

aging services collaborative

of santa clara county

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 3

September 2008

Upcoming Meetings:

Retreat Meeting
Date, Time, and Place TBD

ASC Meeting
November 12, 2 to 4pm
Place TBD

This newsletter highlights events leading up to the Retreat in August and the recommendations made by the ASC Retreat Group that will be vital to making the Aging Services Collaborative more effective within Santa Clara County. Following the highlights of the Retreat, the newsletter includes updates of the Action Team workgroups and several interesting news articles.

A Collaborative Update: The Retreat

In mid-August the Executive Committee met with several Action Team workgroup representatives and other ASC members to examine the progress made by the collaborative in its first year and to address areas needing improvement highlighted by the results of the ASC Survey completed in May.

After reviewing the ASC Mission and survey results, the Retreat Group determined an update to the Mission and structure of the collaborative is necessary.

Events Leading up to the Retreat

ASC Timeline

July 2007	First ASC meeting maps and identifies existing needs of seniors and gaps in services.
August 2007	ASC Action Team monthly meetings begin. Workgroups are formed in response to identified needs and are directed to select project ideas to address gaps.
January to June 2008	Workgroups present projects to Policy Team.
May 2008	ASC members surveyed to evaluate progress on ASC Communication, Implementation, Leadership, Governance, Participation & Support.

ASC Survey Themes

- Who's in charge?
- Confusion about ASC governance & decision-making & funding role
- Key organizations are not all represented
- What are "top priorities" ?

Retreat Recommendations

Recommendation # 1 – Revise the ASC Mission

The ASC is a consortium of organizations working together to provide leadership and build community-wide capacity to support, maintain, and promote the well-being of older adults and their caregivers in Santa Clara County.

Do you have any feedback on the revised and recommended ASC Mission?

Send your comments to TeddyD@HealthTrust.org



Recommendations #2, #3, and #4 – Establish an effective structure that builds capacity

Create a Steering Committee that replaces the Executive Committee and expands upon its leadership role. Membership would include the existing members of the Executive Committee AND workgroup chairs and a small group of rotating stakeholders.

Do you have any feedback on the expansion of the Executive Committee membership and roles? Do you support the recommendations to align Action Team chairs with the Steering Committee? Yes/No and Why?

Send your comments to TeddyD@HealthTrust.org



Create a "Resource Consulting Team" that replaces the Policy Team and is available to consult, advocate and assist with policy and capacity building. Members would include representatives from cross-cutting agencies, elected officials, and funders.

Do you have any feedback on the Policy Team being modified and/or replaced by a Resource Consulting Team?

