



What does it mean to be an Advisory Council member, for the Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging?

It means **Connection**, **Commitment**, and **Collaboration** on the issues and resources affecting our community's older adults, with the goal of helping them maintain their quality of life and live independently for as long as possible.

Connection:

Advisory Council members are asked to stay connected to the issues having an impact upon their community's older adults. This means staying informed on issues like hunger and food security, availability of resources, local government actions that could affect older adults, and even recreational and community activities for older adults.

The Advisory Council is the Agency's eyes and ears; members are asked to bring the information they learn back to the Advisory Council to help keep the Agency informed and involved. It does not mean lobbying on one side or the other about those issues, but rather means listening, and gathering information as an ambassador for the Area Agency on Aging.

Commitment:

Applicants are interviewed and appointed by the Agency's Governing Board to three-year terms. Advisory Council members are asked to commit to attending and participating in monthly Advisory Council meetings.

There are 10 meetings each year, held once per month from September to June. Travel mileage to and from the meetings is reimbursable. Currently meetings are conducted via Zoom.



Collaboration:

Advisory Council members collaborate on work groups to support the Agency's planning and delivery of services. Current work groups include:

- *Elder Abuse Prevention*, in which Council members seek information about organizations receptive to information about Elder Abuse Prevention in Fresno and Madera counties;
- *Services for Older Adults from the Faith-Based Community*, in which Council members identify services available to older adults from faith-based organizations in Fresno and Madera counties and determine each organization's capacity to provide these services;
- *Elder Homelessness*, in which Council members research actions and resources in their communities intended to relieve or prevent homelessness among older adults, and then bring that information to the full Advisory Council; and
- *Disaster Preparedness*, in which Council members identify coalitions and organizations involved in Disaster Preparedness throughout Fresno and Madera counties, and keep abreast of changes and innovations in the local Disaster Preparedness process.

Last, the Advisory Council presents opportunities for its members to lead. Every year, the Advisory Council elects a Chair, First Vice Chair and Second Vice Chair, one each from the City of Fresno, Fresno County, and Madera County.

Help give a voice to the needs of our community's older adults. Apply for our Advisory Council today!

Contact Us:

For more information about the Advisory Council, visit our website at fmaaa.org/advisorycouncil, or contact us at (559) 214-0299. We look forward to hearing from you!