



JB Pritzker, Governor
Mary Killough, Acting Director

One Natural Resources Way, Suite 100, Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
Phone: 800-252-8966 • 711 (TRS) • Fax 217-785-4477

Multi-Sector Plan for Aging (MPA) Community Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 10, 2025

2:00pm - 4:00pm Central Time

WebEx

MPA Community Advisory Council Members:

| Name | Organization | Present at Meeting? |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Megann Bell | CCDC Property Management & Real Estate | Yes |
| Amy Brennan | IL Caregiver Coalition | Yes |
| Mattie Bryant | Chinese American Service League | Yes |
| Theresa Collins | Senior Services Plus/Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers | Yes |
| Sharon Dornberg-Lee | CJE Senior Life | Yes |
| Kim Edwards | LifeSpan Center at Coles County Council on Aging | Yes |
| Greg Grzeskiewicz | Attorney General's Office | Yes |
| Wilhelmina Gunther | Illinois Assistive Technology Program | No |
| Ed Heflin | Western Illinois University | Yes |
| Megan Huisingsh-Scheetz | University of Chicago | Yes |
| Hannah Jackson Alphas | Blue Cross Blue Shield | Yes |
| Neil James | Metropolitan Mayors Caucus | Yes |
| Phillipe Largent | AARP | Yes |
| Geraldine Luna | City of Chicago | No |
| Tony Martinez | Oak Park-River Forest Foundation | Yes |
| Felix Matlock | Mercy Housing | Yes |
| Alizandra Medina | Health & Medicine Policy Research Group | Yes |
| Patricia Merryweather-Arges | Project Patient Care | Yes |
| Mary O'Donnell | RRF Foundation for Aging | Yes |
| Eukesh Ranjit | Memorial Health | Yes |
| Raj Shah | Illinois Cognitive Resources Network | Yes |
| Mary Kay Sheehan | Lightways | Yes |
| Diane Slezak | AgeOptions/I4A | Yes |
| Michael Stone | Center for Disability & Elder Law | Yes |

Other Participants:

| Name | Organization | Present at Meeting? |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Grace Hou | Governor's Office | Yes |

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Ryan Croke | Governor's Office | Yes |
| Mary Killough | Illinois Department on Aging | Yes |
| Liz Vogt | Illinois Department on Aging | Yes |
| Becky Dragoo | Illinois Department on Aging | Yes |
| Iris Huber | Illinois Department on Aging | Yes |
| Jennifer Hebel | Illinois Department on Aging | Yes |
| Joslyn Washington | Illinois Department on Aging | Yes |
| Yvonne Amponsah | Illinois Department on Aging | Yes |
| Serena Worthington | RRF Foundation for Aging | Yes |
| Amanda Lewis | UIC IRRPP | Yes |
| Iván Arenas | UIC IRRPP | Yes |
| Uchechi Mitchell | UIC SPH | Yes |
| Ben Shaw | UIC SPH | Yes |
| Torshira Moffett | Center for Health Care Strategies | Yes |
| Wesley Epplin | HMPRG | Yes |
| Anitha Saravanan | NIU | Yes |
| Gail Schechter | H.O.M.E. | Yes |

AGENDA:

Welcome & Introductions

Grace Hou, Ryan Croke, Mary Killough and Serena Worthington welcomed everyone to the meeting. Each member of the Community Advisory Council introduced themselves and shared a main area of focus/pressing concern.

Overview of Executive Order

Liz Vogt provided a high-level overview of the Governor's Executive Order and deliverables under the Executive Order including establishing an Inter-Agency Task Force, establishing a Community Advisory Council, hosting at least three meetings of each of these bodies, working with a research partner, hiring an MPA Chief, hiring support staff, engaging the public, producing an MPA by 12/31/25 and providing a status report by 12/31/26.

Focus of Community Advisory Council

Serena Worthington provided information on the focus and scope of the Community Advisory Council and established guiding principles for the work. Serena shared a draft Charter with the group.

National Landscape and MPA Opportunities

Torshira Moffett provided a presentation on MPAs in other states, considerations and steps for developing an MPA, and resources available for use by the group.

Illinois Aging Together – Effort to Date

Wesley Epplin provided information on the grassroots campaign, Illinois Aging Together, that laid the groundwork for the Governor's Executive Order including conducting research, hosting roundtables and introducing legislation.

University Partners

Amanda Lewis, Uchechi Mitchell and Wesley Epplin described the role of UIC and HMPRG to assist with research and facilitate community engagement efforts to support development of the MPA.

Group Poll & Open Discussion

The UIC team facilitated a group poll and discussion via Menti centered on the following questions:

1. What issue do you most want to see addressed in the MPA?
2. What one state-level policy change do you think is most important for promoting healthy aging in Illinois?
3. What data do you think is most important for the research team to examine as they are developing the MPA?

Next Steps & Follow-Up

UIC will follow up to gather more feedback from Advisory Council members and IDoA will follow up with the date for the next meeting.