



State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging

**Older Adult Services Advisory Committee
Executive Committee Meeting**

Date: October 19, 2020 (**Approved January 11, 2021**)

Call in: Dial: #1-415-655-0002 Access code: 133 051 4644#, then press # again

WebEx: Please see Outlook invite for Video Option

In Attendance:

OASAC Executive Committee Members:

Paula Basta, Director, Department on Aging
Paul Bennett, Citizen member over the age of 60
Amy Brown, CRIS Healthy Aging Center
Linda Hubbartt, Senior Services of Effingham County
Mike Koronkowski, UIC College of Pharmacy
Phyllis Mitzen, Citizen member over the age of 60
Susan Real, East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Gustavo Saberbein, Help at Home/Oxford HealthCare
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Long-Term Care Ombudsmen, Catholic Charities

Department Representatives:

Kelly Cunningham, HFS
Daniel Levad, Illinois Department of Public Health
Megan Spitz, Illinois Housing Development Authority
Lyle VanDeventer, DHS, Division of Rehabilitation Services

Department on Aging staff:

Rhonda Armstead, Mike Berkes, Sue DeBoer, Becky Dragoo, Selma D 'Souza, John Eckert, Sophia Gonzalez, Amy Lulich and Lora McCurdy

Absent:

OASAC Executive Committee Members:

Teva Shirley, Southwestern Illinois Visiting Nurse Association

Introductions & *Call to Order:

Director Paula Basta welcomed and thanked everyone for joining the meeting. Members and staff introduced themselves. John Eckert asked for a motion to call the meeting to order Mike Koronkowski made the motion; Linda Hubbartt seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Eckert announced that we had a new member from the Illinois Department of Public Health, Daniel Levad. Levad shared that he appreciates the invite and the opportunity to serve. He shared that he has been with IDPH for 25 years plus, he previously the SPSA for IID & SMHRF section and is now the Acting Deputy Director for Office of Health Care Regulation as of July. He stated that his goal is to ensure that all LTC programs are represented. He added that it is all about the people that live in the facilities and he appreciated the frontline staff and they will do whatever they can to help. He has been working with directors at the governor's office to try to be proactive instead of reactive.

Approval of July 13, 2020 Executive Committee meeting minutes:

John Eckert asked for a motion to approve the July 13, 2020 minutes. Mike Koronkowski made the motion to approve the minutes; Gustavo Saberbein seconded. Paul Bennett suggested that "persons age over 60" be added next to his name and Phyllis Mitzen, as they are not representing their agencies. It was agreed and that change will be made to the minutes moving forward. With the changes, the minutes were approved unanimously and will be posted on the Department website.

OASAC Priority Areas for FY 21:

The approved OASAC FY21 priority areas was shared and the Department will keep track and ensure that all are being addressed. John Eckert shared that some of the members of the Workforce Stabilization Workforce had a call on Wednesday with Sandy Pastore and are looking to add Gerontology curriculum activities in the school system for high schools and colleges. He also shared that the Department will continue to update this group on the OASAC Medicaid Subcommittee. For the first OASAC meeting in 2021, the Department will try to have someone from HFS talk about rebalancing and managed care. For this upcoming, November meeting we will try to get an update on the new IT Reporting System. The Department will be submitting a waiver renewal with CMS and is interested in adding assisted devices as a new waiver service. The Illinois Care Connections grant maxed out of the allocation for CCUs. Mike Koronkowski asked about Telehealth and data collection for the UCLA Loneliness scale. Lora McCurdy suggested adding the discussion of data collection for the UCLA Loneliness scale to the November agenda. She also added that with the waiver renewal, the Department will be looking at this data since the demand is there and we are hoping that the information collected will assist in making the case for offering assistive devices as a new service. Paul Bennett asked about inviting HFS to talk about improving referrals for nutritional services in general. He suggested continued education and hoped that it would be contractual. Eckert shared that the Department did have several calls for MCO providers and revised standardized forms. McCurdy agreed that it was a great idea to look at the trainings completed on HDM and shared that HFS did reach out for some ideas and Social Determinants of Health. Kelly Cunningham shared that she agrees that HDM is important and the focus on the healthcare nutrition and access to healthy food but not sure what we can require for contracting. Bennett also mentioned that there seems to be confusion about the DRS waiver and Aging and what is available. He shared that this came up during a different meeting. Amy Brown from CRIS Healthy Aging, shared that they are using Alexa technology for Seniors that are socially isolated and would like to know how the loneliness scale data looks before and after COVID. Phyllis Mitzen asked

