



## **Kitsap County Division of Aging & Long Term Care Advisory Council**

614 Division Street, MS-5, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Phone: (360) 337-5700 ♦ 1-800-562-6418 ♦ Fax: (360) 337-5747

### **Instructions for members of the public during a hybrid meeting:**

To provide public comment during the meeting, click on the hand icon at the bottom of the screen to “raise your hand.” The chair, or designee, will call upon the attendee to speak at the designated time.

Public comment may also be submitted in advance to be read by staff or the chair during the meeting. Email comments by 12:00 p.m. the day before the meeting to Stacey Smith at [sasmith@kitsap.gov](mailto:sasmith@kitsap.gov)

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## December 17, 2025 Aging Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

### Zoom

#### 1. Convened at 11:30 a.m.

**Members Present:** Steve McMurdo, Laney Calhoun, Linda Navage, Dr. Kenneth Klein, Theresa Lambert, Ranae Beeker, Charmaine Scott, Linette Zimmerman, Susan Nolan.

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Unexcused:** Elizabeth Safsten

**Guests Present:** None.

**Staff Present:** Stacey Smith, Cristiana Fillion.

#### 2. Introduction of Council Members and members of the public: None.

#### 3. Public Comments: None.

#### 4. Approval of Agenda: The meeting agenda was reviewed.

- Ranae made a motion to approve the agenda, Laney seconded, and the agenda was approved.

#### 5. Approval of Minutes:

- Ranae made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Laney. The minutes were approved.

#### 6. Debrief Advocacy Conferences

- w4a & SCOA Conference -- Stacey opened the floor for questions and comments on the 10/15 conference. All Washington AAAs and Advisory Councils met to discuss shared issues amid the ongoing government shutdown and resulting uncertainty. The 2026 main request is to preserve services, with priority on Health Home and the \$27.9M senior nutrition funding. Older Americans Act Re-authorization underwent a year-long update and was completed in 2024 but not reauthorized. Federal partners, including U.S. Aging, advised pausing

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reauthorization efforts. Two weeks ago, USAging requested action to begin advocating for reauthorization.

- Fall Senior Lobby Conference – The Fall Senior Lobby is a gathering of advocacy groups focused on supporting older adults. Topics included aging in place, food insecurity and recent ballot measures allowing WA Cares funds to be invested. The group also discussed Medicare AI-based prior authorizations. The Council discussed potential setbacks and challenges in accessing services if the human element is reduced. Linda agreed this may be an area for advocacy, possibly through a letter. Steve asked whether this is something to raise during legislative sessions.
- Legislative Session planning – Stacey noted there may be room to discuss Kitsap-specific issues, but time will need to be managed carefully. She explained that supplemental budgets are typically intended to address discrepancies in the two-year budget, but will likely focus on identifying deeper reductions in program funding. Ferguson’s latest press release stated he will not approve any new taxes with an “all cuts budget” to balance the growing deficit, which puts Advisory Councils in a position to advocate for preserving funding. The legislative session runs from 1/12 to 3/12. Both the House and Senate must agree on each other’s proposals, with Governor approval and final signature.
- w4a will be hosting a webinar to review talking points for the upcoming legislative meetings. Stacey will share the Zoom link once it is available. After that, the Council will meet to create a script for appointments, including an introduction, identifying who will speak to each issue, and closing remarks. Stacey sent invitations to legislators last week..

### 7. Council Member Report of Activities

- a. 1/10<sup>th</sup> Community Advisory Committee- Charmaine Scott
  - Charmaine stated that the Committee did not meet in November or December. In 2026 grantees will have to start reporting the ages they serve; this will provide information on the number of older adults using services.
- b. Kitsap Accessible Communities Advisory Committee- Ranae Beeker

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- Ranae informed the Council that their Committee continues to work on promoting accessibility. A tour is scheduled tomorrow at Bloedel Reserve.

