

Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board

Minutes

Meeting Monday February 27, 2023

Chuck Marinec, Chairman, called a meeting of the Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board to order on February 27, 2023 at 9:00 am. Self-Intros made for recording purposes. Meeting held at the Historic Courthouse Room 309, 840 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri.

Board Members Present: Chuck Marinec, Denny Pilant, Joyce Munden, Mike Jungers and Judith Billings

Board Members Absent: Bobbie Wurst (Phoned In)

Others Present: Deborah Allen, Lori Graham (Cox Health), Jamie Henline (Ozarks Public Television), Stephanie Woehl (Springfield-Greene Health Department), Marilyn Meals and Don Frese (Fair Grove Senior Center, Bill Bell (OACAC), Samantha Whitaker and Brittany Fletcher (Alzheimer's Association)

Meeting Minutes: January 23, 2023. Motion to approve Minutes made by Joyce Munden. Seconded by Bobbie Wurst. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: There was no Treasurer's report presented.

Old Business: None

Presentation: CoxHealth Foundation – Lori Graham

Requesting funds in the amount of \$47,520.00 (requested \$34,000.00 last year). This will provide services to approximately 90 clients per month for one year, allowing the flexibility to add an additional 20 clients to the existing fund, and back-fill any openings due to attrition. An at-cost price structure will remain for equipment and CoxHealth at Home will provide the installation, administration and maintenance/replacement of equipment at no cost to the participant.

- CoxHealth At Home serves patients throughout 9 counties across southern Missouri with a comprehensive array of services including home care, hospice and palliative care, medical supplies, durable medical equipment, mobility equipment, infusions services, wound therapy, nutrition services, lifeline services, remote patient monitoring and many more. CoxHealth at Home patients can have all their home health needs met through one provider.
- Auto Alert button technology is beneficial when an individual is unable to push their Lifeline button due to physical impairment or if they become unconscious. Auto Alert ensures that the client can get help even when they are unable to respond, which can be the difference between life and death.
- Lifeline Services offer a mobile button that includes a GPS function and built in Auto Alert Functionality, allowing the client to take their button anywhere they go. When assistance is needed in the event of a fall or other emergency, the devices alert Lifeline representatives who respond and can provide help quickly when patients are unable to get to a phone to call for help

Grant funded clients will receive the service that best meets their individual needs based on their lifestyle and physical/mental ability. Wait time for receiving these items are usually 24 to 48 hours for installation.

Motion to approve made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion carried.

Presentation: Ozarks Public Television – Jamie Henline

Requesting funds in the amount of \$14,500.00. Ozarks Public Television is proud to have a very expansive senior audience. Over 65% of PBS’s primetime public television audience is age 65+. This strong reach presents us with both a responsibility and opportunity to serve our senior viewers. We believe that we are uniquely positioned and equipped to reach this segment of our community with information that can make a significant impact on their health, wellbeing and quality of life. As in the past, we will work closely with GCSCSF to determine the content of these spots, in order to target awareness around the projects being supported by the service fund. We will also collaborate with SeniorAge Area Agency on Aging to ascertain and address the greatest needs of our community’s seniors.

Motion to approve made by Bobbie Wurst. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion carried.

Presentation: Springfield-Greene County Health Department – Stephanie Woehl

Requesting funds in the amount of \$402,523.00. This invaluable program began in 2008. The grant will enable the continuation of outreach efforts and programming to the senior population in Greene County. This rapidly growing group of senior citizens is especially vulnerable to Shingles. The program is structured to provide potentially lifesaving Shingles vaccinations at no charge to the Greene County senior population age 60+.

The grant request proposes to focus on the purchasing and administering of the very costly Shingles vaccine on - site at Springfield-Greene County Health through drive-up clinics or other scheduled clinics and at community outreach clinics throughout Greene County. A partnership with Jordan Valley Health Center also provides a venue for vaccinations. During 2022, the program has been able to administer approximately 2,096 vaccinations to eligible seniors, an increase of approximately 26% over 2021. This specific request, for 2023, will deliver 2000 doses of vaccine to eligible Greene County seniors. With a two-dose regimen, this request will vaccinate 1000 patients.

Motion to approve made by Bobbie Wurst. Seconded by Joyce Munden. Motion carried.

Presentation: Fair Grove Senior Center – Marilyn Meals

Requesting funds in the amount of \$7,400.00. These funds would be utilized for lighting the parking lot at the Senior Center. Only one bid was submitted from Trinity Electric in the amount of \$9,400.00 with \$2,000.00 coming from another source. Since the Center did not comply with providing three bids, Charles Marinec suggested tabling the request until all necessary paperwork could be provided.

Motion to table was made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Judith Billings. Motion to table carried.

Presentation: Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC) – Bill Bell

Requesting funds in the amount of \$60,000.00 (same amount as last year’s request). The funds will be used to improve the quality of life of Greene County residents, age 60+.

Home Care – eligible expenses include home repairs, rent, mortgage, propane, pellet stove pellets, water/sewer bills, homeowner’s insurance, air conditioners, heaters, repair of appliances and wheelchair ramps.

