



State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging

Older Adult Services Advisory Committee
Executive Committee Meeting

Date: January 11, 2016 (Approved April 18, 2016)

Locations: Illinois Department on Aging offices:

- 160 N LaSalle, Suite N-700, Chicago;
- One Natural Resources Way, Springfield; and
- Conference call

In Attendance:

Executive Committee Members:

Carol Aronson, Case Management, Shawnee Alliance for Seniors
Phyllis Mitzen, Citizen Member over age 60, HMPRG
Susan Real, Family Caregiver, East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Long-Term Care Ombudsmen, Catholic Charities

Department Representatives:

Kelly Cunningham, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Debra Bryars, Department of Public Health
Linda Gonulsen, Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services
Megan Spitz, Illinois Housing Development Authority

Department on Aging staff:

Jennifer Reif, Deputy Director
Rhonda Baer
John Eckert
Lora McCurdy
Sophia Gonzalez

Absent:

Executive Committee Members:

Terri Harkin, SEIU Health Care
Samantha Olds Frey, Illinois Association of Medicaid Health Plans

Introductions and approval of October 19, 2015 minutes:

Jennifer Reif called the meeting to order and members introduced themselves from Springfield, Chicago and on the phone. John Eckert asked members for a motion to approve the October 19, 2015 minutes, Cathy Weightman-Moore motioned to approve the minutes and Carol Aronson seconded. The October Executive Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved and will be posted on the Department website.

OASAC Membership Terms & changes to the Operations Manual Discussion:

John Eckert began the discussion regarding the Department's Operations Manual language change proposal to limit the number of consecutive terms and years that an OASAC member can serve. The Department had proposed to allow the eleven OASAC members due for renewal in

2015 to continue to serve, regardless of the number of terms served in the past, but to implement the term limits going forward. The committee was informed of the formal vote requirement to implement this change. OASAC Executive members did not understand why the Department wanted to implement a change in terms at this time. Members commented that the limitation of terms was never included in the legislation for OASAC. Members questioned whether there was a legal purpose to this change and stated that this change did not make sense with the number of current vacancies on OASAC. Members wanted to refocus on OASAC becoming more involved, as when in the past, there were active workgroups and subcommittees. Jennifer Reif informed the members that this change had been proposed by the legal counsel, but that there was currently no firm stand on this change. Jennifer did reinforce that the purpose of this change was not to remove members but instead give additional persons in the community an opportunity to serve on OASAC. Jennifer proposed to set the change aside for now and perhaps invite someone from legal to the next meeting for further discussion. All agreed to put a hold on this change.

Recruitment for OASAC Membership Vacancies:

Members were reminded of the six vacancies on OASAC; which include the following: a citizen over the age of 60, a Community Care Program Homemaker, a legal representative on behalf of the senior population, a nutrition representative, a nursing home or assisted living establishment, and a statewide senior center association. Members were encouraged to contact the Department with recommendations for these vacancies. John Eckert mentioned that some members have already reached out to him with recommendations. A reminder will be sent to the Full OASAC members with the detailed vacancy information. Members asked if AARP was represented on OASAC and it was stated that Lori Hendren (OASAC Full Member) represents AARP. Members wanted clarification on the replacement procedure for OASAC, specifically if the decision is made by the OASAC Executive committee or the original subcommittee chairs. John stated that he would look other committee procedures, but in the past for OASAC, the Department Director has made the final decision on filling vacancies. Clarification was requested regarding the type of recommendations being requested; for potential members around the State or potential members willing to serve. John stated that it had been the intention of former Director Holton to make OASAC more diverse, and therefore the Department is requesting recommendations of any individuals that represent statewide associations for vacancies.

OASAC Report Review of Impediments, Successes, Recommendations & Legislation

Members were asked to look at the Impediments on the 2016 OASAC report to the General Assembly. Members noted that it would be a good idea to review the Impediments, specifically issues on Quality which has been a consistent concern. Clarification on the purpose of reviewing the Impediments was requested and Lora McCurdy noted that these issues can be used as a starting point for OASAC to determine what the group would want to focus on in 2016. Lora added that the Department would like to hear from OASAC members on the Departments' ongoing initiatives, as has been requested by the Members in the past. Members requested to be more involved with ongoing initiatives and that the Department share more information with OASAC. Lora also shared with the Members that there are several HHS Transformation workgroups going on that involve some of the initiatives that are tied in with OASAC rebalancing mandate. DoA is represented on the Rebalancing sub-committee by John. Some of the areas that the HHS Workgroup is looking at include the following four areas related to rebalancing initiatives: a) Researching what other States are doing b) existing infrastructure across all age groups (systematic, prevention, diversion and transition) c) Screening and Monitoring the ins and outs of hospitals and d) researching questions like what needs to be studied and what can be built on. One Member noted that these were great areas of interest and that it would be a good to look at what information could be shared. A presentation on the HHS Transformation activities will be planned for a future full OASAC meeting once it's been determined that more detailed information can be shared.