Send your comments to TeddyD@HealthTrust.org

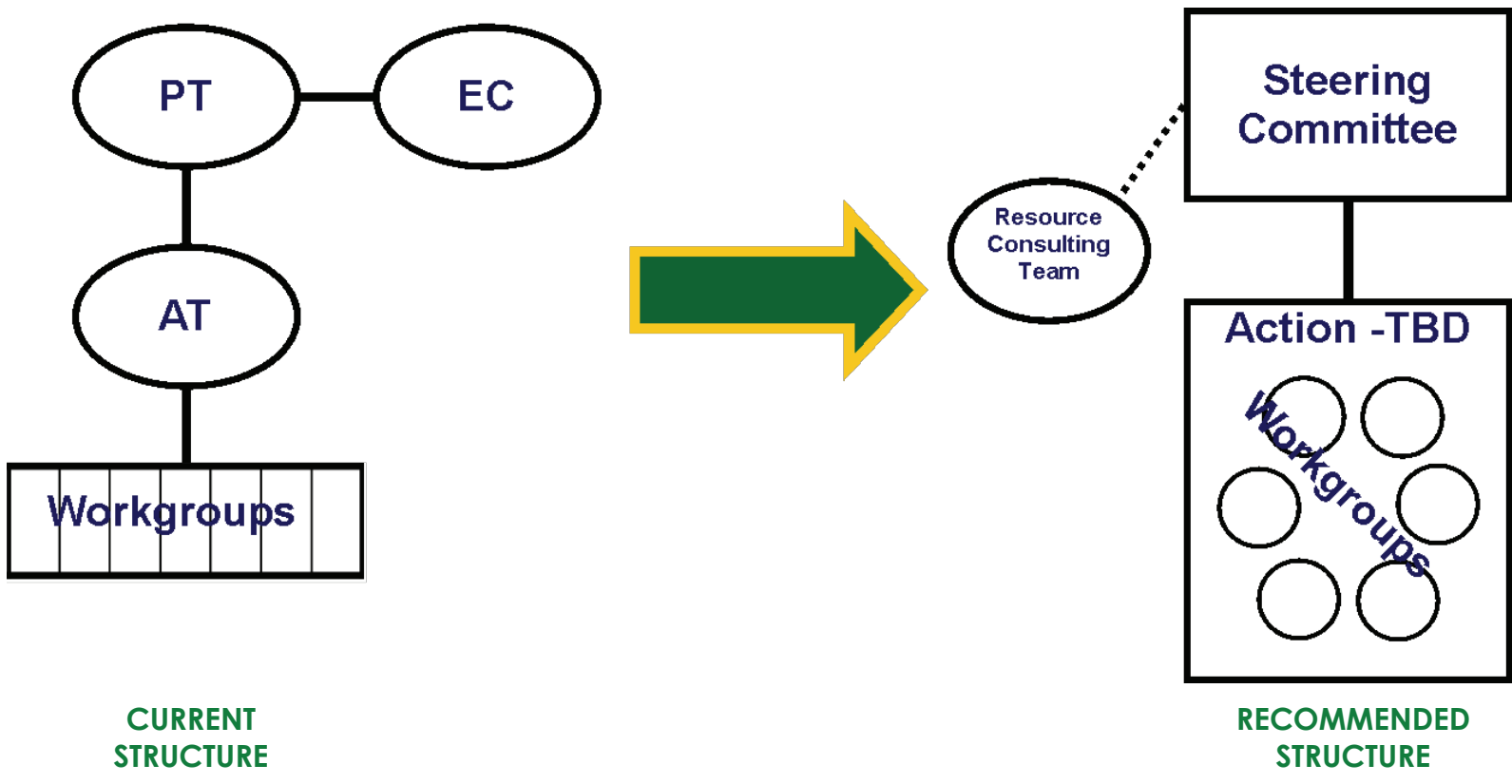


Clarify the role of the Action Team and continue providing opportunities for networking, education, workgroup meetings and advocacy.

Do you support the role(s) for the overall collaborative? (Networking, information sharing, education/learning, input on needs and priorities, advocacy and Work Group activities) Yes/No and Why?

Send your comments to TeddyD@HealthTrust.org






Recommendations #5 – Refine Priority Areas

- Examine the most appropriate role for Collaborative
- Decide how to collaboratively plan
- Set annual goals and formulate a work plan
- Align with Work Group activity

Do you agree on the need to focus the collaborative, to prioritize strategies, and to create a work plan? Yes/No and Why?

Send your comments to TeddyD@HealthTrust.org



NEXT STEPS:

- **Gather Feedback and Reconvene Retreat Group**
 - Refine elements of structure (roles, responsibilities, and membership)
 - Propose process for setting ASC priorities
 - Determine process and timeline for work plan development
 - Set priorities/work plan for the next 1+ yrs

Action Team Workgroup Updates

Caregiver Support

The Caregiver Support workgroup is quickly finalizing a brochure that has been funded jointly by the Health Trust and Kaiser Permanente. The Caregiver brochure will be translated in several languages and assist caregivers in identifying resources throughout the county. Printing will begin by October.

Health & Wellness

The Hospital to Home program has received \$75,000 in funding to work with consultants to plan, develop, and test a volunteer case management model to facilitate successful hospital-to-home transitions for ethnic older adults.

Housing

The Housing workgroup has presented on one policy project that would require working with non-profit and for-profit developers and affordable housing lenders to increase the percentage of housing units available to senior renters with incomes below \$20,000 annually, with rent levels set at 30% of income. The workgroup is also developing a project to update an online housing database that is currently "housed" by Community Technology Alliance servers.



Senior Centers

The Senior Centers workgroup has been meeting over the summer to finalize an older adult wellness screening tool. With more collaboration with local educational institutions and other community senior centers, the tool will assist senior centers in identifying older adults needing extra services to increase their quality of life and independence.

Links and Events of Interest

Fact: **Every day another 7900 Americans turn 60.** Fact: As people age they lose muscle mass and flexibility. Fact: Exercise delays the physical effects of aging. [Click here to read more](#)

What does it feel like to age in America? A training program takes a look at what it's like to be 85 and older. [Click here to learn more](#)

What does it take to make a community aging-friendly? Get great information and expert technical assistance at the "Creating Aging-Friendly Communities" website that can be found at www.agingfriendly.org.

The National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies recently conducted a survey that indicates **an increasing percentage of grandparents will at some point provide care for their grandchildren.** To read more about the study [click here](#).

Friday, September 26, 2008, 8:30am-4:40pm, at the Hilton Hotel Arden West, 2200 Harvard Street Sacramento, CA 95815. The **Community Renewal Summit** is an annual event that provides legislators, faith-based and community leaders with networking opportunities and the knowledge needed to further develop or replicate programs that are revitalizing neighborhoods. For more information and to register visit www.CommunityRenewal.net.



**Need to announce an event or want to provide feedback on the newsletter?
Please contact Teddy at 408-879-8432 or TeddyD@healthtrust.org.**