

**AGING IN COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
OF THE
COMMISSION ON AGING**

December 11, 2018

9:00-11:00 am

7300 Calhoun Place, Room 6C Rockville, MD

In Attendance: Dick Jourdenais, Monica Schaeffer, Nanine Meiklejohn, Miriam Kelty, Noelle Heyman, Barbara Brubeck, Stephanie Edelstein, Amy Harbison, Isabelle Schoenfeld

Staff: Marcia Pruzan

Guests: Melanie Polk, MC HHS Director, Senior Nutrition Program, Diana Tato-Niktash, MC HHS Program Manager, Food Security Plan, Heather Bruskin, Executive Director, Montgomery County Food Council, Jenna Umbriac, Director of Programs and Policy, MANNA Food Center, Mary Sweeney(GROWS),

Topic	Discussion Points	Decisions/Follow Up
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<p>Food Security Presentations</p>	<p>Melanie Polk described the long established MC Senior Nutrition Program, which meets state requirements. Approximately 6,000 seniors are served by this program at 40 different sites. Various food contractors provide ethnic and cultural meals. In addition, approximately 1,500 meals are home-delivered. Meals are delivered 5 days a week.</p> <p>Diana Tato-Niktash spoke of the recently established MC Food Security Plan. Plan goals include increased senior participation in the Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), as only 46% of eligible seniors are now enrolled, increased minority senior enrollment, and the establishment of a volunteer workforce to implement the Plan.</p> <p>Heather Bruskin related the Food Council's, which is a non-profit organization, efforts to coordinate food providers and food distribution among 80 different partners. About half of the partners are faith-based organizations.</p> <p>Jenna Umbriac described the operations of MANNA whose food service currently includes a clientele which is comprised of 34% seniors. All distributed food is donated. Challenges include food inventory and food quantity issues.</p>	<p>Senior Nutrition Program concerns include weekend senior nutrition and ability to reach remote, vulnerable seniors.</p> <p>Food Council concerns include increased transportation options for seniors so they can easily access sites where food is available.</p> <p>MANNA also is concerned that senior transportation is inadequate for seniors to reach MANNA food centers.</p>
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<p>Follow-up</p>		<p>At the January 2019 meeting, the AIC will review food security issues and determine opportunities for advocacy.</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>December COA meeting on 12/19 at Ingelside</p> <p>January, 2019 AIC meeting at Calhoun Place</p>	
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>	<p>Meeting Adjourned with thanks to committee members.</p>	