2019 in Review

The Commission on Aging is a 16-member advisory and planning body. Its members are appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Board of Supervisors. The Commission is responsible for overseeing a coordinated human service system of community-based services for Milwaukee County residents aged 60 and over.

Key Accomplishments



Through the Service Delivery Committee, provided oversight over a new group of vendors that provided higher quality services.



Coordinated succession planning with MCDA staff and successfully recruited new and diverse members to the Commission and its standing committees.



Finished a complete review and update of existing bylaws which had not been done in over two decades.

Other 2019 Accomplishments

- Joined other stakeholders throughout Milwaukee County to advocate for the *Move Milwaukee Forward* initiative.
- Participated in Aging Advocacy Day at the State Capitol which saw a record number of participants from Milwaukee County.
- Some Commissioners participated in the Department's Senior Statesman Program to learn more about local and state government and how to become an effective advocate.

2019 Commission on Aging

Barbara Wyatt Sibley Chair

Fred Knueppel Vice Chair Chair, Advocacy Committee

Maria Castrejon-Pérez Secretary

Sup. Jason Haas County Supervisor

Bettie Rodgers, J.D., MSW Chair, Advisory Council

Dr. Sharon Abston-Coleman Ronald Byington Patsy Delgado John Griffith Richmond Izard Debra Jupka César Pabón Shirley Sharp Charles Vang Pastor Johnny White

New Commissioners in 2020

Amber Miller (Jan 2020) Rev. George Pumphrey, Jr., PhD (Jan 2020) Gloria Miller (Feb 2020) Dr. Gloria Pitchford-Nicholas (Feb 2020)

The mission of the Milwaukee County Department on Aging is to affirm the dignity and value of the older adults of Milwaukee County by supporting their choices for living in, and giving to, our community.

Envisioning Our Senior Centers

Throughout the summer and fall, the Aging Advisory Council of the Commission on Aging sponsored a series of community conversations across Milwaukee County to gather public input and discuss the future of our senior centers. Through these conversations and an online survey, MCDA gathered more than 500 responses from individuals, generating hundreds of ideas for the renewal of our senior centers. The data from this process was compiled by the Advisory Council into a report for the full Commission on Aging which will form the basis for a long-term strategic plan for both our Milwaukee County Senior centers and senior center programming more widely. The COA recognized that senior centers continue to serve an important role in helping older adults age well, but at the same time they must continue to grow and adapt to the changing needs of the aging population.

Looking to the Future

The Commission on Aging will continue to work with MCDA and other county stakeholders to plan and implement senior center programming that meets the needs of current older adults as well as the older adults of the future. The Commission will also continue to provide oversight over the Department's service delivery system to ensure that an appropriate mix of services is administered fairly and effectively. The Commission will oversee the Department's work to collaborate with other county departments to ensure that administrative processes deliver the right services to the right people as quickly as possible. Finally, the Commission will continue its efforts to recruit and select a group of Commissioners and standing committee members who fully reflect the diversity of Milwaukee County.

Committees

- Executive Committee
- Advocacy Committee
- Service Delivery Committee
- Wellness Committee
- Advisory Council
- Nutrition Council



Senior Statesman Program



Aging Advocacy Day in Madison



Envisioning Our Senior Centers

If you are interested in serving on a committee or the Commission please contact Jon Janowski at (414) 289-6073 or areaagency@milwaukeecountywi.gov.





MILWAUKEE COUNTY Department on Aging

1220 West Vliet Street, Suite 300 | Milwaukee, WI 53205 | (414) 289–6874 | county.milwaukee.gov/aging Committed to the Independence and Dignity of Older Adults Through Advocacy, Leadership and Service.