

The Community Care Program Advisory Committee
Tuesday, January 12, 2021 10:00 am
WebEx Conference Call (due to COVID-19)

Members Present on the Phone: Mary Callahan, AMAC; Theresa Collins, IACCPHP; Cary Crawford, Chicago Commons; Ella Grays, Gareda, LLC (Terrence Simms attended in her place); Louis Prado, Home Health Security Services; Robert Thieman, IADSA;; LaShun James, Addus Homecare – Chicago Branch; Tammy Tenton, Premier Home Health Care Services, Inc; Peter Valessares, Hellenic Foundation; Aaron Fortenbacher, Healthcom; Megan Gallegos, VRI; Mary Hemp, Community Care Adult Day Services, Inc;; Dary Mien, Chinese Mutual Aid Association; Beth Menz, SEIU Healthcare Illinois/Indiana; Sandra Pastore, Mindful Innovation Consulting; Brycie Kochuyt, Alternative (for the Older Adult); Kevin Cosgrave, Guardian Medical Monitoring; Amy Nathan, North Shore Senior Center; Sherry Hamlin, The Voyage Senior Living; Laura Altenbaumer, Active Day; Lori Hendren, AARP Illinois; Gus Saberbein, Help at Home; Richard Juarez – Lawndale Christian Health Center; Jill Ohnesorge, Bond County Senior Citizens Center; Marsha Nelson, Shawnee Health

Members not Present at this meeting: Lori Elliott, Williamson County Programs on Aging; Joanne Glenn, Comprehensive Quality Care Inc Foundation; Lori Pence, Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging; Natasha Belli, DuPage County Senior Services; Robert Spaulding, Healthcare Plus Senior Care; Stephanie Garrigan, Philips Lifeline; William Wheeler, ICCCU; Marta Pereyra, CLESE; Shana Holmes, Southeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging, Inc;

Guests Present on Phone: ; Marsha Johnson, CCSI – CCU; Darren Buatti, Critical Signal Technologies/Best Buy; Jeanie Moccio; Becky Edwards; Tonia Oberg; Kathy Rhoads; Sophia Gonzalez; Roxanne Nuttall; Jeremy Hostetler; Lisa Kracht; Linda Hubbard; Chrissy Castillo; Sara Ratcliffe; Thomas Rider; Jill Haden; Dana Wilkerson; Jill Hayden;

Special Speaker: Jane Mongo

Illinois Department on Aging Staff on the Phone: Paula Basta, Director; Mike Berkes; Lora McCurdy, Deputy Director; Barbara McConnell; Russ Kemple; Amy Lulich; Mike Dropka; Jim Shovlin; Mary Gilman; Becky Dragoo; Amber Bolden; Sarah Harris; Rhonda Armstead; Samantha Brill; Selma D’Souza, Chief of Staff; Lisa Zuurbier; Chelsey Peters; John Eckert;

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am by Theresa Collins. Attendees were asked to email Barb McConnell so that they may be counted as attending the meeting.

Approval of December 8, 2020 Minutes

The motion to accept the minutes from the December 8, 2020 Annual Meeting was tabled to next meeting on March 9, 2020.

Public Comments: None

Agenda Items

COVID Vaccine – Mass Vaccination Update

IDoA is focused on providing updated guidance information to all providers as the information comes into the IDoA offices. Specifically, updates are being provided to all areas on the focus population of each category. All providers are encouraged to reach out to their local health departments to try to get in line to get the vaccination for your staff.

Provider Feedback – COVID-19 vaccination & local health departments

An open discussion was held with the meeting participants to provide feedback to the department and other providers with information regarding the services and COVID-19 information being passed along to their population. It is suggested that providers refer to these pages due to continual changes made.

Link to up-to-date vaccine info: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccine-faq>

Link for Suburban Cook County Vaccine registration:
<https://redcap.dph.illinois.gov/surveys/?s=YK3WLELLJR>

Link to Aging vaccine page: <https://www2.illinois.gov/aging/coronavirus/vaccine/pages/>

Coverage for Immigrants:

<https://www.illinois.gov/hfs/Pages/CoverageForImmigrantSeniors.aspx>

The open discussion will focus on how providers can ensure that their participants receive proper outreach and education about the safety of the vaccine. It should also focus on how you are getting your staff vaccinated through your local health department, and how can we as providers ensure that our older adults feel comfortable with receiving the vaccines.

