



Southeast Regional Eldercare Coalition

Quality Care • Care Coordination • Social Engagement

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL ELDERCARE COALITION

August 1, 2025, 8:30AM

Meeting Minutes

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89966612080?pwd=Y2s1MU16dzdjbFkraFF4ZFZjcXNPQT09>

Meeting ID: 899 6661 2080

Passcode: 471844

1. **Call to Order:** 8:33AM
2. **Agenda Approval** – Wayne Stevens requested a motion to approve the agenda. Royal DeAsis seconded the motion. Agenda approved.
3. **Minutes Approval** – Wayne Stevens requested the motion to approve the meeting minutes from the June 2025 meeting. David Ringle seconded the motion. Minutes approved.
4. **SREC Project Update** – Tonya Muldoon
 - a. Ketchikan Resource Fair September 12, 2025, at the Plaza Mall Ketchikan Alaska. Vendor space is still available. Contact Tonya Muldoon to sign up, tmuldoon@jedc.org. Please post flyers for the Ketchikan Resource Fair in your offices and provide reminders to elders in Ketchikan and POW.
 - b. Understanding Dementia, UAS HS 193, 1credit course starts August 25-December 13, 2025. Topics include Diagnosis and Assessment, Treatment options, Communication Strategies and



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Ethical considerations. No Prerequisites Required. Registration is available through the Ketchikan UAS Register's Office.

- c. SREC Staff changes, Tess Rouse has taken a position at Cook Inlet Tribal Council and will be moving back to Anchorage. We thank her for all her hard work with SREC. We wish her well but know that she will be missed.
 - d. Call for Best Practice speakers for September/October Meeting. September we will welcome the Division of Public Health to speak about Fall Prevention and some of their new programming. If you would like to participate as a Best Practice Speaker or have ideas about speakers you would like to hear from, please contact, Tonya Muldoon.
 - e. Tonya Muldoon noted some of the upcoming regional events from AARP: Design for Life August 26, Social Security is turning 90 years old on August 14th and AARP has toolkits to celebrate, and scam information via an article that will be published in the Senior Voice (Tonya Muldoon will send out the article with these notes to the Coalition members). Mention was made of the August OCRA calendar of activities.
5. **SREC Steering Committee Report** – Sharyl Yeisley was not available for today's meeting.
- a. Sub-Committee Workforce Development
6. **Advocacy Sub-committee** - Wayne Stevens
- a. If you are interested in joining a sub-committee advocacy group, please contact Tonya Muldoon or Erin Walker-Tolles. We will be looking at the priorities of AgeNet and developing advocacy planning and strategies for supporting senior needs in our communities.



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7. Best Practice:

- a. Claire Richardson, Chaplin Bartlett Regional Hospital Hospice will speak to us about a play about death and dying in Se Alaska that is being produced by Theater Alaska and written by playwright, Merry Ellefson.
 - i. The play is based on interviews of people from across the community regarding their perspectives on death and dying. The play provides resources and encouragement to start talking about the existential truths of death and dying.
 - ii. The play is still being finalized with the planned presentations starting in Jan 2026.
 - iii. Dr. Emily Kane offered to supply 5 Wishes packets (Advanced Directive) for upcoming presentations of the play.
- b. Heather Page Director of Bartlett Regional Hospital, Hospice and Home Care to discuss the services being offered through their programming in Juneau.
 - i. Heather provided an overview of Hospice Services being provided in Juneau. Discussion was about referrals and the hospice process.
 1. Dr. Taylor Dunn is acting Medical Director for the program. Dr. Urata is an active volunteer.
 2. Referrals have a 24-hour response time for Hospice services.
 3. Referral form and brochure will be sent out with these notes and be placed on the Navi Tool website “Professional Referral” page (<https://jedc.org/srec/professional-referrals/>).
 - a. Must be completed a signed by a physician.
 - b. Critical step for a successful referral is the Certification of a Terminal Illness. This cannot be dementia or generalized weakness as the diagnosis must be specific).



