

**Alaska Commission on Aging**  
**APPROVED Planning Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**April 6, 2016**

**Purpose of Meeting:** To consider recommendations for revisions to the funding formula that will be presented to the State Plan Advisory Committee Funding Formula Task Force.

**Participants:** Marie Darlin, David Blacketer, Mary Shields, Rachel Greenberg, Denise Daniello, Lesley Thompson, and Lisa Morley (SDS Senior Grants Manager)

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by Co-Chair Marie Darlin.

**Action on draft agenda and meeting minutes:** Motion was made by Rachel and seconded by David to approve the draft agenda and minutes from the March 14, 2016 minutes as written. Motion approved.

**Review and discuss definition for Rural-Urban Continuum Code (RUCC):** Lisa Morley provided an overview of the RUCC codes as developed by USDA and the application to Alaska census districts for purposes of the state plan funding formula. Rachel noted that she liked the idea of using an objective classification system to make the urban-rural-remote determination based on information compiled by the feds that removes subjectivity for defining rural. Hearing no objections, Marie recommended that the Committee accept the RUCC code as a recommendation to present to the Funding Formula Task Force for their consideration. Others agreed. Rachel noted that the RUCC classification did not make complete sense for Alaska. Mary noted that "Wade Hampton Census Area" within Region I should be changed to its new name **Kusilvak Census Area**.

**Considerations for funding formula revisions:** Denise provided an overview of the four options to consider for revising the funding formula.

- (1) Option 1: Remove the cost of living factor and implement a new urban-rural-remote factor
  - Proposed weighting factors are "0" for urban, "½" the weight value for rural, and "full" weight for remote
- (2) Option 2: Remove Hold Harmless beginning FY2017 and implement methodology for base funding regional allocation using existing FY2016 federal Older American Act funds.
  - Use the FY2016 OAA federal funding as the base allocation for each region and run the state funding amount through the funding formula.
- (3) Option 3: Divide Region V into two subsets for Mat-Su and Valdez/Kenai/Cordova.
  - Consider dividing Region V into two subsets to more accurately target funding where needed.
- (4) Option 4: Modify weights for the funding formula factors in consideration of findings from the provider survey.

**Review of Funding Formula Spreadsheet:** Joan reviewed the funding formula spreadsheet with Committee members where four scenarios were discussed and considered with each using different weights for the funding factors of total senior population; frail (number of seniors age 80+); minority (number of seniors who are not Caucasian), poverty (number of seniors who participate in the Senior Benefits program), and rural. Based on the discussion, the following scenarios will be presented to the Funding Formula Task Force for each of the factors in the order described above:

- 12.5, 12.5, 25, 25, 25 (Weights for State Plan Funding Formula, FY2008-2011)
- 17, 16, 21, 23, 23 (Weights for State Plans, FY2012-2015 and FY2016-2019)
- 12.5, 12.5, 30, 20 (Based on findings from Provider survey, 2015)

- 12.5, 12.5, 12.5, 25, 25 (Rachel's recommendation)
- 25, 12.5, 12.5, 27.5, 27.5 (Rachel's recommendation)

Next Steps: The Committee decided on the date for the Funding Formula Task Force meeting to be Monday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to 12:00 noon. State Plan Advisory Committee members who expressed an interest in serving on the Funding Formula Task Force in an earlier email will receive an invitation. Denise reviewed the other tasks to complete:

- Convening the Funding Formula Task Force to review and make recommendations for the revised funding formula to be considered for public comment and by the Department of Health and Social Services;
- Hold 30-day public comment on the draft revised funding formula
- Submit the final draft funding formula to DHSS
- Upon approval from DHSS, submit the final revised funding formula to the U.S. Administration on Community Living
- Implement the revised funding formula beginning July 1, 2016

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.