

State of the Coalition on Aging – September 2018

Membership is strong and growing:

- 11 new agency/organizational members this year. Total of 70 now.
- 17 new individual supporters this year.

Finances are in good order:

- Budget remains stable even with paying \$1000 per month for contracted services since September of 2017.
- Healthy balance of dues and contributions/donations as well as in-kind support.
- Sponsors for annual meeting/luncheon/ongoing work of the Coalition increased from four last year to 16 this year.

Support for members is a key focus:

- Ten regular membership meetings with speakers. Includes information sharing and opportunities for networking.
- Routine communications including monthly *Updates*.
- Individual support to members as needed.

Impacting public policy and state legislative and Congressional actions is a priority:

- Membership on key advisory and policy groups.
- Strengthening relationships with members of the General Assembly. Invited to present to the Aging Subcommittee of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services.
- Positive action taken by the General Assembly on the Coalition's legislative priorities resulting in increased funding for the Home and Community Care Block Grant, added support for adult guardianship services, creation and funding for an additional position to support adult protective service and guardianship social work staff in county departments of social services, and significant added funding to increase the rate for in-home aide services provided under the Community Alternatives Program for Disabled Adults (CAP-DA) effective January 1, 2019.
- Calls to action as needed – includes action alerts and other advocacy strategies.
- Written comments, remarks at public meetings, presentations to relevant groups and organizations, interviews with media, and other pro-active actions taken as needed.

Continuing deliberate steps to strengthen the operation of the Coalition is critical:

- Completing the process for becoming a 501(c)3 and establishing a well-functioning Board of Directors and Executive Committee are priorities.
- Developing a plan for financial sustainability is a must.
- Planning for the short term as well as for the next two to three years is necessary and should drive the continuing work of the Coalition.