Illinois Department on Aging Charles D. Johnson, Director



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Services Work Group

Date: December 6, 2005

Walk of the Services Committee Report:

Comprehensive case management submission: Members discussed whether the paragraph describing and explaining the comprehensive case management and its expansion statewide is complete and meets the committee's goals.

Those involved with case management made sure the report meets the committee's objective. Members clarified that items listed as "benefits" of comprehensive case management are positive things that happen as a result of comprehensive case management and are not components of the service. Recommendations discussed were implemented into the final report.

ADS transportation: Members discussed the paragraph describing and explaining the adult day service transportation rate and whether the paragraph meets the committee's goals.

The IADSA wanted to make sure that an increased rate would not guarantee expansion into new areas. Recommendations discussed were implemented into the final report.

Senior Helpline: Members discussed the paragraph describing and explaining the annualization of the senior helpline expansion from MMA funds. Members thought the statement "funded by MMA" confuses the issue. They thought the statement could be rewritten to simply state that "current efforts to help older adults make informed decisions about prescription drug benefits and access to other benefits by annualizing the expansion" is a clearer route to take. This statement and other recommendations discussed were implemented into the final report.

Nutrition: Members reviewed the 2005 meal report for the Department. It estimates that \$2.6 million is needed to address waiting lists across the state. \$7.3 million is needed to serve 3736 persons in need of 2 or more meals/day including weekends. Recommendations discussed were implemented into the final report.

It was also mentioned that we need to look at how we change the existing home-delivered meal structure to reach new areas. Do we come up with new delivery systems? The critical piece is to figure out how to deliver the meals to all areas. Do we consider things such as: Schwann's trucks going out to the rural areas, privatizing the system, using churches, or contracting with local restaurants? Do we consider a cash and counseling type system such as providing money to clients to pay someone to make meals or bring meals in. It was noted that using cash and counseling makes it hard to stick to regulations and dietary guidelines.

Senior Centers: The members discussed how money is needed to transform the centers to meet the changing needs of today's seniors and to reach the younger generation of seniors. Recommendations discussed were implemented into the final report.

Quality of Care:

Members reviewed the goals of quality in services.

Goal 1: Figure out what needs to be measured. Are there universal outcome measures: for one service and for multiple services? The next meeting will focus on these two questions. The committee may want to look at Kitwood's Quality Standards at the next meeting.

Goal 2: Put together the determinant of parameters to help complete the inventory and identify priority service areas. Is there a formula to do so? It was mentioned that focus groups are being conducted with older adults, consumers, providers and caregivers to identify gaps. The committee needs to begin the discussion of what "priority" will encompass.

Goal 3: Quality best practices – Paul and Ryan will research and bring to the committee best practices related to quality.