

Agenda

Advisory Committee on Aging

Friday, August 28, 2026

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

If you have difficulty using this document's content, please email mmpatton@drcog.org or call 303-480-6723. Please expect a response within 72 hours (three business days).

Times listed with each agenda item are approximate. It is requested that all cell phones be silenced during the Advisory Committee on Aging meeting. Persons in need of auxiliary aids or services, such as interpretation services or assisted listening devices, are asked to contact the Denver Regional Council of Governments at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

- 1 11:00 a.m. Call to Order and Introductions
- 2 11:05 a.m. Public comment
Up to 45 minutes is allocated now for public comment and each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes. If there are additional requests from the public to address the Committee, time will be allocated at the end of the meeting to complete public comment.
- 3 11:10 a.m. Report of the Chair – Barbara Boyer
- 4 11:15 a.m. Report of the AAA Director – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

Consent agenda

- 5 11:30 a.m. Move to Approve Consent Agenda
Minutes from June 26, 2026, meeting. (Attachment A)



Advisory Committee

August 28, 2026

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Informational briefings

- 6 11:35 a.m. The DRCOG Community Care Hub – AJ Diamontopoulos (Attachment B)
- 7 12:05 p.m. Arapahoe County Update on Senior Programs – Courtney Stryker
(Attachment C)
- 8 12:35 p.m. DRCOG Board Report
- 9 12:40 p.m. County Reports

Administrative items

- 10 **Next meeting will be held virtually September 25, 2026.**
- 11 12:50 p.m. Other Matters by Members
- 12 1:00 p.m. Adjourn

Calendar of future meetings

September 25, 2026 – Virtual

October 23, 2026 – In person

November 2026 – To be determined

December 2026 – To be determined

January 22, 2027 – Virtual

February 26, 2027 – Virtual

March 26, 2027 – Virtual

April 23, 2027 – Virtual

May 28, 2027 – Virtual

June 25, 2027 – Virtual

July 23, 2027 – To be determined

August 27, 2027 – Virtual

ATTACH A

Advisory Committee on Aging (ACA)

Meeting Summary

Friday, June 26, 2026

If you have difficulty using this document's content, please email mmpatton@drcog.org or call 303-480-6723. Please expect a response within 72 hours (three business days).

Members Present

Ada Anderson	Douglas County
Andrea Suhaka	Arapahoe County
Barbara Boyer	Arapahoe County
Bob Brocker	Denver
Connie Ward	Jefferson County
Dawn Perez	Adams County
Donna Mullins	Jefferson County
Edward Moss	Broomfield County
Greg Kahler	Adams County
Gretchen Lopez	Douglas County
Jim Dale	Jefferson County
Shari Haidvogl	Clear Creek County
Wynne Shaw	DRCOG Board-Lone Tree

Guests Present

Chandra Matthews, Seniors' Resource Center, Kim Smith, Douglas County, Carol Johnson, Adams County, Nikki Crouse, City and County of Broomfield, Rachel McCarl, Unfold.

DRCOG Staff Present

Esra Sonmez, Program Manager Quality and Operations, Jennifer Reeves, Veterans & Community Options Manager, Juliana Malchman, Integrated Health Navigator, Kelly Roberts, Community Resource Specialist, Kendra Carmickle, Service Coordinator, Mason Green, Compliance Specialist Grants & AAA Business Operations, Mindy

Patton, Division Assistant, Norberto Corona, Mobility Coordinator, Rich Mauro, Director Legislative Affairs, Roshida Lewis-Johnson, Case Manager, Shannon Gimbel, Ombudsman Manager, Travis Noon, Manager AAA Business Operations, Yvette Del Conte, Community Resource Navigator.

Call to Order

Barbara Boyer Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Public Comment Period (Non-ACA Members)

There was no public comment.

Report of the Chair – Barbara Boyer

Barbara Boyer introduced herself and welcomed everyone, expressing that she was happy to see the group together. She noted that she was familiar with many of the staff members and Advisory Committee participants and looked forward to serving in her role as chair.