- 1, Lack of communication with the health departments (not returning phone calls).
2. Providers need the opportunity to educate participants and to facilitate vaccinations throughout the communities served.

3. Ability to provide facts about the vaccinations and to dispel the misnomers.
4. Easy to read forms that are available in multiple translations.
5. Ability for participants to immediately register online for available slots once they receive their notifications. This would avoid disappointment when they get to the site and find all the slots for which they were notified are gone.
6. Procedural consistency for all health departments throughout the state.
7. There is a concern from participants questioning whether their homecare giver has been vaccinated.

State Plan Update

The plan was submitted to the Administration for Community Living on November 30 2020 and are waiting for approval of the plan. The Plan will be available on the IDoA website as well as distributed to providers as soon as it is approved.

Training Workgroup Update

Receiving excellent feedback from the In-Home provider pre-service workgroup. Two modules have been created and distributed – one on Dementia, the other on **??AME??** for which all in-home providers must have their homecare aide watch during the first quarter of 2021. More modules are being created with the goal to have all homecare aides receive the same training across the state and may be used for in-service training. All In-Home providers should have received these first two modules already. The training materials are being translated and hopefully will be available soon to providers. The IDoA would like to thank all the persons and providers working on the Pre-Service Workgroup realizing their extremely busy schedules.

Revised Service Selection & Certification form

This is an updated form has been revised to include a place for participants, family members, authorized persons that may be contacted to discuss the disposition of the participants – whether they are short-term or long-term patients.

Colbert/Williams [Consent Decree] work group representation

The Colbert/Williams (Consent Decree) work group is seeking representation of at least one member of the **CCP** program from the Cook County area (Chicago or suburb) to participate in their workgroup. The objective is “strength and partnerships with stakeholders” that is crucial to effective claim class member transition, Client diversion from long term care, and overall consent decree compliance.

In-Home Rate Increase Delay

In-Home Rate increases were to go into effect on January 1, 2021, but due to budgetary constraints, the increase has been delayed. Currently, it is expected that the rate increase will go into effect on April 1, 2021. When the rate increase goes into effect, providers need to do nothing. Our systems will activate and send out the new versions before April 1, 2021.

Appendix K Update

Appendix K provides the operational flexibilities to offer services to participants during the pandemic as it relates to providing services and continuing to keep people safe. The public health emergency (PHE) set to expire on January 20, 2021 has been extended at the federal level 90 days until April 20, 2021. HFS is submitting an application to Federal CMS that will allow Appendix K to end six months following the expiration of the Public Health Emergency.

Waiver Renewal Update

Waivers that do not have a pending renewal will need to submit an amendment so that the Appendix K issues remain viable for the 6-month extension.

Aging Cares Update

Version 4 was delivered on November 4, 2020. The entire offline system is still being developed. We expect to have everyone online by the end of 2021.

Announcements

The last week of March we will have a virtual conference discussing COVID issues.

Dana Wilkerson shared that there is a APS Virtual Summit Conference. February 25, 2021 8am – 4pm. We will be discussing Financial Exploitation and related information.

Send Elder Abuse Task Force Report.

If you are a CCU, please submit your spending reports even if they are zero balance.

HFS Guest Speaker / Health program for immigrants: Jane Longo Deputy Administrator with Dept of Healthcare and Family Services. She has the lead on the Immigration Program.

HB 357 Budget Implementation Bill passed the House during Spring session 2020. This bill is the first in the nation to cover immigrants aged 65 years and older who are not eligible for Medicaid under a Federally financed program due to their immigration status. Currently, there are over 1700 immigrant seniors who now have a healthcare benefits package that is entirely state-funded. The income threshold is 100% of poverty level. Applications may be completed online they may apply through the customer care service and by paper application.

There is a website where you may go to get further information:

<https://www.illinois.gov/hfs/Pages/CoverageForImmigrantSeniors.aspx>

Theresa Collins declared the meeting adjourned at 12:03 pm.

****Next CCPAC Meeting – March 9, 2021 WebEx****