### c. Council Member Report of Community Outreach

- Linda is excited about the Diabetes Pilot Program and was able to participate in a meeting about it. Washington state is also re-piloting the Mastery of Aging program, which USAging is sunsetting.
- Susan invited Stacey and Kathy Knight (w4a State Director) to present on Caregiving at the North Kitsap League of Women Voters meeting in November.
- Laney is getting familiar with U.S. Representative Emily Randall and joined her townhall meeting. Laney expressed that Rep. Randall is very open to working with her constituents.
- Ranae reached out to Rep. Randall as well and has been working to develop a relationship with her staff. Ranae stated that James Bray, and outreach/event staff member is excellent and responsive. He attended a recent Bikes for All event.
- Ken has been shadowing a 96-year-old family friend, and it has sparked his interest in how older adults are treated within the medical system. He's learning that even when older adults make it to their appointments, it can be difficult for them to express their needs and receive timely care. Advocating for her has been eye-opening, and he's beginning to develop ideas about how to better support individuals.
- Linette followed up with Rep. Randall, who is very responsive to issues faced by older adults. Linette and been responding to all the w4a Action Alerts.
- Steve has been acting on the w4a Action Alerts and has been receiving responses.

## 8. Aging Services

- a. The Council reviewed the December Dashboard Report.
- b. Stacey stated that during the week of Thanksgiving, all AAA directors will attend an emergency webinar regarding the MAC/TSOA programs. The state said

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they've overspent by millions of dollars. A statewide waitlist for entry will be implemented. Individuals currently in the program will continue to be served.

- c. WA Cares benefits will become available in July 2026. Two new staff members have been hired. They will start next month to support beneficiaries accessing their benefits.
- d. Area Plan preparation – Stacey explained the Council's involvement in the 2027-2030 Area Plan process. ALTC staff will give them a presentation and seek the Council's opinions and approval. Then the Area Plan will go to the Board of County Commissioners for approval, and finally, will be submitted to the Home and Community Living Administration in October. Steve suggested creating a commercial for the 2026 Area Plan
- e. 2026 special projects – ALTC will be subcontracting to provide HRSN (health-related social needs) services that are funded for the next three years for anyone on Medicaid, across all ages. ALTC will be using existing nutrition networks to serve a larger population. The Kitsap budget is \$500,000 and will cover medically tailored meals, pantry stocking, and fruit and vegetable provisions. Stacey has met with local food banks to see who is interested in partnering.

### **9. 2025 Advisory Council Business**

- a. Council Holiday & Thank You card picture – The Council took the holiday picture and agreed on a holiday card design.
- b. Council Roster – Stacey shared the updated Council roster. Ranae will be reappointed next month. There is currently one last at-large position left. Stacey explained that under the new Older Americans Act rules, seats must be allocated to designated sectors. The Council will need to determine the sectors existing members fall into and keep the sectors in mind when recruiting for the final seat.
- c. 2026 Workplan – Stacey highlighted suggested updates to the Workplan. Top two goals are always focused on. Stacey suggested changing "Fill Council vacancies" to "Align Aging Advisory Council membership to new Older Americans Act requirements". And add "Update bylaws to align with the membership

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requirements of the Older Americans Act and identify strategies to fill vacant slot(s). The Council will focus on the Workplan during the January meeting.

- d. 2026 Calendar of events – Stacey shared the 2026 Calendar of Events. The Council agreed to meet on January 15 to prepare for legislative meetings.
- e. 2026 Council Officers – Laney moved to approve suspension of bylaws in order for Steve to continue as chair. All were in favor. By a vote of the Council, Charmaine was elected Vice-Chair.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

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Steve McMurdo, Chair



## KITSAP COUNTY DIVISION OF AGING & LONG TERM CARE (AREA AGENCY ON AGING) ADVISORY COUNCIL

### **2026 WORK PLAN**

**Meeting Days, Time and Location:** Third Wednesday of Each Month  
 11:30 am – 1:30 pm  
 Hybrid virtual (Zoom) meetings

**Advisory Council Staff:** Stacey Smith, Administrator and Cristiana Fillion, Administrative Assistant

**Advisory Council Chair:** Steve McMurdo

**Advisory Council Vice Chair:** Charmaine Scott

**Advisory Council Purpose/Mission Statement:** The purpose of the Advisory Council to the Kitsap County Division of Aging and Long Term Care (ALTC) is to make recommendations to the staff of the Division of ALTC and the Board of County Commissioners regarding the development and support of the ALTC's Mission and Objectives.

More specifically, the purpose and duty of the Advisory Council to the ALTC is to make recommendations regarding the development and administration of the Area Plan; to conduct public meetings; to represent and advocate for the interests of older and disabled citizens of Kitsap County; and to review and comment on community policies, programs, and actions which affect older and disabled persons when requested.

The Division of ALTC Mission is to work independently and through community partnerships to promote the well-being and independence of older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers.

