



**TACC – TRIPLE-A COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA**  
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## **TACC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**April 17, 2025**

**1. Call to Order**

President Smith called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Roll Call and Establish a Quorum**

Executive Director Swartzlander called roll.

**Attending virtually:** Mike Cottone, Kristi Cohen, Dr. Cooper, Jim Donnelley, Martha Ariles, Rich Corvello, Tonya Frost, Bobbie Wartson, Dr. Mungia, Ted Smith, Dr. Nattress, Susan Mallet, Terry Kelley, Tita Bladen, Joyce Gandelman, Sheri Gomez.

**Staff attending:** Karol Swartzlander, Leza Coleman, Patrick Smith, Peter Anderson.

**A quorum was established.**

**4. Approve Minutes of November 14, 2024, TACC Meeting**

(M/S/C) Susan/Deborah

**VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 14, 2024, TACC GENERAL MEETING.**

**APPROVED**

**5. Public Comment on items not on the agenda**

None.

**6. President's Remarks**

President Smith welcomed new TACC Members. He shared a description of TACC and PSA activities. Sherry Gomez is the new representative for PSA 33.

**7. Presentation: Soliciting Input on Rural Aging State Policy Briefs: Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS), Healthcare, and Housing**

Pauline DeLange Martinez, PhD, Research and Community Engagement Manager, [Family Caregiving Institute](#), Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing Fellow, [Healthy Aging in a Digital World Initiative](#), University of California, Davis

Dr. Martinez has been working with the SCAN Foundation on the development of Multi-Sector Plans for Aging. She solicited input and shared updates for this initiative. Rural communities have a greater proportion of older adults, disabilities, economic disparities, digital divide, transportation challenges, climate and natural disasters. Rural areas have been underrepresented. The project seeks to tailor policies and practices to rural communities. Focus groups, AAA data, and calls to 311, were all included in compiling the research. Dr. Martinez shared the Homelessness Policy Brief and the LTSS Workforce Brief in her presentation.

**8. Presentation: Protecting Health Care Access for California's Older Adults and People with Disabilities: Federal Threats and Advocacy Strategies**

Hagar Dickman, Director, California Long-Term Services and Supports Advocacy, Justice in Aging

Hagar Dickman discussed the crucial role Medi-Cal (Medicaid) plays in healthcare in California. She reviewed the services covered, dual-eligible individuals, and the 900,000 older adults and people with disabilities who receive coverage for LTSS through Medi-Cal. She explained how the federal Budget Reconciliation works to fast-track legislation with a simple majority, and the steps in the reconciliation process. The current Budget Reconciliation bill being discussed by Congress presents threats to Medicaid funding through several cuts labeled "reforms". California will not be able to maintain the same level of Medi-Cal services without significant federal resources. Older adults and people with disabilities will feel the impact of any cuts. Dickman encouraged TACC members to use the stories of individuals receiving Medicaid in their areas to illustrate the impact cuts will have when they contact members of Congress. She shared the numbers of Medi-Cal and IHSS recipients in the nine Republican California districts.

**9. Staff Report (Swartzlander)**

**a. CCoA Update**

Executive Director Swartzlander shared an update on the California Commission on Aging's May 22 Informational Hearing in Los Angeles, "Recovering Together: Rebuilding Life After the Fires."

**b. 2025 TACC General Meeting Dates**

- 1) June 12, 2025, 1 to 4 p.m., is the next TACC general meeting.

- 2) Plan to join us in person at the C4A Annual Conference, November 5-7, 2025, in Orange County. We will hold a TACC general meeting at the event.
- 3) CCoA will share news of federal cuts with TACC members moving forward.

#### **10. Planning and Service Area (PSA) Reports**

- a. Member Reports
- b. PSA Survey results

The Council discussed submitting the PSA Survey once a year with updates made as needed throughout the year.

#### **11. Discuss Topics for Future Meetings**

The following topics were suggested for future meetings:

- Home Share
- Scams targeting older people
- Sources of funding for non-mandated services and working with philanthropic groups and others to supplement income
- Suicide ideation prevention and how to address it
- Age Without Limits events about ageism

#### **12. Member Comments**

Members raised several questions:

- Are Steering Committees effective, or are targeted task forces/work groups more effective in addressing the needs of the community?
- Is it more impactful to have two or three specific targeted goals each year rather than trying to cover lots of different topics?

What are other PSAs doing concretely to advocate and support our older communities?

How to get communities more involved, increase impact, and drive greater attendance at Steering Committees?

- Are PSAs connected with the Human Services Agency in their county?

#### **13. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:41 pm.