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- c. Patients need to be recertified at 60 and 90 days after referral.
- d. The dying patient is required to have an active primary physician and/or physician team. They will also need to have family or friends to support care in the home through the process.
4. Hospice volunteers are available for respite and comfort support to patients and family. They cannot assist with personal care or medication administration.
5. Volunteers remain involved with the dying patient and support for up to 13 months.
6. Foundation on End of Life is supporting a speaker, Ira Byak, to come to Juneau to speak to Hospital medical staff and to have an open public speaking event at Thunder Mountain Middle School December 9 and 10, 2025.

8. Comments from members:

- a. A thoughtful question was proposed regarding how to address the dying patient and grieving family who lack a spiritual belief system through the dying process.
 - i. Discussion occurred.
 - ii. Suggested approach was too deeply listen.
- b. The Widow and Widowers Garden Support Group are taking a break for the summer and will start meeting again on Labor Day, September 1, 2025, from 2 to 4 PM. We will be meeting at the Southeast Alaska Food Bank for a tour of the greenhouse we have helped to organize and grow produce for the foodbank.

Warm regards,

Diane Kyser

Widows and Widowers Garden Support



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907-723-1917 Cell

Ketchikan:

- c. **Annual Community Wide Senior Picnic!** We held it at Ward Lake shelters on July 18th. We had the most attendance ever this year and actually ran out of our dinnerware and many of our foods. It was a beautiful day with NO rain and wind! We had a band volunteer their time to come play and there were games for everyone to join in on. It was lovely seeing all the seniors from all the different assisted living facilities and independent living settings mingle with each other and reconnect. There were a lot of shocking "I thought you were dead" greetings being made. Our community loves supporting this annual event and the seniors love having it. I'm so thankful for Ketchikan SAIL for taking the reins this year to help organize the meetings to make this picnic a success. (pictures and newspaper article on the event attach with notes email)

Bernice Metcalf
Case Manager
Southeast Senior Services

9. **Adjournment:** 9:35AM

10. **Next Meeting**

Scheduled September 5, 2025, at 8:30AM

11. **Upcoming events**



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Community Events

August 1 Last day to sign up!

AmeriCorps Seniors Alaska: Register by August 1

Calling all Alaskans 55 and older!

AmeriCorps Seniors Annual Conference

September 23–26

Lakefront Hotel in Anchorage

This is a statewide program and RurAL CAP AmeriCorps Seniors is inviting volunteers from across Alaska to come together for an exciting few days of learning, connection, and celebration! The deadline to apply is August 1st. If you're 55+ and interested in volunteering with youth in your local community, or volunteering with seniors as a companion, apply online at <https://eldermentor.org> — click the "Apply to be a Volunteer" tab. Or call 907-717-7932. Both AmeriCorps Senior volunteer options include a tax-free stipend that will not affect any benefits you may be receiving. The program requires a minimum of 5 hours volunteering a week. Volunteer service is required to attend the annual conference.

Month of Play

Juneau Department of Parks and Recreation

Recreational facilities throughout Juneau will be free for events, after printing your Passport to Play for their website.

<https://juneau.org/newsroom-item/parks-recreations-free-month-of-play-kicks-off-august-1>

2025 Our Languages Summit

August 4-6 Free

Centennial Hall Convention Center

The Language Summit is a space of collaboration, cultural revitalization, and inclusion, where Lingít, Xaad Kíl, and Sm'algyax languages are honored and strengthened.



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Administration for Community Living Upcoming Webinars

Join ACL's National Caregiver Support Collaborative (NCSC) on August 6th at for [a webinar on integrating family caregivers as essential partners within care teams](#). The NCSC offers resources and technical assistance to aging network organizations and key partners, including those serving tribal and kinship caregiver support networks.

During this session, attendees will learn about actionable strategies for facilitating partnership between aging network organizations and health care providers to address critical gaps in caregiver support. The webinar will highlight:

- Updates from ACL about their multipronged approach to advancing partnerships between the health care and social sectors.
- Key resources developed by the University of California San Francisco as part of the NCSC's goal of achieving greater recognition, support, and inclusion of family caregivers.
- Local examples of aging network and health care provider partnership in action

Attendees can engage in an interactive discussion to explore collaboration opportunities and discuss indicators of success for partnership and engagement as outlined in the National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers.

ASL and CART services will be provided. Registration is required. For questions, please contact CaregiverCollaborative@acl.hhs.gov. To learn more about the NCSC and access additional resources, please visit the [NCSC website](#).