The primary objectives of the Advisory Council are to advocate for:

- Assisting citizens in securing and maintaining maximum independence and dignity in their living environment of choice with appropriate support services, preventing unnecessary or premature facility-based care;
- Removal of individual and social barriers to economic and personal independence;
- Helping older and disabled adults become involved with other people, reducing isolation and loneliness;
- Helping older persons enjoy better health through improved nutrition, health promotion and disease prevention education and activities;
- Connecting caregivers to individualized support and guidance to help empower them in their caregiving role;
- Partnering with other county departments, community agencies and non-profit organizations to further develop positive, healthy aging opportunities in Kitsap County;
- Providing excellent customer service to the community by acknowledging, listening and valuing each member.

2026 Goal	Status	Priority Level	Comments/Coordination
<b>TIER 1: HIGH PRIORITY</b>			
1. Continue to increase community visibility to advocate about programs and services available through the Kitsap Aging & Long Term Care Agency.	Ongoing	High	Each Council member will identify one community-based organization to link/attend.  Measure: a. Each member will identify 1-2 group/ gaps to concentrate connections, annually b. Promote legislative issues that impact older adults and people with disabilities
2. Continue to strengthen the Advisory Council's relationship with state, national and <i>with emphasis to the local elected officials</i> as mandated by the Older Americans Act and Council bylaws.	Ongoing	High	Council routinely participates in advocacy efforts with federal, state and local elected officials and in-session legislative discussions.  Measure: Advocacy activities are reported during monthly Council meetings, reflected in meeting minutes, and recorded on outreach form.
3. <del>Fill Council vacancies</del> Align Aging Advisory Council membership to new Older Americans Act requirements	Ongoing	High	Measure: <del>Fill vacancies</del> Update Bylaws to align with membership requirements of Older American Act. Identify strategies to fill vacant slot(s).
4. Promote strategies to combat social isolation.	Ongoing Paused	High	Measure: Identify strategies for safe social connections for older adults and their caregivers
<b>TIER 2: MODERATE PRIORITY</b>			
<b>TIER 3: LOW PRIORITY</b>			
<b>GOALS ON HOLD</b>			
<b>GOALS COMPLETED OR DELETED</b>			
Update Kitsap Aging Outreach form	Completed		Completed in 2025

## SECTION II. Membership

**POLICY:** Representation on the advisory council should maximize, to the extent possible, the involvement of representatives who reflect the population mix within the provider service area (PSA).

Advisory council representation must include:

1. At least one local elected official.
2. At least 50 percent persons age 60+ including minority individuals who are participants or who are eligible for participation in OAA Programs, with efforts to include individuals identified as in the greatest economic need and individuals identified as in the greatest social need.
3. At least one member of a health care provider organization, including providers of veterans' health care (if appropriate).
4. At least one member with leadership experience in the private and voluntary sectors.
5. Older persons in greatest economic or social need.
6. Representatives of service providers, which may include legal assistance, nutrition, evidence-based disease prevention and health promotion, caregiver, long-term care ombudsman, and other service providers.
7. Unpaid family caregivers.
8. Person with leadership experience in the private and voluntary sectors.
9. As available:
  - Representatives from Tribes within PSA
  - Older relative caregivers, including kin and grandparent caregivers of children or adults aged 18 to 59 with a disability.
  - Younger disabled adults.

## Aging Advisory Council Community Outreach Tracking Form

**Month:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Summary of Activities

Date of Activity	Describe Activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AC Meeting</li> <li>• Community outreach or event (name)</li> <li>• Social Media/Email</li> <li>• Material Dissemination</li> <li>• Advocacy Alert Action</li> <li>• Other: Describe</li> </ul>	Topic: (optional) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Aging Info (programs, services or events)</li> <li>• General Caregiver Info (programs, services or events)</li> <li>• Memory Loss</li> <li>• Other: Describe</li> </ul>	Total Duration of Time (include prep & travel)	Approx. number of individuals reached (per activity), as applicable

