



JB Pritzker, Governor  
Mary Killough, Acting Director

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## **Multi-Sector Plan for Aging (MPA) Inter-Agency Task Force**

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

4:00pm - 5:00pm Central Time

WebEx

### **MPA Inter-Agency Task Force Members:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Present at Meeting?</b>
Mary Killough	Illinois Department on Aging	Yes
Sophia Manuel	Illinois Department of Corrections	Yes
Dan McManus	Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity	No
Sarah Myerscough-Mueller	Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services	No
Jim Bennett	Illinois Department of Human Rights	Yes
Christine Hammond	Illinois Department of Human Services	Yes
Adam Flores	Illinois Department of Insurance	Yes
Lydia Colunga-Merchant	Illinois Department of Labor	Yes
Janice Phillips	Illinois Department of Public Health	No
John Donovan	Illinois Department of Transportation	Yes
Angie Simmons	Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs	Yes
Alan Quick	Illinois Housing Development Authority	No
Mary Milano	Illinois Guardianship & Advocacy Commission	Yes
Christine Haley	Illinois Office to Prevent & End Homelessness	Yes
Kelly Richards	Illinois State Ombudsman	Yes

### **Other Participants:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Present at Meeting?</b>
Grace Hou	Governor's Office	
Ryan Croke	Governor's Office	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

Sandy Pastore	Illinois Department on Aging	Yes
Joslyn Washington	Illinois Department on Aging	Yes
Serena Worthington	RRF Foundation for Aging	Yes

## **AGENDA**

### **Welcome**

Grace Hou, Ryan Croke, and Mary Killough welcomed all Task Force members.

### **Introductions**

Mary Killough introduced Serena Worthington from RRF Foundation for Aging as the MPA Ambassador, with RRF donating Serena's time in kind until an MPA chief can be identified. Serena facilitated introductions by all Task Force members.

### **MPA Discussion**

Serena Worthington facilitated a group discussion on opportunities and needs that can be addressed by the MPA. Each member shared the implications of the over 65 population shift on their state agency. Members shared:

- Need for a prevention strategy to ensure the over-65 population maintains privacy, accessibility, and the ability to support their needs. Ensuring the over-65 population understands how to access long-term senior care is also important. Further investments in prevention and housing are also needed.
- Direct care staffing crisis is the biggest obstacle currently. Pilot programs for staffing and paid training are being implemented to increase staff retention.
- Provide support for older adults who are caregivers. Address the terms of extended leaves to cover gaps for individuals who may have exhausted FMLA.
- Accessible and affordable LTC Insurance. Education and resources for older adults when purchasing insurance. Ensuring insurance providers are fair when providing services for older adults.
- Access to quality care, increase the workforce to support the needs of older adults, budgets to support the needs of HCBS services.
- LTC Resident protections, quality care in direct care living
- High impact on health services. Focus on re-entry and placement.
- Maximize the spread of human civil rights, increase recognition of age/disabilities
- Age protections/Protection for discrimination/Re-entry programs
- Benefit Services, Increase support for older adult caregivers
- Address unique transportation needs for older adults (public transportation options), infrastructure in communities to support safety needs, address needs for older adults that drive
- Housing development, housing assistance (down payment/mortgage assistance), senior housing

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.

## **Poll**

Liz Vogt asked Task Force members to respond to a poll to help prioritize areas of focus for the MPA:

*What do you think is the priority goal for MPA?*

- *Livable Communities-Housing, Transportation, Recreation **result:15/19***
- *Health and Wellness **result:5/9***
- *Inclusion and Engagement **result:5/19***
- *Caregiving (Paid and Unpaid) **result:11/19***
- *Community First Strategy **result:2/19***
- *Affording Aging **result:10/19***
- *Preventing Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation **result: 2/19***
- *Employment and Volunteerism **result:3/19***
- *No results:3/19*

## **Next Steps**

IDoA will follow up with the date for the next meeting.