



# RIVERSIDE COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

2011 - 2012 Year End Report

The eyes, ears,  
and voices for  
Riverside County  
seniors!

# MISSION STATEMENT

*The Riverside County Advisory Council on Aging is a group of seasoned and diverse community leaders committed to each other and the process of consensus building to meet the needs of older adults, persons with disabilities, and caregivers in Riverside County.*

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



*The Advisory Council on Aging (Council) is comprised of seventeen volunteer leaders and was created in 1974 as a volunteer leadership body mandated under the Older Americans Act and Older Californians Act. Members are appointed to serve in an advisory capacity to the Office on Aging and the Board of Supervisors and as advocates to Riverside County's seniors and older adults with disabilities.*

*As advisors and advocates, the Council holds an important role in the development of the Office on Aging Strategic Plan on Aging. In the planning process the Council identifies priority legislative and regulatory issues, and considers population trends, unmet needs, and emerging issues affecting seniors and older adults with disabilities. In addition, the Council focuses on outcomes for individuals and communities and on performance measures for programs and services to gain a clearer understanding of how aging services are affecting the lives of people and communities.*

*As advocates for seniors and older adults with disabilities, the Council Members are the eyes, ears, and voice for seniors and older adults with disabilities in their communities. With this important role, comes the responsibility to raise issues, recommend changes, and advocate for those changes. Without Council leadership, opportunities to improve services would be fewer and negative attitudes of ageism would be stronger. Effective volunteer leaders in partnership with government and community liaisons will continue to make a difference for seniors and older adults with disabilities in Riverside County.*

*On behalf of the Advisory Council I would like to thank the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and the Office on Aging for their ongoing support of the Council and their valued work to help Riverside County's seniors and older adults with disabilities to have a better quality of life.*

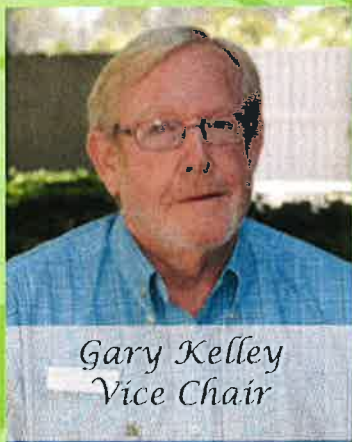
*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gloria J. Sanchez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

