

# WYANDOTTE / LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING

RUTH E. JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

---

849 NORTH 47TH STREET, SUITE C, KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66102 • PHONE: (913) 573-8531 • FAX (913) 573-8577

April 3, 2025

Dear Advisory Council Member:

The next meeting of the Areawide Advisory Council will be held on **Wednesday, April 23, 2025** at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held virtually, and the meeting notification/link will be sent to the email on file.

Excused absence requests should be made at least 24 hours prior to the meeting date to ensure the excuse is recorded. Please keep in mind that 3 or more unexcused absences may result in termination of your term on the board.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the meeting, please contact the Area Agency on Aging at 913-573-8531.

Respectfully,



Linda Ramirez  
Advisory Council Liaison

/LR

Enclosures

# WYANDOTTE / LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING

RUTH E. JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

---

849 NORTH 47TH STREET, SUITE C, KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66102 • PHONE: (913) 573-8531 • FAX (913) 573-8577

## AREAWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL

### WYANDOTTE/LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING

APRIL 23, 2025

#### AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### COUNCIL CONCERNS

Leavenworth County

Wyandotte County

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Leavenworth County

Wyandotte County

#### OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING

MAY 28, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

WYANDOTTE/LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING  
AREAWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL  
*March 26, 2025*

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Pam Blood, Sharon Davis, Denise Dias, Barbara Ikerd, Jammie Johnson, Anita Krondak, Mary Mack, and Jessica Pontbriant.

EXCUSED: Susan McGinnis and Janey Rodriguez.

ABSENT: Jacqueline Browne, Carlen Davis, Cindy Hopewell, Jason Hussey, and Kim Weaver.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Connie Harmon, Jessica Pontbriant and Linda Ramirez.

**GUESTS PRESENT:** None.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Jammie Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:04am.

**MINUTES:** The February meeting minutes were approved with one correction on page 3. The information should have read that Jamey Rodriguez could provide a backup speaker for the March meeting, not Jammie Johnson.

**CHAIRMAN  
COMMENTS:**

Jammie Johnson thanked everyone for attending and to those who traveled to Leavenworth from Wyandotte. She also thanked the LCOA for hosting the meeting.

**COUNCIL CONCERNS:**

Leavenworth County:

- Anita Krondak announced that she is enjoying the additional day of the yoga classes held at the Leavenworth Council on Aging (LCOA).

Wyandotte County:

- None.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Leavenworth:

- Connie announced that the LCOA public hearing will be held (today), March 26<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. They're hoping for a large turnout.
- Connie shared that this is "*Champions' Week*" for the Meals on Wheels Program. The LCOA Nutrition Coordinator will be out delivering meals with the Commissioners of Leavenworth County in the districts they serve.

- The Leavenworth Council on Aging is currently on a waitlist of 34 clients for the Meals on Wheels Program. This is the first time in their program's history.
- This week is the last week of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) at the Council on Aging. To date, they have served 502 clients. The COA has 11 dedicated volunteers and 4 team members who help facilitate the essential program.
- Connie announced that the Leavenworth Council on Aging will be hosting its *Positive Aging Resource Fair* on Friday, May 2nd from 10am – 2pm. This fair will include multiple vendors supplying information, bingo, prizes and raffles. Lunch will be served. All were invited to attend.

Wyandotte:

Linda Ramirez provided the Directors Report in the absence of Ruth Jones.

- Linda announced that the Kansas Department for Aging & Disabilities (KDADS) made the decision to go out for Request for Proposals (RFP) for the ADRC contract this year. The contract was awarded to other entities.
  - **Liberty Health Group** – will administer the Options Counseling & IRA components
  - **Maximus** – will perform the Home and Community Based Service (HCBS) Assessments

Neither of the vendors are in Wyandotte or Leavenworth County, but we have been told that satellite offices will be set up. This change will impact the Area Agency on Aging budget with a \$400,000+ loss of funding. Currently, the statewide Area Agencies on Aging Association (K4A) is working with KDADS and the new vendors for a plan to transition the program by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

- The Area Agencies on Aging has been awarded the *Administrative Care Management* Contract. This program will assist currently assessed program participants with Medicaid applications and obtain and upload their medical documentation.
- Linda shared that the State Aging Network is looking at a possible \$2 million nutrition passage. The original ask was \$3 million, but it appears that \$2 million may be awarded. This has not been confirmed.

- The Kansas Respite for Alzheimer's & Dementia (KRAD) program is moving slowly. It appears when customers find out they do not receive the reimbursement of one payment, but it is invoiced per use, the customers are no longer interested.
- The Senior Health Insurance Counseling for Kansans (SHICK) conference will be held in Wichita next month. All SHICK Coordinators in the State are encouraged to attend.
- Linda shared that the Wyandotte County Fiscal Department has finally brought all current state reports, Area Plans, Cash Requests for the year up to date and current. This was a huge undertaking considering the loss of previous top office, and the implementation of a new electronic system by the Unified Government.
- The Area Agency on Aging is fully staffed at the current time, but there are possible long-term staffing retirements pending for 2025/26.
- The Wyandotte office held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The combined March for Meals event was highly successful with about 100 seniors who converged on the Victory Hills Baptist Church. Commissioners Melissa Bynum and Andrew Davis were in attendance.
- Linda provided a "Save the Date" for a Legislative Luncheon to be held April 29<sup>th</sup>, 11a – 1p at the K-State Extension Office. Linda mentioned that this event is not open to the public.
- Linda announced that the Older Americans Month Celebration (Sock Hop) has been scheduled for Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the George Meyn Community Center, 11a – 2p.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- None.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Areawide Advisory Council will be held virtually on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, 10am.

**ADJOURN:**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:40am.

Respectfully submitted:



Linda Ramirez  
Recording Secretary