates for the 2019 session from Co-Age: Budget for the ADRC so that they can continue to "meet the growing need and continue to provide "no wrong door" services to Georgians seeking help." Legislative-there is a lack of affordable housing for persons needing help with activities of daily living. New Legislative- health coverage for low income seniors would direct the Department of Community Health to develop an 1115 waiver that would increase the income eligibility limits for seniors on Medicaid. Legislators found an additional \$250,000 for home delivered meals to decrease the waiting list in each AAA across the state. Katie also discussed the importance of caregivers as presented in the update. This section looks at the financial value to unpaid caregivers. A letter template was also given to the attendees so that they can reach out to their Senators or Representatives. A Congressional Calendar was also provided.

Kia also asked the group to like our ADRC Advisory Council page on Facebook and to add the Georgia ADRC link to their agency's website ([www.georgiaadrc.com](http://www.georgiaadrc.com)).

#### Partner Reports:

- The AAA is having a Wellness Walk on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at Peachtree Mall (it has now changed to The Trade Center).
- Middle Flint Council on Aging picnic on May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- CareNet at RCI on March 19<sup>th</sup>

The next meeting will be held on June 27, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. If anyone would like to host this meeting, please contact Kia Barrow at [kmorris@rivalleyrcaaa.org](mailto:kmorris@rivalleyrcaaa.org)