



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Workforce and Caregiver Work Group

Date: May 8, 2006, conference call
Attending: Betsy Creamer, Martha Holstein, Peg Keeley, David Lindeman, Scott Musser, Brian Schwarberg and Ruth Waeltz

1) Status Report of OASAC meetings, report, retreat

Betsy Creamer gave a brief report on the Governor's Budget as related to the Department on Aging. The total increase in funds for IDoA is over \$59 million. Details will be disseminated as soon as possible.

David Lindeman reported on the OASAC retreat on April 26 and indicated that in addition to working on a broader vision for the OASAC Committee, the Committee approved a motion to support Rep. Hamos' budget request which was in alignment with the OASAC 2005 Report recommendations.

Next Workforce/Caregiver Subcommittee meeting will be held in conjunction with the full OASAC meeting on Monday, **June 12, 2006** in Chicago. (Please hold Noon on the 12th as a potential time for this meeting.)

OASAC meeting dates for 2006 available on the IDoA website.

2) Potential Funding Strategies

A draft document listing potential funding requests to conduct pilot projects/ consensus conference is still being reviewed by the Department. The purpose of this list is to identify potential funding streams that could help advance the work of the Subcommittee in reaching its 2006 Objectives.

Next Step: If there is any opportunity for moving ahead with any project the Subcommittee will be notified immediately.

3) Status Report from Coordinators on Subcommittee Priority Efforts

Workforce Priorities

- 1) Improve Health Insurance for Workers -- Coordinators: Alicia Weber and Darby Anderson
The Subcommittee Survey to provider staff to obtain input on potential benefits/beneficiaries from expanded health insurance will be distributed in the near future.
Next Step: The survey will be distributed to a broad array of providers and associations representing stakeholders. The goal is to complete the survey in June. An update will be provided at the June meeting.
- 2) Priority Training Programs -- Coordinators: Brian Schwarberg, David Lindeman and Melissa Kahn
Workforce training goals have been combined into a single objective. A background document that identifies the array of potential training programs is under revision, with the goal of avoiding duplication.

Next step: The background document will be circulated to the Subcommittee when it is completed. David offered to contact IDPH staff to determine current workforce priorities and opportunities.

Family Caregiver Priorities

- 1) Improve Respite Funding and Alternative Services -- Coordinators: Martha Holstein and Brian Schwarberg
Justification for increasing the respite funding level in the state is expected to be supported by the benchmarking study.
Next step: Data sources are being explored by the Coordinators.
- 2) Caregiver Benchmarking Study -- Coordinators: Brian Schwarberg and Martha Holstein
Martha and Brian will attend the State Caregiver Advisory Committee on May 10. Martha reported on her continuing data collection of caregiver experiences through caregiver focus groups. Martha has updated the questions for the benchmark survey.
Next steps: The funding request is being reviewed by the Department. Contingency plans for funding a benchmarking study may need to be pursued.
- 3) Working Caregiver Meeting -- Coordinators: Brian Schwarberg and Martha Holstein
Work has commenced to determine private/public stakeholders. Martha reported that HMPRG is considering building the cost of holding a Working Caregiver Consensus Meeting into their grant budget process.
Next step: Coordinators will continue work on the list of organizations/groups that should be included as private/public stakeholders in preparation for the June meeting.
- 4) Individualized Caregiver Training -- Coordinators: Brian Schwarberg and Martha Holstein
Brian has begun a list of Caregiver Training programs, including information from Family Caregiver Alliance in California.
Next step: The coordinators are prepared to obtain more detailed information on caregiver training options through follow-up calls. An update on representative training programs will be provided at the June meeting.

4) Next Steps – Proposed Meetings

Please hold the following times on your calendar:

Monday, June 12..... **OASAC Meeting**, Chicago

Subcommittee Meeting (concurrent)

Monday, July 10..... **Subcommittee**, 11a.m. conference call

Monday, August 14..... **Subcommittee**, 11a.m. conference call