Join ACL's National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center (NADRC) on August 12th for the [webinar, Frontotemporal Degeneration \(FTD\): Focus on Interdisciplinary Care and Caregiver Lived Experience](#).



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This session will provide a general understanding of the difference between Alzheimer's disease and frontotemporal degeneration (FTD), with an emphasis on the young-onset and atypical caregiver experience. Presenters will highlight the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to diagnosis, care planning, and caregiver support to promote the highest quality of life possible for people living with a diagnosis and their families. Communication strategies, behavior management, and caregiver support resources will be discussed. The lived experience of FTD caregivers will be shared as part of this webinar.

Presenters

- Katie Brandt, Director of Caregiver Support Services, FTD Unit, Massachusetts General Hospital
- Marilyn DeCalo, Full-time Caregiver

NADRC webinars are free of charge and open to the public. Webinars are recorded and will be available for viewing on the [NADRC website](#). Pre-registration is required to attend the live webinars. Closed captioning is available during the live event and is included in the recording for all NADRC webinars. If you have questions, please email NADRC-Webinars@rti.org.

Alaska Commission on Aging

Long-Term Care Medicaid Eligibility Webinar with Alaskan Attorney Amrit Kaur Khalsa, who will explore topics such as Miller Trust Accounts, Transfer of Assets, and more.

Monday, August 18th

12-1:30PM

Use this link to join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81842574793>

AARP Design for Life: Exploring Housing for All Ages and Stages of Life Webinar that will discuss key features to include in homes that can enhance safety and independence for people of all ages through remodeling or building new homes.



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Tuesday August 26th

9:00AM via zoom

Register:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Y9rv1Yx4SeibAlsUvn_pbA

Justice in Aging Webinar: Issues Impacting Older Immigrants & Re-entry for Older Adults

This Justice in Aging webinar on August 20th, [Bird's-Eye View: Issues Impacting Older Immigrants in 2025](#), will provide a high-level overview of major issues facing older immigrants in 2025. This webinar will also provide advocates with information regarding the recent sharing of private Medicaid information to immigration officials, the narrowing of immigrant eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid, and the erosion of protected areas from immigration enforcement.

Presenters will discuss:

- Who older immigrants are;
- Developments in immigration policies impacting older adults; and
- General guidance for advocates who work with older immigrants with resources from Justice in Aging and our partners.

Older adults leaving prison and jail face many barriers to accessing health care. Recent improvements to the Medicare Special Enrollment Period (SEP) for older adults leaving incarceration and a new definition of “custody” make it easier for older adults to access Medicare when they return to the community.

Justice in Aging has a [new fact sheet summarizes changes under the new definition of custody](#) that will enable older adults who are in the community pending trial, on parole, on probation, under home detention, or residing in a halfway house to access Medicare. They also [updated their issue brief on the Medicare](#)



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[Special Enrollment Period \(SEP\)](#) with new information and examples.

The [webinar recording, Access to Medicare for People Leaving Incarceration](#), provides advocates with information on how to enroll their older adult clients in Medicare using the Incarceration SEP, how older adults can access Medicare while under community supervision, and how to connect older adult clients with financial assistance and coverage through Medicaid.

Check out more [Justice in Aging resources on Reentry for Older Adults](#).

American Society on Aging Free Upcoming Webinars

[Preventing Fraud and Scams: Safeguarding Older Adults](#)

Sponsored by Home Instead.

Aug. 6 | 9am AKDT

[Learning Lab: Challenging Ableism in Ageism Work](#)

Aug. 12 | 9am AKDT

[Aging and Brain Health](#) Sponsored by Right at Home.

Aug. 20 | 9am AKDT

[Strategies for Improving Quality of Life for Individuals Living with Dementia](#) Sponsored by Right at Home.

Sept. 10 | 9am AKDT

[Pressure Points for Dementia Caregiving: Behavior, Driving, and Firearms](#) Sponsored by Right at Home.

Sept. 17 | 9am AKDT

[The Cost of Care: Funding Options for Long-Term Care Needs](#) Sponsored by Home Instead.

