



VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

January 14, 2026

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 am

Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) –
Conference and Educational Services Center
5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo 93012

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1600825765?pwd=EJ4xAnkdNWwngQakelBoyOTbk51LxR.1>

The council will be meeting in person. Members of the public are welcome to attend in person or via Zoom.

VCAAA Advisory Council Role – To provide leadership, input, and advocacy as facilitators between VCAAA and the community, in support of VCAAA’s mission.

VCAAA Role – VCAAA is the responsible agency to seek, serve, administer, and manage available funding to ensure resources are allocated to serve Ventura County, creating integrated community-based services where older adults and people with disabilities can age in their community with dignity and respect.

A G E N D A

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|-----------|----|--|-------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. | 1. | Call to Order and Agenda Review | Dr. Maria Munguia |
| | 2. | Pledge of Allegiance | Lynette Harvey |
| | 3. | Roll Call and Motion to Accept Online Virtual Attendance for those declaring “Emergency Circumstances” | Alisa Sanchez |
| | 4. | Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of November 12, 2025. | Dr. Maria Munguia |
| | 5. | Public Comments | Dr. Maria Munguia |

Procedure: The public is welcome to comment. All comments not related to items on the agenda may be made at the beginning of the meeting only. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.

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| | 6. | Consent Agenda Items – Committee Reports | Dr. Maria Munguia |
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Procedure: The Advisory Council will approve these reports all at once unless an Advisory Committee wishes to remove

a report from the consent agenda and discuss and approve it separately.

6.1 Housing & Transportation Committee – 09.16.25

6.2 ADRC Committee – 11.19.25

6.3 Workforce Committee – 11.20.25

6.4 Optimal Aging Committee – No report

6.5 Senior Nutrition & Health Committee – No report

ACTION ITEMS

No Action Items at this time.

PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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| 7. | HSA Leadership Update | Monique Nowlin
Elaine Martinez
Stephanie Belding |
| 8. | Presentation: Notable Notes from the Workforce Development Board | |
| 9. | Presentation: Caregiver Coalition | Maureen Hodge |
| 10. | CSL Elections/Executive Committee Elections Discussion | Dr. Maria Munguia |
| 11. | HSA Communications Manager Update | Roger Horne |
| 12. | Other Committee Meetings: | |
| | a. California Senior Legislature Update | Brenda Birdwell
Tony Gitt
Dr. Karen Gorback |
| | b. VCAAA Foundation Update | James Schicker |
| | c. LGBT+ Aging Coalition | Dr. Ron Berkowsky |
| | d. Dementia Friendly Ventura County | Jason Sagar |
| 13. | Meeting Calendar FY 2025-2026 | Dr. Maria Munguia |
| 14. | Other Business | Dr. Maria Munguia |
| 15. | Comments from the Chair | Dr. Maria Munguia |
| 16. | Future Agenda Items | Dr. Maria Munguia |
| 11:00 am 17. | Adjournment | Dr. Maria Munguia |

VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING
Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
5100 Adolfo Road
Camarillo, CA 93012
November 12, 2025

Advisory Council Members Present:

Blair Barker (Service Provider)	Dr. Maria Munguia (City of Santa Paula)
Stephanie Belding (Thousand Oaks COA)	Carmen Reyes (Camarillo COA) - virtual
Brenda Birdwell (CSL)	Michelle Rios (Service Provider)
Alvin Brown (Simi Valley COA)	Anita Ruiz (BOS At-Large)
Denise Calhoun (BOS District 2)	Peter Schreiner (Behavioral Health Population)
Carina Forsythe (City of Fillmore)	Martha Shapiro (Service Provider)
Tony Gitt (CSL)	Alice Sweetland (City of Oxnard)
Dr. Karen Gorback (CSL)	Sue Tatangelo (Consumer Population)
Lynette Harvey (Medical Provider)	Sylvia Taylor-Stein (BOS District 5) - virtual
Carol Leish (Disability Population)	Nita Vaidya (Thousand Oaks COA)
Gloria Massey-Chinea (City of Oxnard)	Susan Voll (Camarillo COA)
Luis Mendez II (City of Port Hueneme)	Gayle Von Eissler (City of Moorpark)

Advisory Council Members Absent:

Paul Atkinson (Veterans Population)	Jonnie Lisman (City of Port Hueneme)
Dr. Ron Berkowsky (LGBT+ Population)	Bill Miley (City of Ojai)
Fred Chase (City of Ojai)	Nancy Phillips (BOS District 3)
Smita Dandekar (BOS District 4)	Jeanette Sanchez-Palacios (BOS District 1)
Maureen Hodge (Family Caregiver Population)	