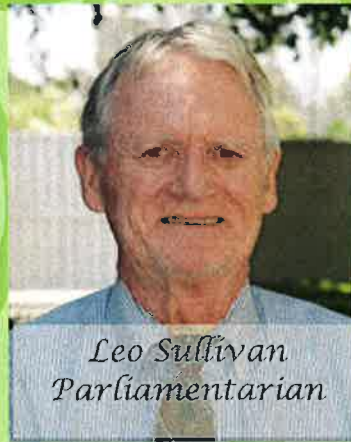
*Gloria J. Sanchez, Chair*



*Gloria J. Sanchez  
Chair*



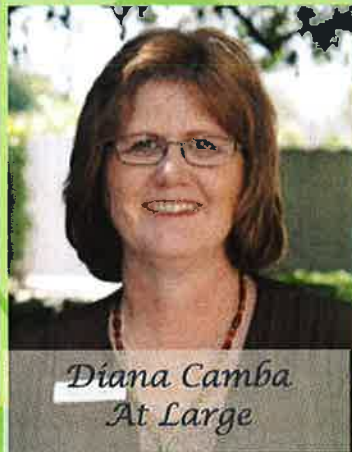
*Gary Kelley  
Vice Chair*



*Leo Sullivan  
Parliamentarian*



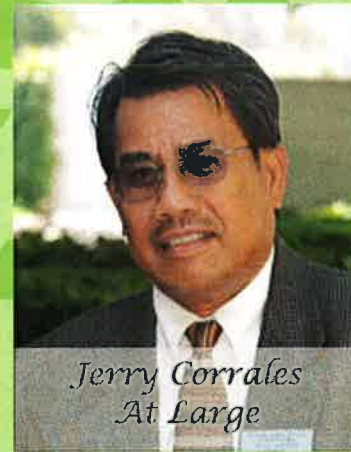
*Barbara Brown  
At Large*



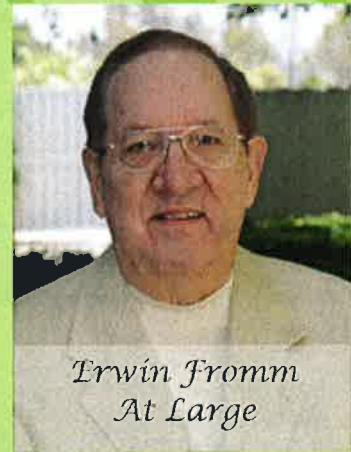
*Diana Camba  
At Large*



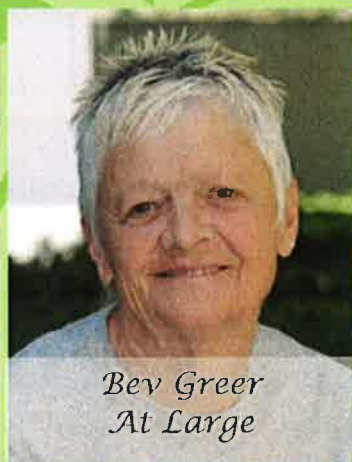
*Alice B. Chandler  
2nd District Rep*



*Jerry Corrales  
At Large*



*Erwin Fromm  
At Large*



*Bev Greer  
At Large*



*Ann Kasper  
At Large*



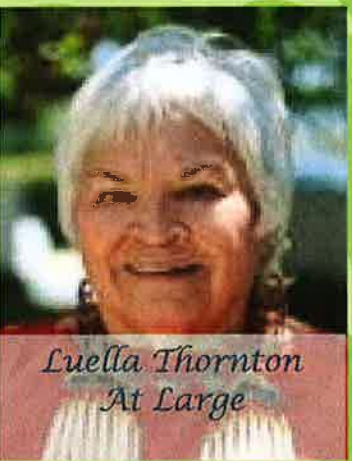
*Dianne Lewis  
At Large*



*Vee Maiden  
At Large*



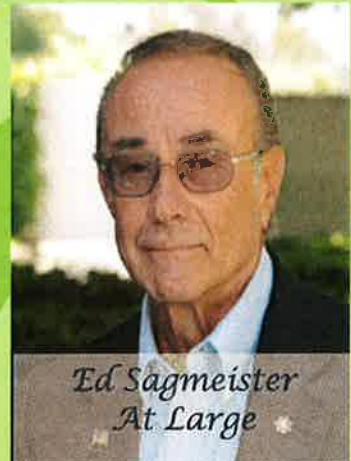
*Doris Morgan-Hayes  
At Large*



*Luella Thornton  
At Large*

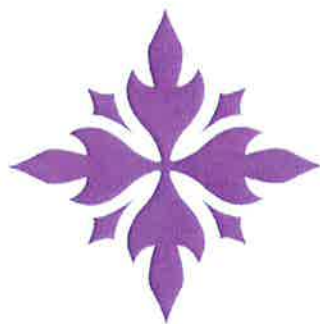


*Carol Tong  
At Large*



*Ed Sagmeister  
At Large*

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# ADVOCACY

*The Advisory Council is designated by the Older Californian's Act and the Older American's Act as an advocacy body. As liaisons to their communities, Council Members have the responsibility to raise issues, recommend changes, and advocate for those changes. Many ongoing, emerging, or large scale advocacy issues or initiatives are addressed locally with the Riverside County Executive Office, Board of Supervisors, Office on Aging or through the County Legislative Platform. Without Council Leadership, opportunities to improve the quality of life of seniors and older adults with disabilities would be fewer and negative attitudes of ageism would be stronger.*

- Position Statement to sustain current levels of funding for RSVP program.
- Position Statement to transition the Senior Employment Program from the Department of Labor to Administration on Aging.
- Position Statement in opposition of the Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) elimination effective December 1, 2011.
- Coordinated a Fit after 50 program in Blythe and rallied volunteers to join in the start up of the program at the Blythe Community Center which has grown to more than 30 enrollees and have had many reports of improvements in the physical condition of the attendees.
- Participated in a Senior Center Forum in Los Angeles that was designed to bring together senior centers in California to strategize methods of center program sustainability and advocacy for senior services.
- Took a position that recommended the building of housing units in Menifee designed to home seniors and adults with mental illness. An article was written in The Californian Newspaper from the Council publicly supporting the project.
- Supported the efforts to explore the possibility of a Program of All-Inclusive Care of the Elderly (PACE) in Riverside County.
- Council supported the Office on Aging 2012 State Legislative Platform which advocated for continued funding of the Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP) and the 2012 Federal Legislative Platform advocated for Older Americans Act Reauthorization and Appropriation.



