

**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL ELDERCARE COALITION**  
**MEETING AGENDA**  
**Friday, March 1, 2024**  
**8:30 a.m.**

**Zoom Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89966612080?pwd=Y2s1MU16dzdjbFkraFF4ZFZjcXNPQT09>

**Meeting ID: 899 6661 2080**

**Passcode: 471844**

In attendance: *Tonya Muldoon, Linda Kruger, Dave Ringle, Deb Craig, Eileen Hosey, Stephanie Johnson, Michelle Henriques, Brian Holst, Marianne Mills, Emily Loyd, Jennifer Garrison, Caroline Fenton, Brandy Boggs, Amber Smith, Margaret Mimnaugh, Kevin Hall, Jeannie Monk, Alyssa Fernandez, Sioux Douglas.*

1. Call to Order – 8:31AM Welcome and opening by Sioux Douglas who conducted meeting. Co-Chairs Erin Walker-Tolles and Sharyl Yeisley were limited in participation due to illness.
2. Agenda – The agenda was approved unanimously after motion by Deborah Craig and second by Linda Kruger.
1. Minutes Approval – February 2, 2024 – The February 2, 2024 minutes were approved unanimously without changes after motion by Linda Kruger and second by Deb Craig.
2. SREC Project Director Report – *Tonya Muldoon*
  - a. Summit is continuing to be planned, see below.
  - b. JEDC has hired Theresa Rouse who will be starting on March 11, 2024 and will be acting as an Eldercare Advisor/Program Assistant to support the recruitment duties related to the SREC Project. She will provide duties such as, but not limited to, working with employers and persons looking for training to become DSP or healthcare related field, assist with the Navi Tool Workforce section, engage in job fairs and youth programming.
3. Steering Committee Report – *Erin Walker-Tolles*
  - a. Because DSP agencies are hesitant about growth and wage supplementation the SC will reach out to establish a meeting to better understand their concerns and to determine how we may need to change focus/re-adapt.
  - b. Erin was involved in several advocacy actions; see report below.

#### 4. Old Business

- 2024 Summit Update- *Tonya Muldoon*
  - Summit is continuing to be planned. We are getting more support from speakers. There is still room for additional speakers and topics.
  - Venders tables will also be available. Those with interest please let Tonya Muldoon Know.

#### 5. New Business

- Advocacy Subcommittee Report – *Erin Walker-Tolles*  
State legislature, Senator Murkowski, AGEnet, new legislation, senior grant funding, senior benefits program, etc.

SB 170, Senior Benefits Program, passed the legislature in support of needs-based cash benefits. Two new SNAP bills, SB149 and HB 148, have been introduced. Could change SNAP benefits from 130% to 200% of poverty and remove asset testing. Less work for DPA for processing cases. Eliminate the benefit cliff, gradual reducing benefits when you are over the income limits. Program is a Federal Program and not a State funded program. Looking positive and well received and more sponsors are supporting the Bill. This legislation is supported by the Alaska Food Coalition.

AGEnet continues to advocate for 2.7 million in grants to DSDS. Concerns that this level will be reduced without strong advocacy and support by legislators. Don't have any outcomes yet.

SAIL hosted a meeting at Teal Street Center with Senator Murkowski's Staff. Older Americans Act is expected to be reauthorized soon. Provides money for seniors and tribal programs for housing, mental health for adults and children, and food security. Administrative services are higher and more burdensome. Senator Murkowski, primary focus this year is on projects, like Capital Funding especially around housing. She welcomes support for housing projects and would like to know what projects are occurring in the state.

More opportunities for advocacy. Erin will gather the Advocacy Sub-Committee when more information becomes available.

#### 6. Best Practices Presentation - *Eileen Hosey, CCS, Gatekeeper Program*

Eileen Hosey, Case Manager for SE Senior Services, presented about the Catholic Community Service Gatekeeper Program that is funded by the Juneau Community Foundation and the City and Borough of Juneau. There are Gatekeepers available throughout the SE Alaska Region. They provide education to the community (business, churches, social groups, etc.) for referrals regarding an adult/elder who may appear to need support. Referrals are confidential to the agencies and a case worker will make efforts to contact the adult/elder and offer them support. Most predominantly, the case worker will develop a plan of action with the adult/elder to assist with the establishment

of community services and support. Questions on the program or to make a referral please contact Eileen Hosey at (907) 463-6177. She is happy to make presentations to various groups interested in the Gatekeeper Program.

Dave Ringle announced that St. Vincent de Paul has a new Navigator, Charity B. (907-209-0000), and that the Glory Hall has one as well, Junior Franco (907-209-9666).

