



Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC)

General Statement of Responsibilities:

The function of the SSAC is to advise the Lane Council of Governments Board of Directors and Agency staff on the services provided by Senior & Disability Services, on the general welfare of older people in Lane County, and on all important matters affecting the administration of the agency except for matters of personnel administration, staff pay, and benefits.

Membership of the Advisory Council:

The Council is composed of up to twenty-three members, representative of various parts of Lane County. Over half of the members must be sixty years of age or older. One-quarter of the members should represent rural areas of Lane County outside the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area.

Terms of Appointment:

Members are appointed to a regular term of three years. The by-laws allow members to serve up to two consecutive three year terms (6 years maximum).

Membership Time Commitment:

An Advisory Council position requires a willingness to commit up to six hours every other month to the work of the Council. The Senior Services Advisory Council meets from 1:30 PM to 2:15 PM on the third Friday of every other odd month (January, March, May, July, September, November). Immediately prior to the meeting, a Joint Council meeting is held from 11:30 AM to 1:15 PM during which a catered lunch is provided. Members are expected to attend both meetings. Members are emailed and mailed meeting materials at least one week prior to meetings. With advance notice, members may request to participate by phone if they are unable to attend a meeting in person, such as due to weather.

Members are also encouraged to join a committee of their Council. Committee meetings usually occur every other month or every quarter, for one to two hours.

Materials review or work related to the Council and committees varies, but generally is less than one hour per meeting

Activities of Members:

Depending upon specific goals of the Council and individual interests, members serve on committees which participate in the following types of activities:

1. Review and make recommendations regarding S&DS goals and objectives.
2. Give advice about policies and priorities of the Agency as they relate to consumers served and service providers.
3. Share in the development of new ideas/concepts within the Agency.
4. Monitor legislative issues affecting older adults and people with disabilities, taking actions to promote specific pieces of legislation, as authorized to do so by the LCOG Board of Directors.
5. Monitor agency programs.
6. Advocate for care or services needed to improve the quality of life for older adults and the people with disabilities.

Qualifications for Council Members:

1. Interest and commitment to representing the interests of older adults and people with disabilities.
2. Experience and background in working for the betterment of the lives of older adults and persons with disabilities.
3. Ability to work effectively with others.
4. Ability to think objectively and express ideas.
5. Willingness to devote time and energy to Council activities
6. Demonstrated leadership qualities.
7. Interest in planning, policy development and advocacy activities.

Travel Reimbursement:

If requested, S&DS will reimburse mileage or parking expenses for members. Reimbursement forms are available from S&DS staff.