Staffing and personnel – a small portion of the grant will be used to pay wages and fringe for the OACAC staff administering this grant.

Greene County residents can receive case management services for one-on-one support in meeting self-sufficiency goals. Emergency needs may include, but are not limited to, assistance with food, rent or mortgage, utility assistance and transportation costs.

As an agency, OACAC offers the following services in addition to Neighborhood/Community Centers:

- **Weatherization** – This free service for homeowners or renters has been shown to reduce energy costs between 20 – 25 %.
- **Housing Assistance Program** – Seniors living in one of the 10 counties OACAC services (excluding the City of Springfield) may apply to Housing for a rent subsidy which makes it possible for income-eligible individuals and families to live in a home which is decent, safe, sanitary and affordable.

- **Foster Grandparent Program** – this volunteer program for low-income senior citizens 55 years and older, provides an hourly stipend for time spent volunteering with at-risk children in the community through local non-profit agencies and schools.
- **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** – Seniors who experience an energy related crisis may apply for LIHEAP.

Agency wide, OACAC serves thousands of seniors in a year. Motion to approve made by Mike Jungers. Seconded by Denny Pilant. Motion carried.

Presentation: Alzheimer’s Association – Samantha Whitaker and Brittany Fletcher

Requesting funds in the amount \$35,986.00. More than 120,000 people in Missouri are living with dementia, and 194,000 of their family and friends are providing them with unpaid care valued at more than \$4.8 billion per year. By 2025, more than 130,000 are expected to be living with dementia. With the aging Greene County population, it is critical for the Alzheimer’s Association to increase awareness of signs and symptoms, conduct community education and provide caregiver support.

With funding, they will extend the reach of volunteer-powered dementia awareness, education and support programs through ALZ CARES (Community Alliances for Resources, Education and Support). ALZ CARES targets expansion of Alzheimer’s Association programs throughout Greene County by building and leveraging alliances with individuals and organization that have a strong connection in Greene County with those they seek to serve. Funding will support staff efforts to build and expand the ALZ CARES program, implement a public awareness campaign and provide consumers with disease-specific information, education, early-stage programs and support groups.

Motion to approve made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion carried stating that the mileage reimbursement rate will be what is currently paid by the State of Missouri. Effective July 1, 2022 the rate is \$0.55 per mile and effective March 1, 2023 was increased to \$0.62 per mile.

No presentation was required -- Springfield South Side Seniors, Inc. – Food Enhancement

Requesting funds in the amount of \$8,000.00. With the assistance from the Senior Board, they are able to enhance the “blue plate special” meals for seniors in their area – both for those who come into the center and those who need more help with having meals delivered to their home. Participation at the senior center greatly extends independence. A special meal is often the catalyst for seniors to first come to the center and then to become involved in volunteering.

Motion to approve made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Judith Billings. Motion carried.

No presentation was required – Rogersville Area Senior Center, Inc. – Food Enhancement

Requesting funds in the amount of \$8,000.00. The objective is to plan and conduct programs and services designed to provide nutritious meals, increase self confidence and improve the quality of life for both active and homebound Seniors (60 or older) in the Rogersville area.

Motion to approve made by Joyce Munden. Seconded by Denny Pilant. Motion carried.

No presentation was required – Fair Grove Senior Center, Inc. – Food Enhancement

Requesting funds in the amount of \$8,000.00. The objective will be to enhance the meals provided by SeniorAge for their daily noon meal. Monies will be used to fund a salad bar and drink station. Additionally, special occasion meals such as Valentine’s Day, Fourth of July celebrations will benefit from a larger budget than usual and may contain more expensive food items. The goal is to provide a social gathering place and provide meals as well as food pantry items to promote adequate nutrition for senior citizens. The objective is to adjust and adapt their services as the needs of the seniors change.

Motion to approve made by Joyce Munden. Seconded by Bobbie Wurst. Motion carried.

No presentation was required – Ash Grove Good Pantry – Food Enhancement

Requesting funds in the of \$4,000.00. The funds will be used to purchase dairy products, breakfast meals, dinner meals and special boxes for all seniors. The goal is to provide the healthy food items. The biggest issue is mos seniors are living on social security and have no other income.

Motion to approve made by Joyce Munden. Seconded by Bobbie Wurst. Motion carried.

Communication:

The original conference phone that was to be purchased did not meet the qualifications – IS needed to do some additional research and found a phone that would be able to fit the needs of the Board. However, there was an increase to \$778.04 – which was approved by the Board. Also, the MoAlso dues is a yearly expense of \$100.00 and the invoice will be processed. There is a meeting on the 13th of March for MoAlso on the Hancock Amendment for anyone that would be interested in attending.

KY3 did a brief segment on the Gillioz Theatre free matinees for seniors is being very well received and is well worth the investment.

Progress reports were discussed on how to start getting them in a timelier fashion. A letter being sent out or email might accomplish our goal.

10:20 A.M. moved to adjourn by Joyce Munden. Denny Pilant seconded. Motion Carried.

Next meeting March 27, 2023 – Location: Historic Courthouse, Room 309. If, additional people are in attendance, a waiting area with appropriate social distancing will be available.

Minutes submitted by: Deborah Allen