

# COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL (CCPAC) MEETING

February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Webex

10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

## Advisory Committee Members in Attendance

Marta Pereyra, John Magee, Richard Juarez, Yvette Lyles, Mattie Bryant, James Quach, Peter Valessares, Amber Knox, Ella Grays, Laura Altenbaumer, Natasha Belli, Sagar Kumar, Shana Holmes, Sherry Barter-Hamlin, Stephanie Garrigan, Tammy Tenton, Theresa Collins, Co-chair, Erica Collins, Aaron Fortenbacher, Marla Fronzak, Lori Hendren, Becky Dragoo, Co-Chair

## Advisory Committee Members Not Present

Yolanda Curry, Robert Spaulding, LaShun James, Joanne Glenn, Jackie Rodriguez

## Guests in Attendance

Jessica Moxey, April Srna, Audie Jensen, Brenzel Calderon, Charlotte Hayes-Mason, Jasmine Ferguson, Jennifer Brasfield, Karla Baht-Israel, Kofi Jones, Linda Harris, Lisa Miller, Irina, Linda Isho, Jackie Ward, Jennifer Brasfield, Elena Florea, Jazmen Eison, Topaz Gunderson-Schweska, Kifa William, Cindy Cunningham, Kendra Corzine, Jessa Marie Robles, Loise Basa, Bailey Huffman, Svetlana Ananich, Mayra Quinones

## HFS Staff in Attendance

Pamela Winsel, Brandi Haberland

## IDoA Staff in Attendance

Mary Killough, Liz Vogt, Jennifer Hebel, Amy Wiatr-Rodriguez, Heather Austwick, Katie Blank, Amber Bolden, Lori Brannan, Priscilla Chapman, Kristen Chi, Gabriel Corral, Reier Deloney, Fabian Eghiabumhe, Mary Gilman, Glenda Love, Sophia Gonzalez, Trish Gorda, Jennifer Hebel, Derek Hedges, Iris Huber, Tiara McCoy, Michelle Hoersch, Lee Moriarty, Shirley Morley, Peniel Nelson, Brian Pastor, Sandra Pastore, Jamie Richno, Kelsey Rosenthal, T’Kira Siler-Wilkerson, Marqus Thurmond, Sharon Warren, Joslyn Washington, Lisa Zuurbier, Yesenia Garcia, Justin Heggy, Tiffany Hernandez, Terrence Hickman, Jeremy Hostetler, Emily Howerton, Payal Jhaveri, Sandy Leith, Carrie Marcy, Jody Martin

## AGENDA ITEMS

### Call to Order

CCPAC Co-Chair, Theresa Collins officially called the meeting to Order at 10:02 am.

## Welcome and Introductions

Welcome remarks from CCPAC Co-Chair, Theresa Collins and IDOA Deputy Director and CCPAC Co-Chair, Becky Dragoo.

## Welcome newly appointed CCPAC members

Mattie Bryant, Marla Fronczak, Erica Collins, and Sagar Kumar announced as new CCPAC members.

## Review of role of voting members and list of voting members

Co-chair Collins gave a reminder to all present members of the role of voting members as they provide strategic input, represent constituents' interests, and vote on policy recommendations. Co-chair Dragoo noted that everyone is welcome to attend CCPAC meetings, not just voting members, as the meetings provide detailed updates and discussion.

## CCPAC Member Roll Call

Co-Chair Collins proceeded with the roll call.

## Approval of Meeting Minutes from CCPAC Meeting on December 10, 2025

Motion made by Peter Valessares and seconded by Ella Grays, meeting minutes approved.

## Public Comments

No public comments were made.

## IDoA Leadership & Staffing Updates

Becky Dragoo, IDOA provided staffing updates. IDOA has four new employees working in the Community Outreach Division with the Senior Helpline, 3 in the Fiscal Division, and 1 Ombudsman Specialist.

## Fiscal/Budget Updates

Emily Howerton talked about fiscal updates. The Governor's budget address is February 18 at noon, followed by a health and human services briefing at 2pm. If there are any budget questions following the Governor's Budget address and briefing next Wednesday, February 18 feel free to reach out to [emily.howerton2@illinois.gov](mailto:emily.howerton2@illinois.gov). General revenue funds payments are on about a 3-week delay.