7. Member Presentation – *Deborah Craig, Juneau Commission on Aging*

Deborah Criag provided a slide show and narrative about the priorities of the Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA). She presented the data from the most recent Juneau Senior Needs Survey that has been conducted several times over the last 30 years. The most recent data strongly suggests that Juneau has a vibrant senior population who are very active in the community and who would like to stay in Juneau to age in place. One significant priority is age-friendly housing as most seniors are not interested in Assisted Living or communal living. Seniors/elders are very involved and supportive of the community through arts and cultural activities, recreational activities such as skiing, hiking, fishing, and ice skating and utilizing community resources such as the library. The JCOA is working to update some data in the survey based on information collected by the State of Alaska Department of Labor.

8. Event Reports

- Outcomes of recent events
- Upcoming events
- 

Juneau: Job Fair this weekend, March 2, at Juneau Job Center located on Egan Drive.

Ketchikan: Job Fair to be held on Saturday March 2 at the Plaza Mall.

Linda Kruger – AARP is continuing their four-part series on Brain and Bone Health, with two more on-line videos. A new four-part series will be available starting in April discussing Financial Fitness.

**NAMI Juneau Inside Passages Speaker Series:**

Approaches to Substance Use and Harm Reduction Strategies.

<https://www.namijuneau.org/insidepassages>

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024: Tressa Millam will present on Parenting Supports.

**Sitka Tribe Elder Community Coffee Time**

Caroline Fenton, Wellness Director for Sitka Tribe, is hosting Elder Community Coffee Time. This is a monthly event that occurs at Harrigan Centennial Hall in Sitka, Alaska. The event is open to all seniors, not just tribally enrolled members. They offer a hot lunch and discuss

community resources. They have vendor tables set up for elders to talk with providers and learn about services. They are currently servicing about 60 to 70 elders each month.

They would love to receive brochures or flyers for services. They are also looking to partner with other businesses to support the ongoing funding needs for the program to continue.

[caroline.fenton@sitkatribenism](mailto:caroline.fenton@sitkatribenism)

(907) 966-9662

Lunch will be serviced at Harrigan Centennial Hall, Sitka from 11:30AM-1:30PM on the following dates:

March 12, 2024 11:30PM

April 2, 2024 11:30PM

May 14, 2024 11:30PM

### **Tai -Chi and Bingocize**

Melissa Showers, Case Manager Regional Coordinator from Catholic Community Services/Senior Services presented three upcoming events:

- a. Tai-Chi (in-person)  
Tuesday and Thursday weekly  
January 23-March 14, 2024  
11AM-12PM  
St. Paul's Catholic Church,  
9055 Atlin Dr.  
Juneau, Alaska 99801
- b. Tai-Chi (Virtual)  
Tuesday and Thursday weekly  
January 23- March 14, 2024  
2:15PM-3:15PM  
Via Zoom  
Must register for the class to get a link to the Zoom meeting.
- c. Bingocize  
Tuesday and Thursday

### **AARP Alaska Brain Health Series: Expert Panel**

January 12, 2024, series event has been cancelled. AARP is working to provide a new Brain Health Series starting in February 2024. Previous broadcasts can be watched at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAsez5OFib-Rf0s2qiQnJeVBdteAt3H-7>

**SERRC, Path Academy:** There are PATH Academies planned for Ketchikan in February 26-March 8, 2024, and in Yakutat in April 29-May 10, 2024. If you have potential students with interest and/or your community would like to have the training, please contact the Juneau SERRC office at (907) 586-6806.

**Office of Public Advocacy (OPA) update** by Sharyl Yeisley. OPA is taking conservator and guardianship clients again. The caseloads, however, for each Public Guardian are now closer to about 200 people per Public Guardian. Thus, support for wards under OPA is limited. OPA continues to strongly encourage private guardianship. There are classes that are available for anyone interested in becoming a private guardian. Sharyl Yeisley has additional information. Link for Guardianship business licensure:

<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/GuardiansConservators.asp>  
[X](#)

9. Other

10. Member Comments

- a. Riverview Senior Living in Juneau, Alaska will be having a community gathering on March 15, 2024 at 4PM.

11. Date of next meeting – April 5, 2024

12. Adjournment 9:23AM

13. Attachments:



Ketchikan PATH  
ACADEMY flyer.pdf



Bingocize Jan.  
2024.pdf



1.24 Tai Chi poster-  
2 classes.pdf



SREC Full Coalition  
Meeting Minutes 01