Report of the AAA Director – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

There was no Directors report.

Move to approve consent agenda

Items on the consent agenda included: May 15, 2026, meeting summary.

Ed Moss motioned for approval. Andrea Suhaka seconded the motion; the consent agenda was unanimously approved.

Agendas and summaries are posted on the [DRCOG website](#) from the link choose the month and date of the meeting, click on the event. Once clicked, you will find the link to the meeting for that month.

Action Items

Discussion of an additional Choice Services in-home provider – Travis Noon

Travis Noon provided an overview of the DRCOG Choice Services Program, explaining that it offers vouchers to eligible participants for in-home services, including homemaker

support, personal care, and caregiver respite. He noted that the program currently operates through several contracted providers, which were approved by the group earlier in April for the upcoming contract period.

Travis then requested to add Home Instead Castle Rock as an additional provider. The purpose of this addition is to expand geographic coverage and improve service access, particularly in underserved areas. He highlighted that this provider would help reach foothill communities in Jefferson County (including Evergreen, Genesee, and Conifer), as well as parts of the Parker area where there are currently individuals on a waitlist. While Home Instead also serves Douglas County, he notes that demand there is limited compared to other areas.

Travis emphasized that adding this provider does not impact the previously approved budget, which includes approximately \$547,000 for homemaker and personal care services and \$168,000 for respite services. He also explained that any new provider must meet DRCOG's standards, including compliance with contract requirements, State Unit on Aging policies, insurance requirements, licensing through Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and absence of outstanding regulatory issues.

The Choice Services Program is designed to give participants flexibility, allowing them to choose from an approved list of providers. Adding Home Instead Castle Rock would expand those options and improve service access in key areas.

Barbara Boyer called for a motion. Bob Brocker moved to approve the recommendation, Wynne Shaw seconded and with no opposition expressed, the group unanimously approved adding Home Instead Castle Rock.

Discussion on canceling the July ACA meeting – Chair Boyer

Chair Boyer noted this action has been done routinely for many years. Under the current bylaws a formal motion is required. A motion was made by Jim Dale and seconded by Dawn Perez to cancel the July meeting, with no opposition, the group approved the motion and will reconvene in August.

Informational Briefings

Four-Year Plan Key Informant Session – Kelly Roberts

Kelly Roberts outlined the public engagement approach for developing the upcoming four-year plan. The process includes both key informant sessions (for professionals and service providers) and community conversations (with older adults), with a goal of holding both in each county. Due to turnover since COVID, significant effort was required to reconnect with local councils on aging.

A shared survey will be used for both groups, with responses framed from either a personal (older adult) or professional perspective. The State Unit on Aging requires two standard questions that will be analyzed at the state level, while AAA-specific questions will be analyzed locally.

New this year, the planning process includes a public engagement webpage that hosts survey links and plan information, supported by outreach through partners and social media. A combination of online and in-person survey collection methods will be used to increase participation, and a webinar-style key informant session is scheduled for July.

Engagement activities will take place from July through August, and possibly into September, with no publicly announced survey deadline. Discussion focused on ensuring broad awareness of the webpage and engagement opportunities, sharing meeting schedules with ACA committee members, balancing online outreach with accessibility for older adults, and exploring additional outreach through neighborhood associations.

Survey questions will address satisfaction with AAA services, key challenges facing older adults, perceptions of community well-being trends, priority service needs, and caregiver challenges.

Overall, the effort is designed to expand participation, strengthen outreach, and gather both statewide and local feedback to inform the four-year plan.

Bob Brocker suggested adding a preliminary question to gauge whether respondents are even aware of the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), noting many may not understand

its role. Kelly agreed to consider adding this, potentially on the webpage rather than in the survey itself.

The group discussed additional outreach opportunities, including presenting or sharing the survey at a Centennial neighborhood meeting and hosting a webinar through AgeWise to engage more participants. The webinar could be tailored to either older adults or professionals, depending on the audience. Kelly emphasized the importance of being efficient during in-person sessions, noting that time is often limited.