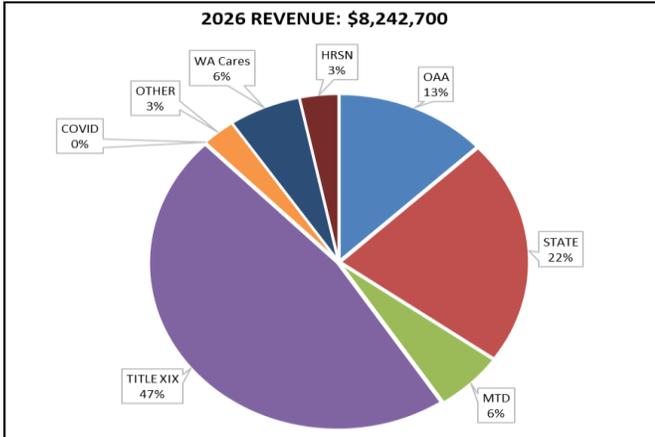
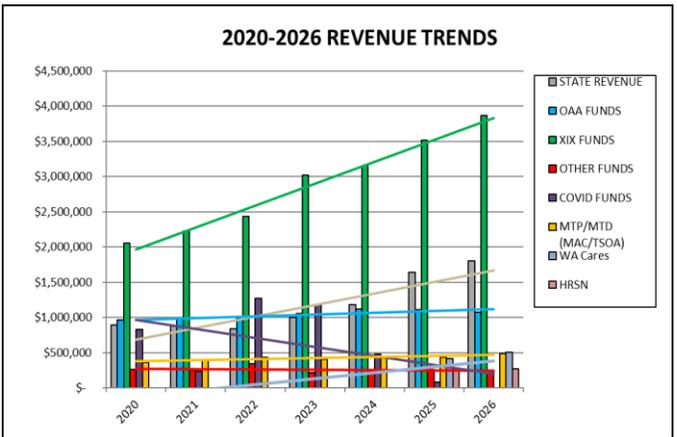
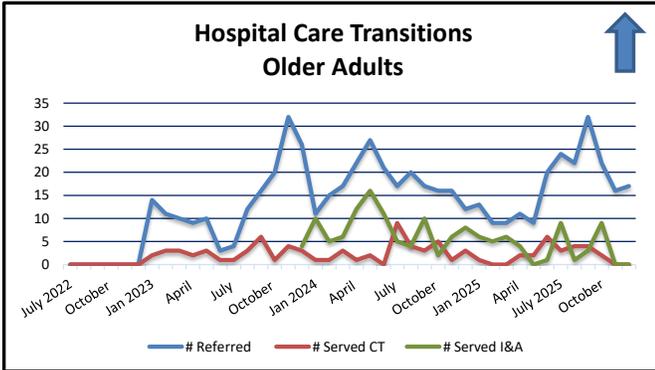
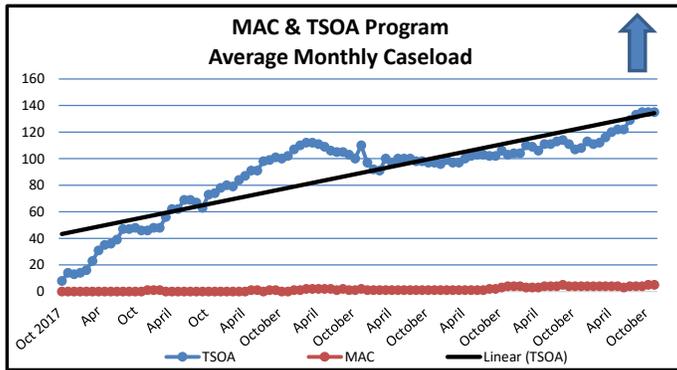
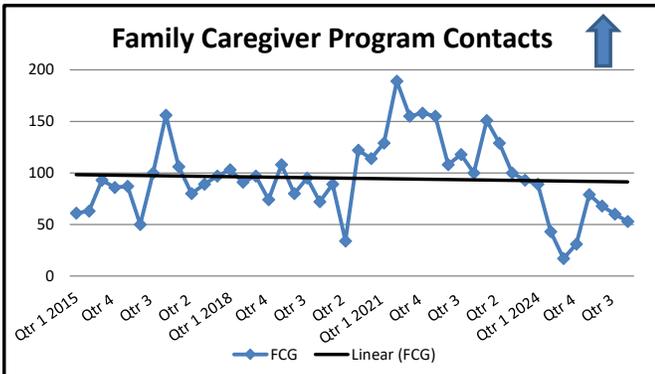
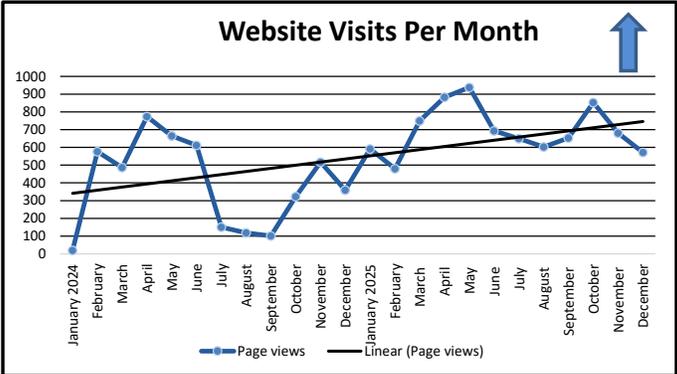
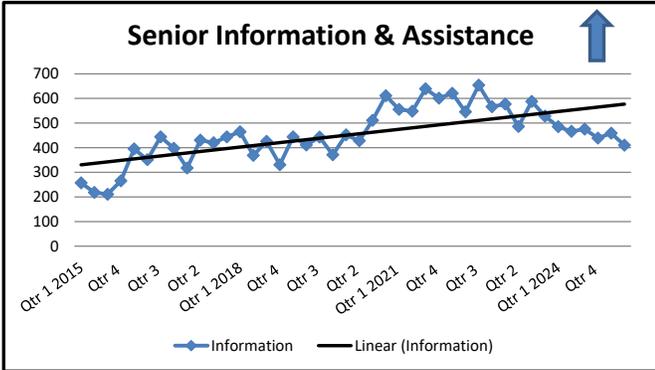
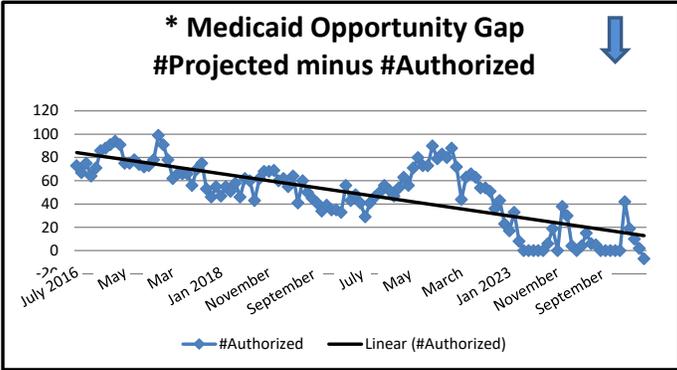
**Notes:**