Oct. 1 | 9am AKDT

Southeast Regional Eldercare Coalition Ketchikan Elder Resource Fair

September 12, 2025

10AM-4PM



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Plaza Mall Ketchikan, Alaska

Weekly Events

- **Juneau Senior Center**

Mondays 11AM Senior Sing Along with Jackie

Tuesdays 11:45AM Music with Tom Locher

Wednesdays 11:00AM Senior Chair Yoga

- **Art for Self-Care**

Tuesdays

5:30-7PM

418 Harris St #315 Juneau

These are groups designed to promote self-care using a variety of art activities. For adults to help relieve anxiety, depression, and stress especially during the winter months. Please RSVP: Shawn Hatt Cohen (907)321-5414 txt

- **Beginning and Advanced ESL Classes**

Tuesdays

5:30-7:30PM

Mendenhall Valley Public Library

3025 Diamond Park Loop Juneau, Alaska 99801

Beginning ESL offered from 5:30PM-6:30PM and Advanced ELS Classes are offered from 6:30-7:30PM. Free. Check out the Learning Connection website at <https://tlcalaska.org/english-language-learning-citizenship/> or call (907) 586-5718 for more information.

- **Friday Noon Organ Concert**

Fridays

12:00PM

State of Alaska Office Building Juneau



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- **Senior Balance Class**

Activities vary each week including tea & chat, trivia, arts and more.

Wednesdays at 2PM

Alaska Native Brotherhood Founder's Hall

Sitka, Alaska

Info Brave Heart Volunteers (907)747-4600

Tai Chi

Mondays 7-8:00AM

Mountain View Manor

Petersburg, Alaska

- **Family Game Night**

Tuesdays and Fridays 6:30-8:30PM

Parks and Rec Community Center, Activities Room

Petersburg, Alaska

Monthly Events

- **Coffee, Tea and Chat for Patients and Family**

Bartlett Regional Hospital Cafeteria Juneau

Tuesday 10-11:00AM

Event info: www.bartletthospital.org

Contact: Rhonda Ward 907-796-8918

- **Chair Yoga at the Library**

Tuesdays 10:30-11:30AM

Ketchikan Public Library

398 Copper Rd Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

- **Sacred Harp Sing**

Beginners and listeners' welcome

Every Second and Fourth Sundays on the month



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3:00PM
Pioneer Home Chapel
Sitka, Alaska
Contact: Sara at (907)747-2915

- **Sharing Coalition Meeting**

The group focus is community health and engagement through strong partnerships between organizations and individuals. Everyone is welcome. Date varies, monthly.

12-1:00PM
Dorothy Ingle Conference room Petersburg Medical Center
Petersburg, Alaska

Support Groups (Juneau)

- **Riverview Senior Living**, in Juneau is offering free Support for Memory Care, RSVP Zoom meeting, See flyer for more details: [Riverview Memory Matter Support Group flyer](#)
Every 2nd Tuesday of the month

There will not be an August meeting. Meetings will resume in September.

- **Widow's and Widower's Garden Support Group (WE ARE ALL LIVING IN THE GARDEN OF LIFE)**

Riverview Senior Living
3041 Clinton Dr
Juneau, Alaska 99801
First Monday each month 2-4PM
More information contact Diane Kyser at (907) 723-1917

- **Virtual Low Vision Support Group**
Every 3rd Tuesday of the month



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Juneau Senior Center

Call Laura at Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL) for more info: 586-4920.

- **Cancer Connection Support Group**
Every 3rd Tuesday of the month
First Floor Conference Room
8711 Teal St Juneau, Alaska 99801
Contact: www.cancerconnectionak.org
(907)796-2273, or email: admin@cancerconnectionak.org
- **Traumatic & Acquired Brain Injury Group**
Third Wednesday of every month at 12PM
8711 Teal St Juneau, Alaska 99801
<https://www.sailinc.org/brain-injury-supports/>
Kimberly Sumner: ksumner@sailinc.org
or 888-487-0961
- **Caregiver Support Group**
Every 1st Friday of the month
Ketchikan Saxman Senior Center
2401 Eagle Ave
Saxman, Alaska
Information: (907) 225-8080
- **NAMU Juneau Peer-Led Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Skills Workshop**
First Wednesday of the month
5:30-6:30PM
8711 Teal St. Main Floor Conference Room
Information: www.namijuneau.org/support-groups