The discussion also explored barriers that prevent older adults from accessing services. Participants noted that many individuals are unaware of available services or where to seek assistance. Others may be uncertain about what services they need, while some are reluctant to ask for help because of stigma or embarrassment. Education and caregiver support were identified as important strategies for addressing these challenges.

Participants discussed ways to improve awareness of services, including using libraries, recreation programs, newsletters, targeted advertising, and community partnerships to share information. Limited resources and waitlists have reduced outreach opportunities such as resource fairs.

The conversation also highlighted caregiving, safety, and access to services for older adults. While more older adults are using digital tools to find information, a digital divide remains, making traditional communication methods equally important. Caregiver support, including respite care, education, support groups, and peer connections, was identified as a key need.

Safety concerns focused on scams, fraud, and phishing attempts, which can increase isolation and reluctance to engage with unfamiliar contacts. Participants emphasized fraud prevention education, wellness checks, and programs such as Meals on Wheels and friendly caller initiatives to enhance safety and social connection.

Additional challenges included long service waitlists, accessibility barriers, and a significant gap in support for moderate-income older adults who do not qualify for

assistance but struggle to afford services. Overall, the discussion emphasized the need for stronger outreach, caregiver support, fraud prevention, improved accessibility, expanded service capacity, and better support for middle-income older adults.

DRCOG Board Report

There was no DRCOG Board report.

County Reports

Arapahoe County

The Arapahoe County Council on Aging and the Adams County Aging Network recently held a joint fair in Byers. Attendance was lower than hoped, which was disappointing, but the residents from the Eastern Plains truly appreciated the effort to bring the fair to their community. The group plans to continue discussing outreach and engagement strategies over the next year as they consider plans for 2027.

Jayla will be attending the next Arapahoe County Council on Aging meeting on July 27. For anyone in Arapahoe County who is interested, the group meets at 1:30 p.m. at Cayley Ridge.

Douglas County

At the June Douglas County Senior Council meeting, the Community Conversation focused on concerns about e-bikes. Several residents reported unsafe riding behaviors, including riders passing pedestrians on sidewalks without warning. One resident shared that an e-bike rider sped past her from behind, nearly causing her to fall.

The group discussed regulations, education, and enforcement. The Sheriff's Office oversees e-bike issues because they are classified as bicycles, and Douglas County has ordinances for low-powered scooters and e-motorcycles in unincorporated areas. Further discussions are planned to clarify regulations and safety expectations. The group also asked whether other counties are experiencing similar concerns with e-bikes and other electric mobility devices.

Jefferson County

While not specifically senior-related, there was some exciting housing news to share. Habitat for Humanity is opening 40 new housing units in Golden, which is a significant project and great to see.

As for the Jefferson County Council on Aging, attendance has been fairly low recently. Connie Ward has taken over Chris Lynn's responsibilities; they have only had one meeting since the transition. Although they had speakers scheduled, participation was limited. They are focused on rebuilding engagement and rejuvenating the group and are hopeful Connie's leadership will help increase attendance and participation moving forward.

Other Matters by Members

There were no other matters to discuss.

Next Meeting – August 28, 2026

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

ATTACH B

Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting

Name of Committee: Advisory Committee on Aging

Meeting date: August 28, 2026

Agenda Item #: 6

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The DRCOG Community Care Hub

Agenda item type: Informational briefing

Summary

Staff will provide an update on the development and continued growth of DRCOG's Community Care Hub (CCH). This briefing will highlight the Congressionally Directed Spending award and the Health at Home Challenge award, and how these investments will strengthen our ability to work with health care organizations.

Background

Since 2022, the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) has worked to establish a Community Care Hub (CCH). This model enables the AAA to serve as a centralized connection point between health care organizations and community-based service providers. The goal of the CCH is to increase funding and other resources to better serve older adults throughout the region. DRCOG has made significant progress in developing the infrastructure needed to support these partnerships and position the AAA as a leader in integrating health and social care. This informational briefing will provide background on the CCH model, the AAA's capabilities, recently awarded funding, and the new strategies and health care partnerships the AAA is now operationalizing.