Please complete and return to Aging by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month -mail or attach to an email.

Mail: 614 Division St., MS-5  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Email: Cristiana at [cfillion@kitsap.gov](mailto:cfillion@kitsap.gov)

### Aging & Long Term Care Advisory Council Dashboard- January 2026



\* 1,255 caseload max

**Community Outreach Activities:**

January 22: ALTC Overview (Standing monthly presentation)

January 27: ALTC Overview at The Pearl; 1:00pm (Jason & Davin)

January 27: Project Connect Day 1 Silverdale New Life Training Center from 10:00am-2:00pm

January 28: Project Connect Day 2: United Methodist (Port Orchard) from 10:00am- 2:00pm

January 29: Project Connect Day 3: Salvation Army (Bremerton) from 10:00am- 2:00pm

## 2026 Advisory Council Meetings & Activities

January 12	WA Legislature Begins (ends March 13, 2026)
January 12	* w4a Legislative Training Webinar (Noon-1:00pm)
January 15	* Advisory Council Legislative Planning Meeting (Noon-1:00pm)
January 21 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am- 1:30pm
January 20-22	* w4a Advocacy Days (appointments with elected officials)
February 18 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am- 1:30pm
February 19	* Virtual Spring Senior Lobby event
March 18 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am- 1:30pm
April 15 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am- 1:30pm
May 20 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am- 1:30pm
May Workshops TBD	<u>May Older Adults Virtual Workshops</u>
June 17 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am- 1:30pm <i>Presentation: Area Plan</i>
July TBD	Optional Picnic
August 19 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am- 1:30pm <i>Presentation: Area Plan Draft document</i>
September 16 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am- 1:30pm <i>Presentation: Area Plan Final Approval</i>
October 21 (Wed)	* <del>Advisory Council from 11:30am- 1:30pm</del> CANCELLED 2026 AAA & State Council on Aging (SCOA) Conference
October 22	2026 Fall Senior Lobby Conference
November TBD	Kitsap Caregiver Workshops
November 18 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am-1:30pm
December 16 (Wed)	* Advisory Council Meeting from 11:30am- 1:30pm

\*Indicates zoom meeting; hybrid in-person available (as requested)

In-person meeting location: (South Kitsap) Givens Community Center, Cascade Room