# COMMITTEES



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE GLORIA SANCHEZ, CHAIR

*Composed of Advisory Council Officers and Chairs of the Advisory Council subcommittees to oversee the operational aspects of the Council.*

Developed the work plan for the 2011-2012 Advisory Council fiscal year. The work plan included meeting dates, times, and locations, Council activities, and strategic planning activities.

Created a survey to distribute at the monthly Council meetings designed to get a better understanding of membership expectations, topics of interest, suggestions for improvement, and the Council in general.

Redesigned Council webpage to refresh member pictures and to include a bio for each member.



## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE VEE MAIDEN, CHAIR

*Members are appointed by the Advisory Council Chair to direct the application/interview process for vacant positions, provide orientation and mentoring to new members, and develop strategies for member's training/development needs.*

Welcomed new members Diana Camba and Rich Purcell. Accepted resignation of Rich Purcell in June 2012.

Redesigned the Council membership application and interview questions.

# COMMITTEES CONT.

*Chaired by Parliamentarian to review the Council's bylaws annually.*

Convened by Parliamentarian to meet annually and as needed to review the Council Bylaws.

Updated Standing rules to state that current members must go through the same application and interview process as the public when their terms expire of their membership term.

Changes to Bylaws made to state that a quorum of members will not include members on a formal leave of absence.

Review of Ralph M. Brown Act with Council.

BYLAWS  
COMMITTEE  
LEO  
SULLIVAN,  
CHAIR



GEORGE TELISMAN  
MEMORIAL AWARD  
ANN KASPER,  
CHAIR

*The Purpose of the award is to recognize individuals from Riverside County who have proved outstanding leadership and commitment in ensuring the integrity of seniors and older adults with disabilities as they receive services assisting them to remain independent and in their homes and communities.. The Committee is responsible for distributing nomination forms, reviewing the submitted nominations, and selecting the recipient.*



2011-2012 Telisman Memorial Award recipient was

**Dr. Laurence H. Boggeln**

Dr. Boggeln is best known for his advocacy for his hospice patients. Dr. Boggeln has served in leadership positions during his career. Congratulations Dr. Boggeln for always putting the right to age and die with dignity as a priority.

# COMMITTEES CONT.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CAROL TONG, CHAIR

*Committee is responsible for strengthening partnerships with senior centers; informing and empowering individuals in the community; broadening partnerships to include the business community and other stakeholders; informing and empowering individuals to be self advocates, and advocating for intergenerational learning programs in the community.*

Developed a marketing campaign to promote the 911 Cell Phone Program, that distributes cellphones to home bound seniors for emergency 911 only use. The Committee designed a flyer and a drop box and the Council promoted the program, delivered boxes and an informational flyer to different locations, and collected the donated cell phones.



Presented the Marion Ashley Community Center with a Focal Point on Aging plaque and a proclamation from the Board of Supervisors recognizing them as a community resource for seniors.

Distributed Senior Center Forum Guides from the Statewide Senior Center Forum by the CA Commission on Aging. Several Riverside County Senior Centers were recognized in the guide for their innovation.

## HEALTHY LIVING LEO SULLIVAN, CHAIR

*Advocates for an elder's right to positive and healthy aging and to promote the "Clinical Protocols for Intergenerational Aging" May 2008 Forum DVD "Awareness of Elder Abuse, Falls, and Home Safety".*



Coordinated with AAA AutoClub to host a CarFit coordinator training and event in Palm Desert and Blythe.

Opening remarks at the Congress of California Seniors Convention held in the Coachella Valley.

Advocated for a Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Site in Riverside County.