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Action by others

None

Previous discussions/actions

None

Recommendation

None

Attachment

The DRCOG Community Care Hub presentation 8-11-26

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact AJ Diamontopoulos, Integrated Health Manager, Area Agency on Aging, at adiamontopoulos@drcog.org.



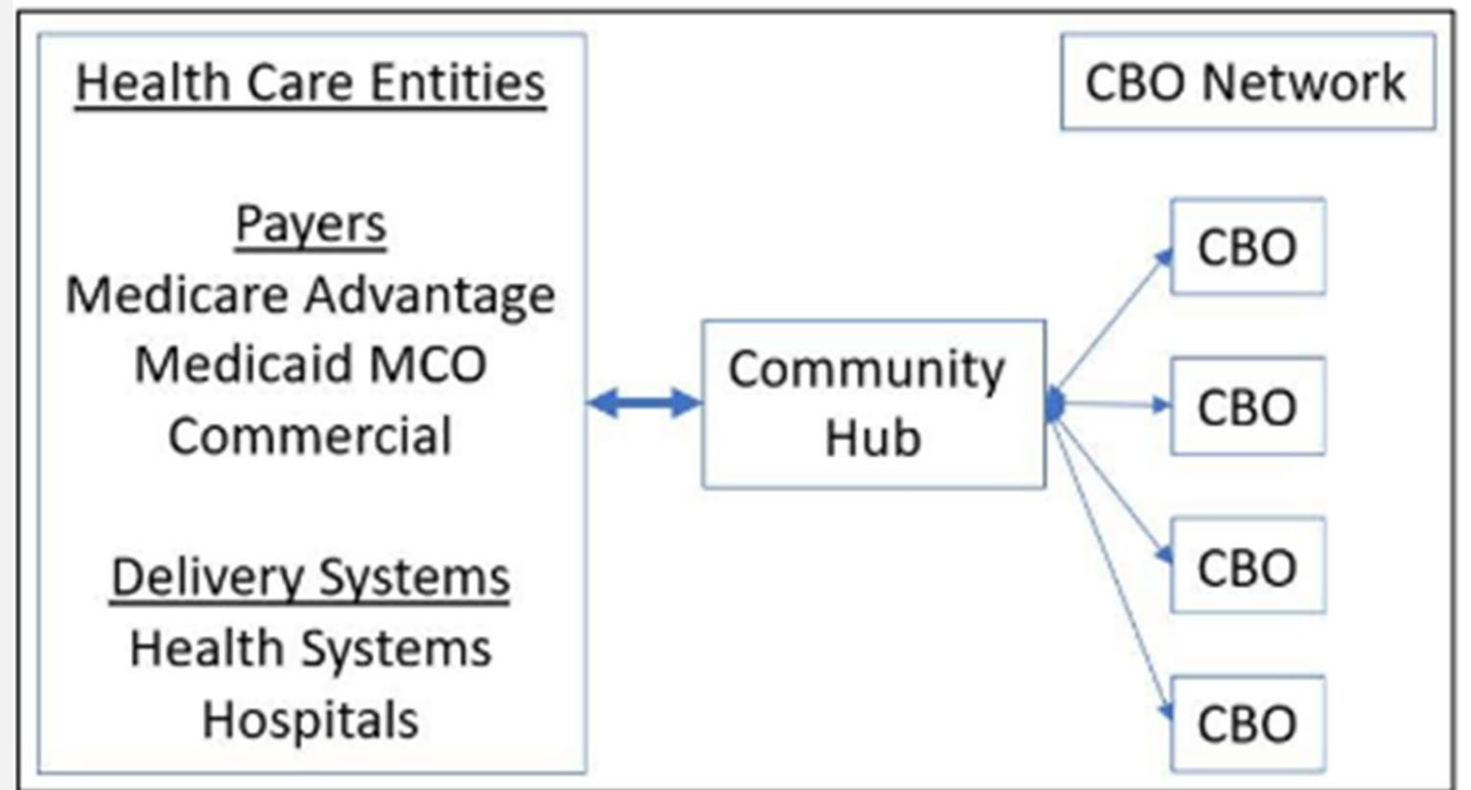


The DRCOG Community Care Hub

And the Health at Home Challenge

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY CARE HUB (CCH)?

