



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Services Work Group

Date: April 16, 2007

Attending: Michelle Austin, Paul Bennett, Marianne Brennan, Pat Cohen, Betsy Creamer, Kelly Cunningham, Frank Daigh, Diane Drew, John Eckert, Amy Eubank, Darcia Ferrari, Mary Geis, Donna Ginther (co-chair), oyce (Lony) Gusewelle, Sherry Hamlin, Margaret Hastings, Carol Lentz Headley, Julie Hess, Marsha Johnson, Neyna Johnson, John Lackland, Daniel McCloud, Jennifer McDermott, Mike O'Donnell, Amy Paschedag, Karen Schainker, Jeremy Schroeder, Tami Lynn Wacker, and Debbie Weber.

Guests: Gina Bartelmay, James Dearing, Stewart Gaines, Carol Kern and Vicki Rose.

The summary from the March 19, 2007, meeting was reviewed and approved.

Senior Centers

A panel consisting of Karen Shainker (Senior Services of Central Illinois), Darcia Ferraria (Putnum County Achievement Services), Gina Bartelmay (Fondulac Park District), Carol Kern (Mendota Area Senior Services), and Vicki Rose (Southwestern Illinois College, Program for Older Persons) was introduced by Karn Shainker who gave a brief state and national overview. She noted that there are an estimated 300 Senior Centers in the state, with one Senior Center meeting the definition of a "Multi-Purpose" Senior Center as defined in the Older Americans Act. Nationally, there are an estimated 10,400 Senior Centers, with 6,000 of them receiving OAA funds. The panelists each described the particular services provided in their catchment areas, and noted differing funding sources based upon local need and availability. In Illinois, Senior Centers do not fit in to a "cookie cutter" mold; instead they have evolved based on need, availability of resources and community interest. It was noted that each Area Agency on Aging may have differing expectations based on local needs identified in Area Plans. The critical role that volunteers play in many aspects of making a Senior Center and its programs successful, and looking at innovative ways to raise funds were noted. Questions and clarifications were discussed with all of the panelists, and handouts about the various Senior center's programs and services were distributed to the Workgroup by each panelist during their presentations

Following the panel, Michael O'Donnell from the East Central IL Area Agency on Aging presented a survey conducted by the IL Association of AAAs in July, 2006 which displayed the significant level of Title III B and III E funds receive by Senior Centers (in FY '05). It showed that over half of AAA's III B allocations, and 36% of III E went to the state's Senior Centers.

Nutrition

Joyce Devries from the IL Department of Human Services, Division of Human Capital Development presented on the Food Stamp Program. She distributed a copy of “Basic Food Stamp Rules” which outlined: who is eligible to apply, application verification requirements, asset and income limits, earned income and standard deductions, housing/utility costs and medical expenses. Following the comprehensive presentation, a discussion followed, including the feeling the use of Food Stamps for seniors is oftentimes not utilized based upon the paperwork versus the limited amount of Food Stamps a senior may be eligible to receive.

Following this presentation, there was a discussion on whether the Department on Aging would be taking the lead on pulling together the previously discussed **Nutrition Summit**. It was noted that the emphasis nationally is looking towards a more holistic view of “healthy aging” and that it would be more beneficial for the Workgroup to begin thinking in this more global way for a more encompassing summit. Following Michael O’Donnell’s suggestion, it was agreed that he and Donna Ginther take preliminary the steps for developing a healthy aging summit.

Housing (cont.)

John Eckert from the Department on Aging presented on the **Comprehensive Care in Residential Settings (CCRS)** demonstration project. The demo originally began with passage of PA 89-0530 which authorized development of Community Based Rehabilitation Facilities (CBRFs). CBRFs provided a “housing with services” option with an enhanced CCP rate. Each CBRF was required to meet an established menu of services to for all its clients. Four free-standing CBRFs were built using Illinois Housing Development Authority funds, as well as two which were a floor or sections of an existing senior housing site, and an existing senior building. Due to sunset as a demo, PA 93-0775 was passed which “grandfathered” the existing sites but required them to become licensed as Assisted Living facilities under the AL/Shared Housing Act. There are currently 200 clients in six CCRS. As a requirement under PA 93-0775, the Department is contracting to have a study of the CCRS model for a report due to the General Assembly in January, 2008. It is anticipated that this research will identify if the CCRS model compliments the Supportive Living Facility model or is too duplicative for possible further expansion as an additional housing with services model for seniors.

Jonathan Lackland, Stewart Gaines and James Dearing from the Alzheimer’s Association presented on **Creating Housing Options for Persons with Dementia**. A power point handout outlined the presentation. It was noted that customer expectations for dementia care options require: affordability, accessibility, the ability to stay in one’s own home, the availability to have access to non-institutional residential settings, trained and caring caregivers, person-centered care, and continued family involvement/support. Further it was noted that there was a need for coordinated support services combined with housing (e.g., adult day services in a senior apartment building with on-site case management), programs to support family caregiving, providers who are educated on all types of housing settings, and programs focused on maintaining function and independence. A discussion of the shared housing model and photo examples of existing sites were shared with the group.

Amy Eubank presented on the **Assisted Living, Supportive Living and Independent Living models**. Noting that she is a provider who operates each of these three models, Ms. Eubank noted the need and uniqueness of each of these models. Each type has its merits and given the limited availability of housing with services options currently available in the state, there is room for these unique models to meet the differing needs of mid and low-income seniors.

Future Meetings

Following the conclusion of the presentations, Workgroup Co-chair Donna Ginther concluded the meeting and noted that the next regularly scheduled meeting was set for May 21.

Future meeting dates are:

June 18	September 17
July 16	October 15
August 20	November 19