



STATE OF GEORGIA
Older Adults Cabinet

Thursday, January 26th, 2017 | Full Cabinet Meeting Minutes
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
The Governor's Mansion | 391 W. Paces Ferry Road, Atlanta, GA

Members present:

First Lady Sandra Deal
Commissioner Robyn A. Crittenden (DHS)
Abby Cox
Dr. Adrienne D. Mims
Amanda James
Ann Williams
Chuck Spahos
Clint Mueller
Commissioner Brenda Fitzgerald (DPH)
Commissioner Camila Knowles (DCA)
Commissioner Frank Berry (DCH)
Commissioner Gretchen Corbin (TCSG)
Commissioner Judy Fitzgerald (DBHDD)
Commissioner Russell R. McMurry (DOT)
Commissioner Amy Jacobs (DECAL)
Danah Craft
Debra Tyler Horton
Vernon M. Keenan
Doug Hooker
Eve Anthony
Ginny Helms
Dr. Mary Ann Johnson
Kathy Floyd
Melanie McNeil
Milton Little
Dr. Allan Levey
Steve Neff
Tony Marshall
Walter Coffey
Wanda Taft
Rep. Sharon Cooper
Sen. Jack Hill
Sen. Renee S. Unterman

Members absent:

Dr. Elisabeth Burgess
Bobby Cagle
Dr. Leisa Easom
Rep. Katie Dempsey
Rep. Stacey Abrams
Rep. Terry England
Rep. Tommy Benton



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Judy Adams

Guests:

- Jasmine King (First Lady's Office)
- Todd Rehm (accompanying Sen. Unterman)
- Reid Wilson (representing Judy Adams)
- Brian Harkins (representing Rep. Stacey Abrams)
- Ashley Fielding Cooper (DHS)
- Kristyn Cherry (DHS)
- Monique Wheeler (DHS)
- Darrell Green (facilitator)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action to take up
Welcome	First Lady Sandra Deal: Older Adults Cabinet meeting called to order at 8:02 AM.	
Introduction of Cabinet Members	<p>Cabinet members introduced themselves and discussed why senior's issues are important to their respective agencies and organizations.</p> <p>During this time, Governor Nathan Deal stopped by to thank the Cabinet for agreeing to participate in the growing effort to identify and solve issues affecting Georgia's aging population.</p>	
Discussion of Older Adults Cabinet Focus	<p>Darrell Green facilitated a group discussion regarding issues affecting older adults in the state. He prompted Cabinet members to discuss areas in which agencies and organizations are excelling and areas in which there are opportunities for growth:</p> <p><i>Strengths:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety and protection from exploitation of older adults • Increased work with and awareness of senior hunger • Excellent senior centers and programming around the state • Strong foundation with the ADRC but needs increased awareness and support • Great work being done with advocacy groups across the state <p><i>Opportunities for Growth:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop practical strategies around enhancing workforce development to better serve the aging population <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve staffing levels ○ Provide better, more specific training for staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ E.g. training for Alzheimer's and Dementia • Increase funding for older adults issues • Increase awareness of senior issues • Increase awareness of existing resources 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create an accessible database of resources• Encourage innovative work models• Focus on holistic and integrated approaches in serving the aging population and in improving the workforce• Increase formal collaboration between healthcare providers and private sectors <p>This discussion was tabled to be completed at the next Older Adults Cabinet meeting. Mr. Green will attend and assist with coming to a consensus on two or three issues for the Cabinet to focus on.</p>	
Closing & Next Steps	<p>Commissioner Crittenden thanked the Cabinet for leading the discussion on better serving the aging population in Georgia. She asked Kathy Floyd, Executive Director of the Georgia Council on Aging, to provide updates pertaining to senior engagement events, which include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be There for Seniors Rally at the Capitol January 26th• Senior Week at the Capitol February 15th and February 16th• Alzheimer’s Day at the Capitol February 3rd <p>First Lady Deal also thanked members for attending the cabinet meeting and underscored the increased need for the Older Adults Cabinet in order to better serve Georgia’s seniors.</p> <p>There being no further business, the cabinet meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.</p>	

The next full Cabinet Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 23rd at 8:00 a.m. at the Governor’s Mansion.