A CCH serves as a single point of contact between health care entities and a network of CBOs to centralize administrative and operational infrastructure.



WHY DID WE PURSUE THIS MODEL

- A CCH matches the goals we have set for new partnerships with health care providers
 - Strong potential to benefit Older Adults in our region.
 - Benefits many AAA contracted partners.
 - Utilizes and compliments the services already provided by the AAA and its partners.



WHAT HAVE WE ACCOMPLISHED SO FAR

We began working to develop a CCH in 2022, since then we have:

1. Received a grant that enabled the continuation of our Health Navigation program with Denver Health.
2. Received grant funding to build and deploy a Closed-Loop Referral system to share client information with our AAA contractors.
3. One of 20 organizations in the nation to receive funding from the Center of Excellence (COE) to more fully develop our CCH.
4. Awarded Congressionally Directed Spending allocation in FY27 Federal Budget.
5. One of 12 Advanced Community Care Hubs awarded funds and selected to compete in Phase two of the Health at Home Challenge from the ACL.

WHAT'S THE HEALTH AT HOME CHALLENGE?

- A project from the Administration for Community Living to support community-clinical integration through Advanced CCHs.
- Will deliver support to dually eligible and near-dually eligible beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions and at least one functional limitation.
- Offered to Advanced CCHs in 3 Phases:
 - Phase 1 – 10 awardees split \$2 million
 - Phase 2 – 5 awardees split \$2 million
 - Phase 3 – 3 awardees split \$2 million

WHAT'S AN ADVANCED CCH

- Serves a large geographic area
- Serves a large volume of people
- Provides a wide range of community-based services
- Maintains a robust infrastructure
- Uses technology and data systems to measure impact and report outcomes.



DRCOG'S ADVANCED CCH

- We currently serve a large area, and we are expanding to include any region in Colorado.
- Population in Colorado of up to 400,000 Dually eligible and other Medicare Beneficiaries below 400% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- We deliver the same services as the AAA and can expand quickly.
- We maintain a robust infrastructure that includes - CHWs, electronic documentation system, HIPAA compliance, electronic data exchange, a closed-loop referral system and more.
- We will be hiring an LCSW or a Nurse Practitioner to receive reimbursement from Medicare soon.

NEXT STEPS

- Current Clinical Partners
 - UCHHealth
 - CommonSpirit Health
 - Denver Health Medical Plan
- Operations:
 - Execute agreements to enable referrals
 - Develop referral pathways from clinical partners to CCH
 - Educate staff at clinic sites
 - Serve referred patients and report back
- Administrative:
 - Enroll as a Medicare provider
 - Enroll as a Medicaid provider
 - Hire appropriate staff
- Ongoing Operations:
 - Due to additional funding, partnerships and operations will continue even if we aren't selected for Phase two or three.

Thank you

Questions and Discussion

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ATTACH C

Advisory Committee on Aging Meeting

Name of Committee: Advisory Committee on Aging

Meeting date: August 28, 2026

Agenda Item #: 7

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Arapahoe County Update on Senior Programs

Agenda item type: Informational briefing

Summary

A representative from Arapahoe County will provide an update on county programs and initiatives, share emerging trends and community needs they are observing, and discuss current challenges impacting older adults and individuals with disabilities.

Background

Arapahoe County is one of the eight counties served by the Area Agency on Aging (AAA). The county supports more than 100,000 residents age 60 and older through a variety of programs and partnerships with local governments and community organizations that help older adults and individuals with disabilities maintain healthy, active, and independent lives.

Action by others

None

Previous discussions/actions

None



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Recommendation

None

Attachment

None

For more information

If you need additional information, please contact Courtney Stryker, Arapahoe County Senior Resources Division Manager, at cstryker@arapahoegov.com.