if there would be seasonal differences and conversations about what we are going to do this winter, she is concerned about loneliness. Eckert shared that the ADS providers have received funds to do telephonic reassurance calls. Susan Real stated that the AAA's were trying to make sure the referral process was clear for the HDM's. She asked what kind of feedback was being provided statewide. McCurdy shared the CCUs are experiencing high turnover and training must be done frequently. Perhaps there is a need to revisit the training that was done with the MCO's. Cunningham shared that she has not heard anything but can bring it up. Eckert asked Cunningham to talk about the HFS federal CARES Act grants. Cunningham shared that HFS had received \$800 million in federal funds that could be provided to Medicaid providers that had experienced issues with service provisions due to COVID. She shared that a system was developed to ensure that all distributions met all requirements and guidance went out to all Medicaid providers. Provider notices can be found on the website and providers can apply for this money, submit a budget of the loss (extra expenses, hazard pay). Eckert shared that an update would be provided on the Colbert and Williams and shared he has been working with Ali Johnson from DHS on deflecting activities. Becky Dragoo and staff will be presenting on priority number twelve on Dementia Friendly Communities during the next meeting. Also Sherry Barter Hamlin will be presenting on CCRS.

Department Updates:

Reopening Activities & Workgroups

Director Basta shared that as COVID hit we have had to keep our network informed as new information and guidance has been coming frequently. Director shared that the Department has had update calls and re-opening meetings with the aging network; and coordinated the distribution of a significant PPE to the network. The Department has tried to be transparent to keep people safe as possible and that has been very successful. CCUs and Choices for Care screeners have been coordinating remote screens with hospital staff. Lora McCurdy shared that the Department has been keeping up with the numbers with COVID as CCUs continue to work remotely. A total of 38 ADS have re-opened and an additional 14 site re-opening plans are being reviewed and 17 sites are working remotely.

Public Health Emergency & Appendix K updates

Amy Lulich shared that the Appendix K is part of the 1915C Waiver, and the Department worked in partnership with HFS on getting approval for these additions in the Elderly Waiver. Appendix K offers additional flexibilities statewide for waivers and non-waiver participants. Mike Berkes added that there are main priority areas under Appendix K: for CCP that include changes to criminal background checks, ADS services, plans of care, remote signatures/verbal signatures, and APS returning to FTF visits.

Myers and Stauffer Rate Survey

John Eckert shared that all the 3 phases with Myers and Stauffer CCP rate study are finished. They are currently completing a time study in doing re-determinations and the time it takes to complete a Person-Centered Plan of Care complete assessment. Information regarding at least 10 assessments completed prior to COVID are being collected and currently 38 out of 48 CCUs have responded. The contract with Myers and Stauffer ends in December and a final document will be prepared for dissemination. Lora McCurdy added that the Department wants to ensure that we are compliant with federal guideline requirements since a lot of timelines did not align with each other.

State Plan

Amy Lulich shared that she is excited that a lot of people have registered for the hearings/ virtual meetings. There have been two State Plan Public Stakeholder meetings on October 22nd, 29th and the third one is today at 3pm. She shared that more information can be found on the website on how to provide comments. The goal is to submit the Final Plan in mid-December. Paul Bennett asked what the best method to send comments in. Lulich shared that the hearings are being recorded but there is limited time during the hearing meeting for public feedback. It was suggested to send the comments directly to her email.

Review/approve Agenda for November 16, 2020 Full OASAC Meeting:

John Eckert asked everyone to review the November 16, 2020 Agenda and asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Two items will be added to the agenda shared; an update on the new IT information system and the outcome data impact from the UCLA loneliness scale. Paul Bennett made a motion to approve the agenda. Gustavo Saberbein seconded. All were in favor of approving the agenda with the two additions. Eckert also asked if all were in favor of approving the 2021 Meeting dates; all were in favor of approving the dates.

Other Issues, Announcements & Public Comments:

Megan Spitz (IHDA) shared that they had received twice as many applications for the rental and mortgage assistance program than they thought they would receive. Applications are currently closed, and they will be processing all the applications received. It is anticipated that the mortgage assistance applications will take longer to process. Eckert asked about the software used. Megan shared that it was DOCU sign. Mike Berkes shared that the Department had a virtual conference and a total of 700 people participated. A nice introduction by the Governor and Director Basta was included. Overall, it was a nice training; Mary Gilman and her Staff did a great job! All the information provided was related to COVID-19 and how to cope with COVID. Phyllis Mitzen encouraged everyone to look at the State Plan and reflect on what we want for older adults.

Motion to Adjourn:

John Eckert asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Koronkowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Gustavo Saberbein seconded. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously at 3:00 p.m.