# COMMITTEES CONT.

## GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN TASK FORCE DIANNE LEWIS AND OPAL HELLWEG, CO-CHAIRS

*The goal of the Task Force is to partner with local officials, county departments, and community networks to address the multiple complex issues faced by grandparents raising their grandchildren through education, program development, and advocacy and to promote access to customer friendly support services.*

Distribution of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Resource and Information guide to Council, community partners, other departments, and elected officials.

Programs held in Corona, Cathedral City and Indio called “Fathers Speaking Out” which included topics such as teaching values to children, discipline vs. punishment, and Jugando Con Sus Hijos (playing with your children).

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren participated in community outreach activities: Mead Valley Health and Safety Fair sponsored by Supervisor Buster, Celebrate Recovery in Indian Wells, Senior Health fair in San Jacinto. Presentation to Faith in Action Committee of Banning, Moreno Valley Holiday Fair, Inland Association for Continuity of Care, Pass Collaborative, Lions Club of Corona, Southwest and Mid-County Child Care Consortium groups, forum for grandparents raising grandchildren and their teen/preteen grandchildren on critical issues raising teens, substance abuse, social networking, sexting, and cyber bullying, and preparing teens for college or career after age 18. Hosted a summit focusing on youth as caregiver to raising awareness among educators and other professionals who provide service to youth about the prevalence of child caregivers, identifying them and developing an action plan for providing them support for their role as caregiver.

Holiday gift donations were distributed to the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren participants.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Task Force Public Relations Committee has proposed a new initiative to partner with DPSS Independent Living Plan Program to develop similar services and resources for youth outside of the foster care system to better assist grandparents with preparing grandchildren to be independent adults.



# COMMITTEES CONT.

STAKEHOLDER  
ADVISORY GROUP  
ERWIN FROMM,  
CHAIR

*This group consists of County service providers, non profit and for profit community organizations, and consumers to provide input into publicizing and improving the service delivery.*

A committee created by the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) Grant to bring together partners to work toward a more seamless delivery of home and community based services. The Committee invites speakers from various organizations and partners to extract information that maybe useful in the committee goal for service delivery. The meetings also encourage networking between members.



**Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.**

**—Margaret Mead**



# LIAISONS



**California Senior Legislature:** Erwin Fromm, Leo Sullivan, Ann Kasper were elected to the California Senior Legislature, a volunteer body whose primary mission is to gather ideas for legislation at the state and federal levels, craft the ideas into formal proposals, prioritize the proposals, present them to members of the Legislature or the Congress, and advocate for laws implementing the ideas.

**Veterans:** Council members Vee Maiden and Alice Chandler are actively involved in local and state veterans groups, including the VFW, American Legion, and Riverside County Veterans Services Advisory Board. Monthly reports included the fatalities and casualties of the current war, local events that involved veterans or veterans services, and fundraising activities for local veterans and their families.

**Foundation on Aging:** Gloria Sanchez is the Chair of the Foundation on Aging which was developed to raise funds to provide grants to enhance senior programs and services. The Foundation Board successfully hosted their first annual golf tournament at Menifee Lakes Golf Course. Gloria Sanchez and Supervisor Stone attended the Office on Aging All Staff meeting to recognize the staff that volunteered their time at the Golf Tournament. A new website, letterhead, logo, and business cards were developed.

**Triple A Council of California (TACC):** Erwin Fromm, Advisory Council Member, attended Triple A Council of California (TACC) meetings on behalf of Gloria Sanchez, Advisory Council chair. The mission of TACC is to promote communication and collaboration among local advisory councils and key/state partners to education through the exchange of information, ideas, trends, and models of service delivery; advocate on issues of concern in local/state planning processes; and strengthen the advocacy effectiveness and leadership skills of local Advisory Council's.

**In Home Supportive Services (IHSS):** Jerry Corrales served as Chair of the IHSS Advisory Council. The Council serves as an advisory board to the IHSS Program. The focus of 11-12 activities was increasing membership to include more consumers.

**Older Adults System of Care:** Gloria Sanchez has served on this committee for a number of years. The committee focus is on senior mental health services in Riverside County.