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Alyssa Corse (Senior Nutrition Manager)	Ben Rhodes (Division Manager)
Roger Horne (Communications Manager)	Roger Robinson (HSA Director)
Martin Marquez (Program Assistant)	Jason Sagar (PEARLS Manager)
Elaine Martinez (HSA Deputy Director)	Alisa Sanchez (Program Assistant)
Denise Noguera-Valenzuela (I&A Mgr.)	Sonia Vaughn (HICAP Manager)
Monique Nowlin (AAA Director)	Kari Verdugo (Administrative Specialist)

Members of the Public Present:

Lois Barberio	George C.
Jacqueline Blade	Christopher DePalma
William Borkowski Jr.	Dinah Frishling
M. Coverly	Elizabeth Savage

BOS (Board of Supervisors) Supervisorial Appointees:

District 1 – Supervisor Matt LaVere
District 2 – Supervisor Jeff Gorell
District 3 – Supervisor Kelly Long

District 4 – Supervisor Janice Parvin
District 5 – Supervisor Vianey Lopez

- 1) **Call to Order and Agenda Review** – The November 12, 2025, Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 9:01 am by Chair Dr. Maria Munguia.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dr. Denise Calhoun (Board of Supervisors – District 2 Appointee).
- 3) **Roll Call and Motion to Accept Online Virtual Attendance for Those Declaring “Emergency Circumstances”** – Alisa Sanchez called roll. Quorum was reached.
- 4) **Approval of Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Minutes of September 10, 2025.**

Motion: Approve September 10th, 2025 Minutes

Moved by: Al Brown, seconded by Sue Tatangelo

Result: Motion passed

- 5) **Public Comments** – Nita Vaidya shared that she is a Commissioner of the Council on Aging of Thousand Oaks and that they submitted a demographic report which revealed that 20% of the Thousand Oaks population is considered aged (over 60). 31% of those older adults have self-identified some form of disability. Tony Gitt shared that the California Governor recently signed a bill related to ensuring that fire hydrants are working by creating baseline standards of emergency preparedness for water districts servicing homes in high-risk areas and must be in effect by 2030. Carol Leish made a comment to focus on capabilities rather than disabilities. Blair Barker shared that there will be a Caregiver Symposium on December 16th at 9 AM at VCOE.
- 6) **Consent Agenda Items**
 - 6.1 Optimal Aging Committee – 09.10.25
 - 6.2 ADRC Committee – 09.17.25
 - 6.3 Workforce Committee – 09.18.25
 - 6.4 Housing & Transportation Committee – will include in next

meeting's packet

6.5 Senior Nutrition & Health Committee – will include in next meeting's packet

Motion: Accept Committee Reports

Moved by: Sue Tatangelo, seconded by Al Brown

Result: Motion passed

ACTION ITEMS

No Action Items at this meeting.

PRESENTATION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 7) **Legacy Awards – time certain 9:10 AM** – The 2025 Legacy Awards, which recognize the contributions of Ventura County residents and organizations that dedicate their lives to helping older adults, people with disabilities and their caregivers to live optimally, were presented at the meeting. Since 2018, the VCAAA Advisory Council's Optimal Aging Committee has annually presented Legacy Awards to a local business/organization, to Dementia-Friendly business/organizations, and to community members/volunteers. The 2025 recipients are:
 - Conejo Valley Village (business/organization)
 - Country Harvest (Dementia-Friendly business/organization)
 - William Borkowski Jr. (community member/volunteer)
 - Rigel Diaz (community member/volunteer)
- 8) **Presentation: Notable Notes from the Workforce Development Board** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
- 9) **HSA Communications Manager Update** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
- 10) **HSA Leadership Update** – HSA Director Roger Robinson shared that the VCAAA will be transitioning over to the State (California Department on Aging) as of June 30, 2026. CDA will release an RFP and seek a new provider/administrator for Ventura County AAA programs. Director Roger Robinson and Deputy Director Elaine Martinez then opened the floor to the council members to make

comments and ask questions. For the duration of the meeting Roger, Elaine and AAA Director Monique Nowlin listened to the comments and answered their questions or made agreements to follow up on questions they did not yet have answers to.

