



State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging

**Older Adult Services Advisory Committee & Illinois Council on Aging
Joint Executive Committees Meeting**

Date: April 16, 2018 (Approved July 16, 2018)

Locations: Illinois Department on Aging offices:

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

In Attendance:

OASAC Executive Committee Members:

Paul Bennett, Next Level Health Partners
Jean Bohnhoff, Director, Department on Aging
Terri Harkin, SEIU HealthCare
Mike Koronkowski, UIC College of Pharmacy
Phyllis Mitzen, Health and Medicine Policy Research Group
Gustavo Saberbein, Help at Home/Oxford HealthCare
Teva Shirley, Southwestern Illinois Visiting Nurse Association
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Long-Term Care Ombudsmen, Catholic Charities

ICOA Executive Committee Members:

Phyllis Mitzen
Steve Wolf

Department Representatives:

Megan Spitz, Illinois Housing Development Authority
Lyle VanDeventer, DHS, Division of Rehabilitation Services

Department on Aging staff:

Desirey Ackermann, Elizabeth Delheimer, John Eckert, Sophia Gonzalez, and Lora McCurdy

Absent:

OASAC Executive Committee Members:

Susan Real, East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging

Department Representatives:

Debra Bryars, Department of Public Health
Kelly Cunningham, HFS

Introductions, call to order and approval of January 8, 2018 minutes:

Director Jean Bohnhoff welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members and staff introduced themselves from Springfield, Chicago and on the phone. John Eckert asked for a motion to call the meeting to order. Teva Shirley made the motion; Paul Bennett seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Eckert asked for a motion to approve the January 8, 2018 minutes. Phyllis Mitzen made the motion to approve the minutes; Lyle VanDeventer seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously with no corrections noted. The January 8, 2018 Executive committee meeting minutes were approved unanimously and will be posted on the Department website.

OASAC Vacancies:

Sophia Gonzalez shared that OASAC currently has six vacancies that include representatives from the following categories: Family Caregiver, Health Care Facilities licensed under the Hospital Licensing Act; Municipality, Township, and County; Nursing Home or Assisted Living establishment; Parish Nurse and a Statewide Senior Center Association. Members were asked to submit recommendations for these vacancies. Director Bohnhoff shared that she has been trying to fill these vacancies and has contacted several potential members for the Statewide Senior Center Association and Nursing Home representative openings. Director Bohnhoff encouraged members to submit additional recommendations for these vacancies to the Department.

OASAC Workforce Stabilization Work Group:

Phyllis Mitzen shared that the OASAC Workforce Stabilization workgroup will have their first call on Friday, April 20th to begin the discussion on the difficulties in filling positions for homecare aides and the CCUs struggles with the stabilization of the Care Coordinator workforce due which is partly due to MCOs hiring away people. This workgroup will put together some recommendations for stabilization of the workforce. Terri Harkin added that there is also a need to look at the wage rates, high turnover rates, recruitment and retention of workers. Paul Bennett added that the CCUs are having real issues with stabilization of workers noting that one CCU gave up its contract. Bennett added that some workers only work for a couple of months and then leave. Mitzen stated that training is extensive (requires time and energy) and then the worker decides to go. John Eckert asked Teva Shirley about the issues with preferred workers not wanting to work for others, only their family. Shirley shared that providers are saying that 15 hours need to be worked by the care plan based on the provider rule. Mitzen suggested that we need to hear from providers. Lora McCurdy shared that the Department is conducting rate studies (including in-home care, ADS and EHRS). She added that PCG consulting group was awarded the contract for these rate studies. Mitzen asked for details on the timeframes for the rate studies. McCurdy shared that the EHRS rate study will be Spring; the ADS in Fall 2018 and the Department is working with PCG on focus groups and in-home rate study will be in Spring 2019. Bennett asked if the CCUs were included in the study and Lora clarified that they had not been included because it is an administrative claim that every 5 years we make sure that the rate are adequate. Director Bohnhoff shared that the Illinois Council of Case Coordination Units (ICCCU) asked each CCU what hourly rate they would need to provide the services. Shirley shared that 6-7 years ago it was different before the MCOs began. Bennett shared that a social worker's salary is more than \$50,000 and a nurse \$70,000 in the MCO he works for and that CCUs cannot compete with these salary levels. Shirley responded that no one at her CCU is at those rates and they are one of the highest paying CCUs. Mitzen stated that the CCUs are doing a great job training the workers and helping them understand CCP but then once they are trained, they go away and get

paid a much higher salary. Director Bohnhoff shared that the FY19 Budget includes a \$5.5 M increase for CCUs to augment implementation of Person Centered Planning (PCP). Additionally, Director Bohnhoff shared that the agency she came from used to hire new staff with a contract that included a “period of time” requirement that helped the agency receive reimbursement for all the training. It was also suggested that ICCCU could help survey the CCUs to see what is happening now. Phyllis noted that the workgroup will need to look at all of these issues. Bennet stated that the contract concept sounded interesting. Eckert will talk with Mitzen and get an agenda for the call on Friday.

Update on Person-Centered Planning (PCP) Activities and CCP Rules:

Lora McCurdy shared that the Department is required to comply with the federal regulations this year and has been working with HFS timelines for compliance. In December 2017, the CCP Rule amendments were filed for PCP and “integrated settings” for Adult Day Services. John Eckert has been working with Department legal staff in going through the comments received from the first 45-day comment period. A second 45-day comments period will occur after the comments are addressed and submitted to JCAR. Policies, forms, brochures, are being revised/updated. For the past nine months, the Department has been working with two CCU work groups on these revisions.

Review/Approve Agenda for May 21, 2018 Full OASAC & ICoA Meeting:

John Eckert shared that ICoA members will be joining the full OASAC meeting in May and the Department will be inviting a couple of members to talk about their organizations activities. Meghan Spitz will share updated from the Illinois Housing Development Authority. Both ICoA and OASAC participation will be acknowledged. Eckert stated that perhaps the enabling legislation for both advisory groups could be shared and a link to previous meeting minutes prior to the meeting in May. Phyllis Mitzen shared that introductions will play an important role during the joint meeting. Eckert asked for a motion to review the draft May 21, 2018 agenda and asked if there were any additions or corrections needed. Paul Bennett made a motion to approve the agenda for May 21, 2018 Joint meeting; Phyllis Mitzen seconded. All were in favor; the agenda was approved.

Other Issues & Announcements:

No issues or announcements were made.

Motion to Adjourn:

John Eckert asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Koronkowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Teva Sherley seconded. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously at 2:42 p.m.