Rate increases were issued in January, and attestations on the lowest rate paid to direct care workers were due to ensure compliance with requirements. Those who indicated they were not compliant received information about a mandatory meeting that will be held February 20<sup>th</sup>. Discussion followed regarding the nature of the non-compliance and how corrective action will be taken.

Liz Vogt provided reminders about the governor's FY 2027 budget address next week: it is just a beginning step. In May legislators will vote on passing a budget, and final amounts won't be confirmed likely until July.

## CCPAC Subcommittees Updates

Services – Ella Grays, Chair & T'Kira Siler-Wilkerson, IDOA reported they have a meeting scheduled today for the services subcommittee.

They are working on a scope and severity grid to help provider agencies with their understanding of technical assistance or corrective actions in follow-up to monitoring. The subcommittee is also looking at a topic for their next newsletter on helping provider agencies maintain compliance.

**Policy** - Deb Oberman, Chair, Sandy Pastore, IDOA reported the subcommittee members have met quite a bit since the last meeting, focusing on EVV, 240 rule updates, grievance process, the partner portal, MOU policy, and updating the mandatory Medicaid policy.

**Training** - Kofi Jones, Chair, Liz Vogt, IDOA reported no regular meetings but still communicating via email, working alongside Rush University, working on surveying the committee members for topics. Plan is to go back to more regular meetings; they have also been testing a draft for topics. A deadline has been given but not stated when. Estimated another year of tweaking the training modules before they are ready for use.

**Technology** - James Quach, Chair & Derek Hedges, IDOA reported they met on the 27<sup>th</sup>. The primary focus of the meeting was IDoA's Participant Search Screen (PSS) and how it is being used by the CCUs and providers within the aging network to support things like eligibility verification, waivers determination, billing accuracy and compliance. They also talked about how PSS, HFS, and other systems can create difficult operational challenges.

**Planning Updates** - Michelle Hoersch talked about the Multi sector plan – this was launched on January 15<sup>th</sup> and has moved on to robustly jumping right into implementations. There are four focus areas being worked on: creating livable and connected communities, ensuring health for all ages, investing in caregivers, and affording aging.

**Waiver Renewal Status** - Derek Hedges gave an update that John Eckert is retiring. He acknowledged John's significant contributions to aging services over the years and his wealth of institutional knowledge.

Waiver renewal is still with HFS; they are working on a way to combine all 3 waivers, but they may not have the new waiver completed before the current timeline.

**Access Rule/Grievance Policy** - Derek Hedges provided updates to Access rules and grievance policy. They are very close to finishing the Grievance Policy. CERA will be used to track grievances; however, IDOA is also working on a backup tracking system to CERA in case it is not fully updated prior to the implementation of the grievance policy.

**Rate Study** - Derek Hedges talked about the Rate study that included all CCP, CCU, and APS services. The rate setters wanted to make sure that they were using the correct terminology and are asking the right questions to understand the costs of providing the services.

**EVV** - Derek Hedges talked about EVV updates. Various trainings are available, with go-live implementation date of 3/2/26.

Derek Hedges also noted some changes to the participant satisfaction surveys for this year to capture performance measure data. Surveys went out on January 22; however, there were issues with some of the mailings, and IDOA is responding to those. Discussion continued on EVV details.

## Illinois Care Connections Program

Jennifer Hebel, IDOA provided updates: we have over 1,000 referrals for this program to provide older adults with equipment to maintain connections with family and friends, access doctor appointments on-line, or complete grocery shopping. Most PSAs in the state have submitted referrals, and IDOA will be sending out information to ensure statewide availability. There are increasing requests for mobility equipment. This state fiscal year program referrals will end May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026. They are seeing a slight downtick in persons of non-English speaking individuals. IDoA webpage on ICC for providers, including link to FY26 training and ICC referral form: <https://ilaging.illinois.gov/forprofessionals/referrals-to-il-care-connections.html>

## Federal Updates

IDOA noted federal activities impacting the CCP program, including SNAP work requirements and Medicaid requirements and eligibility changes. More information will be shared as it is available.

## Next 2026 CCPAC Meeting Dates (all times 10am-12pm):

Wednesday, April 8 (potentially in-person, TBC), Wednesday, June 17, Tuesday, August 11, Wednesday, October 21 (potentially in-person, TBC), Wednesday, December 16

## Adjournment

Motion made by Tammy Tenton, seconded by Erica Collins at 11:55 am to adjourn the meeting.