



Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA)

[Presenter Name]

[Date]



What is the ACOA?

The Contra Costa County **Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA)** is a dedicated group of county residents committed to improving the quality of life for older adults throughout Contra Costa County.

The ACOA provides **leadership, advocacy, and a vital channel of communication on aging issues**. In partnership with the Area Agency on Aging, the Council helps coordinate countywide planning, collaboration, and resources to ensure older adults have access to the services and opportunities they need.

Our mission is to advocate for programs, legislation, and policies that support older adults, while also educating the community about the many resources offered by local non-profits and government agencies. We also serve in an advisory capacity to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on issues important to our aging population.

Purpose of the ACOA

Planning for Older Residents

Provide a means for county-wide planning, cooperation and coordination for individuals and groups interested in improving and developing services and opportunities for older residents of Contra Costa County.

Leadership and Advocacy

Provide leadership and advocacy on behalf of older persons and serve as a channel of communication and information on aging.

Advise on Area Plan

Advise the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), part of the Aging and Adult Services Bureau of Contra Costa County's Employment and Human Services Department, and the Board of Supervisors on a 4-year Area Plan based on the unmet needs and priorities of older persons as determined by surveys of local committees and coalitions on aging, and results of public hearings held in conjunction with Aging and Adult Services.

Who are the ACOA?

ACOA members represent diverse backgrounds and life experiences, which strengthens our work and impact. This includes older adults, caregivers, working professionals, people with lived experience, community advocates, and more.

The **ACOA is comprised of 39 volunteer members** who are appointed by the Board of Supervisors

- 19 Members represent cities in Contra Costa County
- 20 Members are “Members at Large”

All **ACOA meetings are open to the public**, and it is not required to become a member to attend, participate, or even join a committee.

ACOA Committees

The ACOA is **comprised of 9 distinct committees**, each dedicated to addressing key issues impacting older adults in Contra Costa County.



General



Executive



Membership



Health & Elder
Abuse Prevention



Housing



Legislative



Planning



Technology



Transportation

| Committee | Meeting Schedule | Purpose |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| General Meeting | 1st Wednesday (10-12) | Serves as the main meeting body of the ACOA, where members receive updates, discuss agenda items, learn from guest speakers, and report-out from subcommittees. |
| Executive | 1st Wednesday (10-12) | Serves as the leadership body of ACOA, guiding the council’s overall direction, setting agendas, and addressing urgent matters between regular meetings. |
| Health & Elder Abuse Prevention | 2nd Monday (1-2:30) | Addresses the health and well-being of older adults, including access to healthcare, wellness programs, and raising awareness to prevent elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. |
| Housing | 3rd Monday (10-12) | Focuses on identifying and addressing housing challenges faced by seniors, such as affordability, accessibility, and safety. Supports policies and services that enable older adults to age in place and remain in their communities. |
| Legislative | TBD | Monitors local, state, and federal legislation affecting older adults and recommends advocacy strategies for the ACOA to engage with policymakers. |
| Membership | 3rd Wednesday (12-2) | Manages the recruitment, screening, and recommendation of new ACOA members. It ensures that the council maintains balanced and diverse representation and helps orient and engage new members. |
| Planning | 1st Tuesday (10-12) | Responsible for developing and reviewing the Area Plan, which outlines countywide goals, services, and priorities for older adults in the community. |
| Technology | 2nd Wednesday (1:30-3:30) | Works to bridge the digital divide by promoting technology access and education for older adults. It explores tools and solutions that enhance communication, safety, independence, and quality of life for seniors. |
| Transportation | 1st Monday (1-2:30) | Focuses on access to reliable, safe, and affordable transportation for older adults. It identifies service gaps, advocates for improved mobility options, and supports initiatives that help seniors stay connected and active in the community. |

Interested in Getting Involved?

- Attend an upcoming **ACOA General Meeting** or a **committee** related to your interests!
<https://contra-costa.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>
- Contact **Jenny Lam** to inquire about membership applications:
jlam@ehsd.cccounty.us | (925) 655-0773



Thank you



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY



EMPLOYMENT & HUMAN SERVICES

