



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Workforce and Caregiver Work Group

Date: February 5, 2007

Attending: Darby Anderson, Betsy Creamer, Besty Essex, Shai Hoffman, Martha Holstein, Peg Keeley, David Lindeman, Robin Morgan, Wilma Schmitz, Jeremy Schroeder and Ruth Waeltz.

- **OASAC annual report** -- The report is in the final stages of approval and should be finalized soon.
- **Procedures** -- As outlined in the OASAC Operation Manual, Department staff will be responsible for meeting emails, notifications and for creating a brief summary report that will be posted on the web page.
- **Working Caregiver Conference** – It was reported that more assistance from committee members is needed to help get this conference together. There needs to be a dedicated staff person to organize this. David Lindeman will discuss this issue with Michael Gelder to see if additional resources exist.
- **Health Insurance Survey** – Darby reported that the survey had not gone out yet due to a lack of response and confusion at the one test association. A decision was made to send out the survey this week and then refine the survey if needed. Preliminary information should be available by the March meeting.
- **Family Caregiving Benchmark Survey** – this project also needs a dedicated staff person to help move this along. This topic will be added to the list of items for David to discuss with the Department. Without the resources to move this project along, it may just have to stay on the “wish list”. Shai will forward summaries of the survey AgeOptions used.
- **Caregiver/Staff Training** – IDPH has put forward a request for proposal related to new evidence-based trainings.
- **Improve Respite/Alternative Funding** – It was reported that House Resolution 47 required state agencies to try and improve funding for respite. The Committee will continue to monitor this resolution.
- **Other Business** – Martha reported on her workforce tracking up-scaling project (career ladder). If members are interested in this project they should contact Martha for more information. Shai provided information on the efforts of the Illinois Paid Leave Coalition that is trying to get a family leave insurance type program that will allow workers to receive some sort of wages if they have to take time off. This would be something new for caregivers. The proposal recommends up to 4 weeks of partial wages.

Next Steps:

- David will meet with Michael Gelder to discuss the committee’s goals, future plans and resource needs.
- Robin will provide a summary on the Department’s new Flexible Senior Services program. She will also provide the members with the Comprehensive Care Coordination tool and addendums for review.

- The committee will continue to work towards its objectives for 2007.

Meeting Schedule:

This committee meets via conference call on the second Monday of the month from 11:00 a.m. - noon.

Future meeting dates are:

- March 12 (prior to the full OASAC meeting – time to be announced)
- April 9
- May 14
- June 11 (prior to the full OASAC meeting – time to be announced)
- July 9
- August 13
- September 10 (prior to the full OASAC meeting – time to be announced)
- October, November and December dates are to be announced due to potential conflicts with holidays.