- 11) **Bylaws Update** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
- 12) **Other Committee Meetings:**
 - a. **California Senior Legislature (CSL) Update** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
 - b. **VCAAA Foundation Update** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
 - c. **LGBT+ Aging Coalition** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
 - d. **Dementia Friendly Ventura County (DFVC)** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
- 13) **Updated [Meeting Calendar](#)** – FY 2025-2026 is attached to Agenda Packet.
- 14) **Other Business** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
- 15) **Comments from the Chair** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
- 16) **Future Agenda Items** – Rescheduled to accommodate time for leadership exchange with Council members.
- 17) **Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 11:07 AM. The next regular meeting for the Advisory Council will be held on January 14, 2026, at Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) Conference and Education Center located at 5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo, CA 93012.

VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING



Housing and Transportation Committee

Tuesday, September 16th, 2025
2pm – 3pm

Meeting to be held on Teams

Report

1. Welcome and Introductions-Jason Sagar, Martha Shapiro, Brenda Birdwell, Stephanie Belding
2. Public Comments- No public comments
3. Committee chair discussion- Postpone committee chair discussion until Tony Gitt is able to attend
4. Housing-Discussion on creating housing goals and aim of the committee.
5. Transportation- AAA services are being screened by the AAA ADS team and administration of services is provided by APS
6. Other - none
7. Next Meeting Date – November 18, 2025, from 2pm to 3pm

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members
FROM: Ronald Berkowsky, Chair
DATE: November 19, 2025
SUBJECT: **ADRC Committee Meeting**

Committee Members Present:

Tony Gitt, Ronald Berkowsky, Al Brown, Jim Marston, Alexa Martin-Eisenberg, Vanessa Acain, Emily Bridges, Carol Leish, Maureen Hodge.

Committee Members Absent:

Martha Shapiro, Jennifer Griffin, Blair Barker, Carmen Reyes, Lilly Grossman, Keith Goslin, Susan Zirnite, Sue Tatangelo, Peter Schreiner, Linda Mac Dougall, Michelle Rios.

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Monique Nowlin, Denise Noguera-Valenzuela, Roger Horne.

1. Nomination and Discussion: Subcommittee Chair

- Tony Gitt opened the meeting and facilitated the election for ADRC Committee Chair.
- Ronald Berkowsky volunteered to serve.
- Motion: Tony Gitt moved to nominate Dr. Berkowsky as Chair.
- Second: Jim Marston.
- Vote: Majority in favor; no opposed; Dr. Berkowsky abstained.
- Outcome: Dr. Ronald Berkowsky elected as ADRC Committee Chair.
- Chair Berkowsky then continued facilitation of the meeting

2. Subcommittee Goals/Focus & Accomplishments

Topics identified for focus:

- Increasing public awareness and visibility of ADRC services.
- Ensuring consistent messaging to communities about how to access ADRC support.
- Continuing collaborative outreach between VCAAA and Access Central Coast.

Brochure / Outreach Materials

- A revised ADRC flyer has been completed to reflect ACC's updated branding.
- English and Spanish versions are posted on the website.
https://s47906.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/ADRC_2025_EN.pdf
- Suggestion raised to consider a trifold brochure for distribution at community events.

Consideration of whether future publicity should direct callers to ACC contact info rather than the AAA line was discussed; however, it was recommended to maintain current phone line until the transition completes.

3. Transition of the VCAAA

Key Clarifications from staff:

- The Human Services Agency (HSA) will transition administration of AAA to the California Department of Aging (CDA) by June 30, 2026
- CDA will release an RFP for a new provider to assume AAA services
- ADRC services are expected to continue through June 30, 2026, with the intention of a seamless transition for clients.
- Access Central Coast confirmed its continuing commitment to the ADRC partnership beyond 2026, regardless of which agency receives the AAA contract.

Committee Discussion:

- Desire for the ADRC partnership to continue under the future AAA provider
- Importance of protecting continuity of services, shared phone line access, and “No Wrong Door” philosophy.
- Concern about losing process if the ADRC partnership is not incorporated into the RFP.

Action Agreed Upon:

- The Committee will draft a unified advocacy letter to CDA expressing:
 - The mission and accomplishments of ADRC.
 - The importance of continuing the current partnership model.
 - Desire to maintain a shared access point for callers.
- Lead Author: Dr. Ronald Berkowsky
- Support: Carol Leish and committee members (collaborative edits via shared draft).

4. ADRC Accomplishments Report

- Denise Noguera proposed developing a presentation summarizing FY 2024-25 ADRC accomplishments.
- Suggested content includes
 - Outreach expansion and training efforts
 - Call center coordination and shared services
 - ACC rebranding and resources updates
 - Website enhancements
- This document may support the advocacy letter and be presented at Advisory Council meetings.