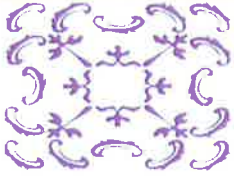
*"If you want to change the world, be that change."  
--Ghandi*

# PRESENTATIONS

*As an advocate body it is vital for the Council to remain informed on the programs and services, as well as, current and emerging needs and issues. The Council is responsible for understanding the needs and issues of seniors and older adults with disabilities. To do this the Council hosts an annual development day with a different topic each year, and in addition to conferences and seminars, also invites various speakers to present at the regular monthly meetings.*

- Laura Trejo, LA City Area Agency on Aging General Manager facilitated a discussion on advocacy and goal setting. Council members were asked to submit 3 goals that they personally wanted to achieve.
- Stu Maddux, Director/Producer of the Gen Silent Documentary gave a viewing of the film followed by a discussion around LGBT issues.
- Mark Dunlap, Manager of Senior Employment Program, gave an overview of the program and shared a proclamation for older workers week.
- Betty Clark gave a presentation “Sharing my vision” about living with a disability.
- Lori Weathers, Manager of RSVP, Fit after 50, InfoVan gave a presentation on the three programs.
- Stephen Geist, Manager of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, gave a presentation on the program.
- Renee Dar-Khan, Manager of the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC), gave an overview of the ADRC program and HelpLink.
- Ugodin Anaebere gave an overview of Inland County Legal Services and what they offer seniors.
- Vikki Neugebauer, Manager of Care Coordination, gave a presentation on Office on Aging Care Management programs: MSSP, CareLink, Access, and Family Caregiver.
- Council hosted an Office on Aging Programs and Services and Advocacy Strategies Panel comprised of Office on Aging staff, followed by an agency tour.





# INFORMATION

- CalFresh Food Program eligibility and application flier distributed for Council to use in outreach to their community.
- Invitation to “Breast Cancer: Straight Talk About the Latest Advance in Science and Research” seminar hosted by Commission for Women.
- Office on Aging 2nd Edition of the 2010-2011 Agency Newsletter.
- The “Community Tool Box” flier highlighting a website that outlines advocacy strategies and gaining community support.
- “Meeting the Challenge” Partnership for Independent Living fall/winter and spring/summer newsletter editions.
- Tips on “Creating Your Own Self Advocacy” by Laura Trejo, General Manager of Los Angeles City Area Agency on Aging.
- RSVP and Fit after 50 information folder to be used by Council to market the programs.
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Resource and Information Guide for Council to distribute to community partners.
- Background info and talking points on Older Americans Act and Area Agency on Aging programs.
- County Policy D-1 Travel policy and expense reimbursement updates.
- California Commission on Aging AGEWATCH Newsletter December 2011.
- “C4A’s Principles Reflect Older Americans Values” handout.
- Loma Linda University Healthy People Conference Invitation.
- Leadership Council of Aging Organizations Consensus Recommendations for the 2011 Older Americans Act Reauthorization report.
- Aging Today article on Advocacy.
- County of Riverside Commission for Women 2011 Women of the Year Awards Nomination form.



*“Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information on it.”  
– Samuel Johnson*

# ACTIVITIES

Attended Riverside Mayors Commission on Aging meetings.

Coordinated a Strategic Plan on Aging Focus group in Blythe.

Volunteered with Supervisor Stone's Senior Information Symposiums

Assisted in the planning and coordination of the Senior Information Fair at Wildomar Senior Living hosted by Supervisor Buster.

Attended the RSVP luncheon to recognize volunteers in the Desert areas.

Volunteered for the Tax Preparation Program for low income citizens.

Volunteered with Office on Aging distributing information at the Palm Springs Annual Pride Festival.

Volunteered for the Ombudsman Program and spent numerous hours visiting skilled nursing facilities investigating reports of abuse or neglect.

Vee Maiden, Carol Tong, Diana Camba, Gloria Sanchez, and Ann Kasper assisted with Supervisor Stone's Health, Wellness, and Safety Senior Forums.



Advisory Council  
Members are routinely  
involved in  
community events and  
volunteer activities

Supervisor Buster Office recognized the Advisory Council volunteers that helped with his senior symposiums with a certificate.

