

## **09/05/18 Public Hearing (PH) on Title III services – Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians**

In FY18 the Tribe was contracted to support:

Title III service – Congregate Meals

Title VI service – Congregate, Chore Service (woodcutting) and Information/Assistance

Meeting started at 9:57 AM

Approx. (13) Participants in attendance

Mr. Vincent Toya (Tribal Administrator): introduced the PH session and stated Ms. Brenda Dryer (President of Elder Committee) was ill and unable to attend, but was present via conference call.

Ms. Amelia Benn (V.P. of Elder Committee) and Ms. Lorraine Benn (Secretary for Senior Program) would be assisting.

Mr. Toya asked each attendee to introduce themselves in the meeting.

Once completed, Ms. Heidi Robertson proceeded with PH PowerPoint presentation and information regarding the services provided under Title III and VI.

The presentation offered an overview of:

1. How the AAA works with Tribes
2. How AICOA Advisory Members support AAA – Role of AICOA
3. What was accomplished and how the budget was spent last year
4. Area Plan on Aging

Socialization and Recreation is a new service, introduced to seniors to participate in socialization opportunities that help improve quality of life issues. Ex: community garden, crafting, sewing, movies, luncheons, sponsored walks, “mixers.”

Mr. Toya stated, “...need to identify needs, wants, demands for what Kaibab Services are in need of.”

Ms. Amelia Benn commented, “Any assistance in our houses? Houses are falling apart. This was mentioned at the last hearing.”

Mr. Toya responded, “I’ve been to two meetings, will there be assistance in housing, different department...can apply for grant possibly in the future if it is accommodating.”

Ms. Laurai Atcitty added, “Housing concerns were addressed during congressional week with pictures of dilapidated homes. There are HUD grants that tribes can apply for. We can only go after non-profit grants because there are different grants meant specifically for tribes, which we pass along to tribes.

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (non-profit) can vie for grants, but we try not to submit for the same grants that the Member Tribes are pursuing.”

Mr. Toya is working on mission statement and seminar (strategic planning) to collect more information on housing needs.

Mr. Toya advised, “...in addition to Title III, VI and Tribal support, the HUD and CCBG grants were assisting with the Elder Center expenses. Mr. Toya is interested in applying for another HUD grant to assist with housing.

Mr. Toya offered updates and improvements for Senior Programs in the Tribal community. He just completed a Diabetes Grant. Also, indicated staffing limitations to support Transportation and Housekeeping. In addition, need low-impact coaches for health promotion programs. Currently, the position that Dori supports, utilizes SSBG funds to for Housekeeping services, Title III for Home Delivered Meals and Tribal contribution for driving elders to the gym for exercise program. She cannot be available for meal delivery, if she is also needed to do homemaking and congregate. Issue with less and

less individuals receiving services when there is less staff to put on services. Grant juggling is an issue because staff has to clock out of one grant and clock into another grant code. Also, you must consider that she has to reach goals in multiple grants.

Ms. Dori stated, "The problem is retaining employees" to support the needs of the elder. We do what we can. We do what needs to be done. When they get in a habit the system breaks due to loss of employee."

Ms. Robertson recommended adding the Transportation program to their Title III grant.

Mr. Toya commented, "Transportation impacts Congregate, Home Delivered and Socialization and Recreation.

Audience participant added, "Meals are good, they assist with my restricted diet. We also get healthy snacks for the rest of the day."

Another audience member remarked, "It has minimized my sugar intake. They are moderate servings with sugar free ingredients and they welcome menu recommendations."

Ms. Robertson revisited the PowerPoint presentation by reviewing the FY18 Actual vs. Expected Congregate Meal Expense and Unit goals. 100% of grant funds were used. Only 35% of unit goal was achieved – Expected goal of 7,068 meals vs. Actual goal of 2,496 meals.

The next section of the presentation introduced the Area Agency on Aging requirement to complete an Area Plan.

Questions for Audience -

1. Communication- Do you receive Title III updates from your program managers and AICOA Representative or Alternate?

At elder meetings, is info disseminated? Some stated "no." Need assistance getting information out. Per Mr. Toya, Ms. Roxanne Thomas does send him an AICOA packet before the meeting. Announcements have been sent out to seniors regarding AICOA's next meeting (Friday).

2. What can the AAA do to improve service(s)?

Need transportation and Health Promotions

3. What are your top three concerns for aging independently in your community?

Need transportation to get to senior center because most seniors live far away.

TVI chore services - wood chopping is needed. Funding for wood chopping is the same as last year. Extra funds given last Fiscal Year, but most funds spent on vehicle, which is why unit goal was not achieved. Also, it's hard to get seniors to commit and participate. Need for CHR's to make in-home visits. Vince informed Indian Health Service the Tribe's medical needs. They need for a mediset and someone to look after seniors' medication intake. Vince added that a part-time nurse is coming on board to remedy these concerns. Some of their salary will be covered by diabetes grant. They will also offer coverage for a health promotion program.