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## Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

# Workforce and Caregiver Work Group

Date: June 12, 2006, conference call

Attending: Carol Aronson, Donna Copeland-Hill, Betsy Creamer, Donna Ginther, Martha Holstein, Peg Keeley, David Lindeman, Scott Musser, Ruth Waeltz and Alicia Weber

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### 1) Status Report of Subcommittee Membership and Schedule

David Lindeman reported that several members of the Subcommittee have or will resign. Brian Schwarberg and Melissa Kahn have stepped down from active participation, while Alicia Weber will step down in mid-August. Any member who would like to take a lead role on the Subcommittee tasks should contact David Lindeman. The Subcommittee would welcome new participants at any time; they will be eligible for formal membership per OASAC guidelines.

Next Workforce and Caregiver Subcommittee meeting will be held by conference call on Monday, **July 10, 2006** from **11:00am-Noon**.

OASAC meeting dates for 2006 available on the IDoA website.

### 2) 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 obtain input on potential benefits/beneficiaries from expanded health insurance is being distributed to provider staff.

Next Step: The survey data will be analyzed in the near future. Findings will identify the current status of health insurance for workers for a broad array of providers and associations. Recommendations, including legislative and budget strategies, will be made. An update will be provided at the July meeting.

- 2) Priority Training Programs -- Coordinator: David Lindeman

Given the resignation of two coordinators, the background document that identifies the array of potential training programs remains under revision.

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

#### Family Caregiver Priorities

- 1) Improve Respite Funding and Alternative Services -- Coordinator: Martha Holstein  
Justification for increasing the respite funding level in the state is expected to be supported by the benchmarking study.

Next step: Awaiting benchmarking study.

- 2) Caregiver Benchmarking Study -- Coordinator: Martha Holstein  
Several data sources were recommended for inclusion in the benchmarking data collection process, including data from individual studies as well as anecdotal information. Donna Copeland-Hill offered to share the results of her evaluation of the NEIL Caregiver Program by late August. This evaluation may serve as a model for data collection from other regions of the State. Carol recommended that the State Caregiver Advisory Committee be approached to participate in the caregiver subcommittee deliberations (meeting Aug 30).  
Next steps: David and Betsy will contact the State Caregiver Advisory Committee. The funding request is being reviewed by the Department. An alternative plan for conducting the benchmarking study will be implemented if funds are not available. Donna will circulate her evaluation results.
  
- 3) Working Caregiver Meeting -- Coordinator: Martha Holstein  
Martha offered that she and HMPRG would develop an initial plan for holding a Working Caregiver Consensus Meeting. Help is needed to determine private/public stakeholders who would be invited.  
Next steps: Martha will develop a work plan for holding the meeting. A funding request will be reviewed by the Department. Organizations/groups that should be included as private/public stakeholders should be submitted to Martha.
  
- 4) Individualized Caregiver Training -- Coordinator: Martha Holstein  
Martha will determine if the list of Caregiver Training programs, prepared by Brian, is available. Members recommended several training programs for inclusion in the list including Dr. Schwalis' Telehelp program at SIU, Dr. Micki Iris' video training and the American Red Cross caregiver training program.  
Next steps: The coordinator is 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 July meeting.

### 3) **Potential Funding Strategies**

The Department is considering funding requests that could help advance the work of the Subcommittee in reaching its 2006 Objectives through pilot projects/ a consensus conference. **The priorities identified by the Subcommittee are 1) conducting a survey of workforce health insurance, 2) conducting a caregiver benchmarking survey and 3) conducting a Consensus Conference on Working Caregivers.**

Next Step: David will contact the Department regarding this request.

### 4) **Next Steps – Proposed Meetings**

Please hold the following times on your calendar:

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

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

Monday, September 11 ..**OASAC Meeting**, Springfield

**Subcommittee meeting** (concurrent – please hold 12 noon)