A discussion on the quality of community-based services and supports provided by Managed Care Organizations followed. A concern was raised regarding the unavailability of managed care in all areas of Illinois. It was noted that it is important to take a look at the quality of both Managed Care and fee-for-service, considering that the State pays for both of these types of services. Another topic discussed was the need to attract and train workers to the Aging Network, regardless of who and how the service is being provided. Some members raised a question regarding the current measurement of quality and whether we are satisfied with the current measurement. Someone noted that the concern of quality has been heard but that the focus should be on attracting people to this type of working area. Members asked if there was a role for OASAC related to this area. Lora noted that the Department is currently looking at quality improvement in several areas; one way is through the customer satisfaction survey called POSM. The data obtained from the POSM survey will be shared with CCUs and providers. Another way that the Department is looking at quality is through the CMS waiver regulations for both the managed care and the fee-for-service. In addition, there is a new Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) quality subcommittee that will be looking at the quality of care: specifically at issued across service delivery mechanisms. OASAC members asked if MAC quality subcommittee has been completely formed or if OASAC members would be able to participate. Lora stated that she would check with Sylvia Ryperton-Lewis from HFS to determine if the quality subcommittee has been closed already, but she noted that the group has already met at least twice.

Members were asked to look at the topics reported in the White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) report and consider any issues that OASAC may want to focus on as part of its 2016 activities. A member asked what the best way to do so would be; perhaps OASAC needs to have a subcommittee? Lora additionally noted that CCPAC also has a committee on Quality and Person Centered Planning (PCP). It was noted that Jean Bohnhoff, a current OASAC member, was the Chair of this committee.

Lora shared with the members that the Department has a draft No Wrong Door NWD plan that is being coordinated with BIP and asked if members were interested in looking at this draft and providing feedback to the Department. In response, it was noted that it would be a good idea for OASAC to implement a stakeholder engagement process that would enable OASAC to provide meaningful feedback on new initiatives, which was something that the group had begun to look last year. OASAC had discussions on best practices and on how to get meaningful stakeholder engagement. Lora followed up by stating that the Lewin consulting group had held listening sessions last year on the NWD that provided direct feedback to the Department. OASAC members reported that they would like to provide feedback on all of the new initiatives for the Department, including BIP and NWD. It was noted that the Nursing Home Deflection Project contract has been extended and will include a study on the discharge planning process. A Member noted that it would be important to look at moving people back to their homes as quickly as possible. It was noted that part of the evaluation of the Colbert Consent Decree involves conducting a Cost Neutrality Report. A Member asked if quality was being looked at in this Cost Neutrality Report, for example recidivism and mortality rates. Lora noted that for MFP, UIC had looked at quality, length of stay in the community for one year following the transition and that a similar analysis would probably be done for Colbert. It was clarified that mortality rates were additionally being looked at for Colbert.

The discussion was moved to the subject on paid and non-paid caregivers; Public Act 99-222 was discussed, which would require hospitals to provide designated caregivers “after care assistance” training based on patients discharge plan. Members asked if the governor had signed this Act. A copy of the proposed legislation will be sent to OASAC. One Member noted how this Act would be helpful because of the burden that is often placed on family caregivers. It was also noted that an important question would be how do we attract more paid caregivers? The importance of providing adequate training to caregivers in relation to the multiple chronic diseases (e.g. Alzheimer’s) that are common with this population was noted. A Member stated that caregivers need to be prepared to become aware of signs of declining health before

complications get out of control. The group agreed that this was a topic of great concern and that many issues need be addressed. Some examples included the need for a growing workforce, immigration and working with other partners/organization not only the Aging Network. A Member noted that there used to be a workgroup that had a focus on caregivers. A Member reported that forming a workgroup (as with the Personal Assistant workgroup) might be considered.

Review/Approve Agenda for February 22th full OASAC meeting:

The group reviewed the draft OASAC Full Agenda for February. It was noted that a presentation on The Bridge Model will be provided by Robyn Golden and Carol Aronson. It was noted that this model fits well with transitions and several CCU's that work with the Department are also involved. It was also noted that East Central Illinois AAA has had success with the program and that this model has shown to be effective. It was mentioned that the Bridge Program is national and research has demonstrated that the effectiveness of the Bridge Model compared to the Choices Program. John asked if there were any changes or additions for the Agenda. No changes were noted. Phyllis Mitzen motioned to approve the Full Agenda, Susan Real seconded, and all Members voted in favor of the Full OASAC Agenda for the February meeting.

Announcements

Jennifer Reif made a brief announcement. The Governor's office is planning to issue a press release regarding the Department on Aging Director Position. Jean Bohnhoff, an OASAC Full Member, has been appointed to be the new Aging Director effective February, 2016. Jennifer stated that she was excited for this to occur because the Department already has a wonderful partnership with the new Director. Everyone congratulated the Department for having Jean Bohnhoff as the new Director.

Motion to Adjourn

John asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting; Susan Real motioned to adjourn the meeting and Cathy Weightman-Moore seconded. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.