

February 26, 2013

Mr. Ted Sturdevant Office of the Governor Executive Director for Legislative Affairs and Policy Olympia, Washington

Dear Ted,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the meeting in which Mayor Steve Young, Fran Bessermin and I were able to meet with you on Wednesday. This was a good opportunity to meet and discuss the purpose and function of the State Council on Aging (SCOA). I truly appreciate your time and interest in the needs of older adults in the State of Washington.

The Washington State Council on Aging is a unified voice across Washington for seniors. The State Council on Aging wants to prevent the further erosion of community bases services for older adults.

As we discussed, Washington has been a national leader by providing its people with the choice to receive cost effective services in their own homes or community setting which rely less on institutional facilities. Investing in home and community –based care continues to be more cost effective, in economic and human terms. People want to remain in their own homes for as long as possible.

As we mentioned the Silver Tsunami has already arrived. Governor Inslee promised that an Aging Summit would occur within his first six months of office. The State Council on Aging wants to ensure that this Aging Summit is well planned and developed at the Governor's Cabinet level. We want to provide our expertise and assist in developing this important Summit.

In the past, the State Council on Aging has had a liaison within the Governor's office. Could you please let us know who this contact person will be? Is it Andi Smith?

On a personal note, I had motioned that the Southeast Washington Area Agency on Aging has an office in the Tri-Cities. The director of the Agency is Lori Brown and she would be a good contact to help you and your family better plan for your mother's needs. Linda can be reached at 509-965-0105.

Again, thank you for the time in meeting with you and hope to be in touch in the future.

Sincerely, Marie C. Baschko-Sakel

Marie E. Raschko-Sokol

Chair, Washington State Council on Aging

Cc: Kevin Quigley, Secretary Department of Social and Health Services Bill Moss, Acting Assistant Secretary, Aging & Long-Term Supports Administration State Council on Aging Members