Assisted Supervisor Busters Office in delivering gift cards to Wildomar, Mead Valley, and Lake Elsinore Community/Senior Center participants.

Dianne Lewis and Marilyn Poe became Fit after 50 instructors and started the program in Blythe. Doris Morgan Hayes has been a strong advocate to develop the program in that area.

Gloria Sanchez attended the caregiver presentation in Moreno Valley on November 10, 2011.

Hosted a viewing of the Gen Silent Documentary by Director/Producer Stu Maddux followed by a discussion around LGBT issues facilitated by Stu Maddux.

Assisted Supervisor Buster to host a senior symposium at Airforce Village West on healthy aging, elder abuse, fraud, and disaster planning.

# STRATEGIC PLANNING

*As a “Compass for Quality Aging” the Strategic Plan on Aging is a document that maps the goals, objectives, and activities of the Office on Aging and Advisory Council based on priorities determined through legislation, community forums, surveys, and consumer and partnership feedback. The Council is charged with the responsibility to identify priority legislative and regulatory issues, consider population trends, unmet needs, and emerging issues to use in the development of the plan. In addition, the Council focuses on the outcomes of the Plan goals and on performance measures for programs and services to gain a clearer understanding of how aging services and funds are affecting the lives of seniors and older adults with disabilities. Based on the outcomes, the Council recommends strategies and advocates for changes to better serve the community.*

- Focus group hosted at September Advisory Council meeting which included an overview of the Strategic Plan on Aging process followed by a survey of attendees on their priorities.
- Conducted a survey of Council to understand and address the needs of older adults.
- Council members assisted with distributing Strategic Plan surveys in different areas of the County.
- Assisted the Office on Aging in hosting 17 focus groups across the County and three web based surveys.
- Strategic Plan on Aging Objectives that were the responsibility of the Advisory Council were reviewed.
- Selected “Focusing on a Healthy Tomorrow” as the name of the 2012-16 Strategic Plan on Aging.
- Hosted a Strategic Plan on Aging Public Hearing at the February Advisory Council meeting.
- Set priorities for the Strategic Plan on Aging goals and objectives.

*Leaders establish the vision for the future and set the strategy for getting there; they cause change. They motivate and inspire others to go in the right direction and they, along with everyone else, sacrifice to get there!*

*— John Kotter*

# HONORS & AWARDS



2012 George Telisman Memorial Award presented to Georgia DeGroot Smith a very strong advocate and volunteer for seniors with mental health issues.



Luella Thornton received an award for Health Care to Native Americans in CA. Luella has been instrumental in establishing clinics that provide services to Native Americans. The clinics combine western medicine with traditional Native American medicine.



Doris Morgan-Hayes was recognized April 10, 2012 at the Board of Supervisors meeting among other outstanding volunteers from the Riverside County Council of Volunteers (RCCV).

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**District I**

**Supervisor Bob Buster**



**District II**

**Supervisor John Tavaglione**



**District III**

**Supervisor Jeff Stone**



**District IV**

**Supervisor John J. Benoit**



**District V**

**Supervisor Marion Ashley**



**A special thank you to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support with all seniors services and programing.**

# OFFICE ON AGING STAFF

A special thank you to all of the Office on Aging staff. The Council is very proud of this great organization and very pleased to work in such great partnership. It is with great respect and admiration that the Council would like to thank all of the Office on Aging staff for their care and compassion in serving Riverside County's Seniors.

A special thank you to:

Ed Walsh, Office on Aging Director for his leadership in legislative advocacy and keeping the Council fully informed with his in depth monthly Directors Reports.

Michele Wilham, Office on Aging Deputy Director for her leadership and guidance with the Strategic Plan on Aging activities.

Hilary Clarke, Office on Aging Deputy Director for his support with the budget and his fiscal reports at the monthly meetings.

Lynette Worrell, Office on Aging Program Specialist for her coordination of the Council meetings and their activities.

Office on Aging Leadership Team members: Renee Dar-Khan, Mark Dunlap, Stephen Geist, Lori Weathers for their support of the Council, especially with information and presentations.

*Thank You!*





# RIVERSIDE COUNTY

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## RIVERSIDE COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

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