5. Next Meeting

- The previously cancelled March meeting will be restored due to active transition planning needs.
- Upcoming meetings (all 1:00 – 2:00pm):

- January 21, 2026
- March 18, 2026
- May 20, 2026
- January agenda item to include: Review and finalize draft advocacy letter to CDA.

6. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Dr. Ronald Berkowsky
- Second: Al Brown
- Meeting adjourned

TO: VCAAA Advisory Council Members

FROM: Stephanie Belding, Chair

DATE: January 06, 2026

SUBJECT: Workforce Committee (WC) Report from November 20, 2025

Committee Members Present:

Stephanie Belding
Dr. Karen Gorback
Brenda Birdwell
Al Brown
Michelle Rios

Interested Members of the Public:

Dr. Maria Munguia
Alice Sweetland

Committee Members Absent:

Dr. Nita Vaidya

VCAAA Staff Members Present:

Jason Sagar for Sonia Vaughn (HICAP Manager)
Roger Horne (Communications Manager)

1. **Welcome-** Meeting was called to order by Stephanie Belding at 10:04 am.
2. **Public Comments-** Stephanie shared that the County of Ventura's Workforce Development Board has extended an invitation to participate in their future job fairs- more information to come.
3. **Job Fair**

Confirmed Employers-

All employers that were invited to participate in the Highway to Health Job Fair on January 21, 2026 (in the Wild Lilac Room) have confirmed.

- County of Ventura's Workforce Development Board
- Conejo Valley Unified School District
- City of Thousand Oaks
- Comfort Keepers
- Senior Helpers
- Royal Staffing in Thousand Oaks

Promotional Materials and Placement- Julie Spivak at Goebel is requesting 7:30 am setup. A follow-up letter will be sent to all participating employers by December 15th; letter will include information on logistics.

Table tents with business names will be provided for the employers by the committee.

Stephanie will request two chairs be available for the job seekers and employers, per table.

Karen requested a large poster with the employer names to be visible for the job seekers.

Stephanie requested a flyer be created by Roger to inform the job seekers of the job fair; these flyers are also proposed to be available at the local Vons and other senior centers. Committee members present agreed to help distribute flyers.

Event Logistics- Committee members will help by assisting job seekers and answering any questions they may have. They will also route them to visit the employers on-site.

Stephanie will be on site from 8:30 am -1:30 pm; Brenda and Michelle will be at their own table and will assist the committee as needed. Karen will be there from 9 am to 1 pm. Al's attendance is tentative due to personal circumstances. Stephanie will follow up with absent committee members to confirm their attendance at the job fair. Sonia will also be in attendance to account for the number of attendees.

Computer room will not be available at this job fair; however, it has been offered by Julie Spivak at Goebel that it is available for other future events.

4. **Other Business-** none.
5. **Next meeting date** –The Workforce Committee's next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, January 15, 2026, from 10 AM – 11 AM via TEAMS
6. **Adjournment-** Meeting adjourned at 10:54 AM.



**VENTURA COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE
FY 2025-2026**

All Advisory Council meetings are held in person.

**All sub-committee meetings are held via
Zoom/TEAMS.**

	Advisory Council	ADRC	Housing & Transportation	Senior Nutrition & Health	Optimal Aging	Workforce
July	July 9 9-11 a.m.	July 16 1 - 2 p.m.	July 15 2 – 3 p.m.	July 16 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	July 23 2 – 3:00 p.m.	July 17 10 – 11 a.m.
August						
September	Sept 10 9-11 a.m.	Sept 17 1 - 2 p.m.	Sept 16 2 – 3 p.m.	Sept 17 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Sept 24 2 – 3:00 p.m.	Sept 18 10 – 11 a.m.
October						
November	Nov 12 9-11 a.m.	Nov 19 1 - 2 p.m.	Nov 18 2 – 3 p.m.	Nov 19 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Nov 26 2 – 3:00 p.m.	Nov 20 10 – 11 a.m.
December						
January	Jan 14 9-11 a.m.	Jan 21 1 - 2 p.m.	Jan 20 2 – 3 p.m.	Jan 21 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Jan 28 2 – 3:00 p.m.	Jan 15 10 – 11 a.m.
February						
March	March 25 9-11 a.m.	March 18 1 - 2 p.m.	March 17 2 – 3 p.m.	March 18 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	March 25 2 – 3:00 p.m.	March 19 10 – 11 a.m.
April						
May	May 20 9-11 a.m.	May 20 1 - 2 p.m.	May 19 2 – 3 p.m.	May 20 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	May 27 2 – 3:00 p.m.	May 21 10 – 11 a.m.
June						