



State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging

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

Date: July 12, 2021 **(Approved October 18, 2021)**

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
Linda Hubbartt, Senior Services of Effingham City County
Susan Real, East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Gustavo Saberbein, Help at Home/Oxford HealthCare
Mike Koronkowski, UIC College of Pharmacy
Sherry Barter-Hamlin, The Voyage Senior Living
Topaz Gunderson-Schweska, Molina Managed Care
Kelly Fisher, Pathway to Living
David Olsen, Alzheimer's Association Illinois Chapter

Department Representatives:

Betty Stewart for Daniel Levad, Department of Public Health
Deonna Wheeler for Megan Spitz, Illinois Housing Development Authority

Department on Aging staff:

Desirey Ackermann, Mike Berkes, Sue DeBoer, Selma D'Souza, John Eckert, Lora McCurdy Chelsey Peters, and Megan Thornton

Absent:

OASAC Executive Committee Members:

Amy Brown, CRIS Healthy Aging Center

Department Representatives:

Kelly Cunningham, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Lyle VanDeventer, DHS, Division of Rehabilitation Services

Introductions & *Call to Order:

Director Paula Basta welcomed and thanked everyone for joining the meeting.

*Approval of April 12, 2021 Executive Committee meeting minutes:

John Eckert asked for a motion to approve the April 12, 2021 minutes. Mike Koronkowski made the motion to approve the minutes; Paul Bennett seconded. No additions or corrections were noted. The minutes were approved unanimously and will be posted on the Department website.

New OASAC Executive Committee Members Recognized:

Director Basta recognized new members who provided a brief overview of their positions and representation on OASAC.

Sherry Barter-Hamlin: CEO of The Voyage Senior Living for the last 18 years. They operate and provide CCRS and Assisted Living housing with supported services in southern Illinois. She is representing Assisted Living/Shared Housing.

Kelly Fisher: Vice President Wellness & Quality at Pathway to Living. Works as consultant for Hospice Care and at a senior care community. Representing Hospice.

Topaz Gunderson-Schweska: Supervisor Case Management at Molina HealthCare of Illinois. Works in the waiver department of Molina Managed Care. Has worked there for 7 years. Prior to that worked at local CCU.

David Olsen: Director of State Affairs at Alzheimer's Association Illinois. Representing Alzheimer/diseases.

Department Updates:

John Eckert shared updates on face-to-face (FTF) Phase 5 guidance. ADS guidance has been disseminated. Fifty-five of the 70 ADS' have already opened back up. there has been limited feedback from CCUs, they are easing back into it. IDoA will be providing letters for Choices to Care screenings in hospitals, stating IDoA is authorizing and encouraging FTF assessments following building protocols. EHRS/AMD and Demonstration guidance has been disseminated as well. Senior Service Centers are being encouraged to open. Lora McCurdy stated the COVID screening tool has been updated. It now includes language asking if older adults have been vaccinated. Lora shared that they talked with AAA's this morning regarding vaccine hesitancy. IDoA is looking at IDPH data, some counties have lower rates. She wants to review strategies to target counties with lower rates. Stated she could share the map of county vaccination rates if others are interested. Most of the lower rates are located in the southern part of the State, some in the eastern portion.

Vaccination Discussion:

Linda Hubbartt stated she has just looked at the data and did a comparative look from this month to last month. Stated they are reaching out, doing monthly calls. Sherry Barter-Hamlin provided the following vaccination updates on CCRS facilities: We have a high number, well over 80% of seniors vaccinated. Having issue with staff getting vaccinated. Getting varied rationale of why they don't want to get vaccinated. Incentives can also be viewed as a slap in the face, "now you are trying to buy me off". Hearing a lot of young mothers scared of taking because they don't know the long-term effects. Linda added that she no longer thinks transportation is an issue; she has not seen any issues with people not knowing about how to get vaccinations.

FMAP Update:

Lora McCurdy gave the following update regarding FMAP: We have been working closely with HFS to coordinate and provide feedback of our priorities for spending for FMAP. ARP is providing states with an extra 10% with FMAP 04/01/21-03/31/22. IDoA cannot go into detail yet about what we are recommending since HFS will first need to review, then federal CMS will need to review. Lora stated that hopefully at next OASAC she will be able to share more details. She stated that IDoA has tried to be comprehensive in their approach. Should be able to share more in August.

Vaccination Survey Update:

Mike Berkes stated IDoA extended the deadline for the CCU vaccination survey to 07/15/2021. Hoping to have good data to share. Trying to understand the effort and the work CCUs did for vaccination outreach/education.

ESS Update:

Mike Berkes stated in March 2020 the funding source for ESS was put together in response to COVID. ESS has been very beneficial in meeting the needs that are stemming from COVID. Mike stated IDoA is starting to finalize FY 21 for ESS, then they should have a better analysis. Mike shared that meals were expanded through ESS. Going forward Mike shared that ESS will help not just COVID needs, but with keeping people in their homes for longer, safely. Paul Bennett stated that something the department should keep in mind, ARP, as money is being allocated; please think about how programs can be endured (hiring and retention for example). Paul stated it would be nicer if the money could have a "longer tail" to them. Lora McCurdy answered that we have taken that into consideration. We would like to add ESS-like services to the waiver.

*Agenda for August OASAC Meeting:

Sophia Gonzalez stated Sandy Pastore and Ali Johnson will talk at next OASAC meeting. Linda Hubbartt questioned if it would be FTF or still zoom? Stated CCPAC will happen in person. Also questioned that one nursing home not allowing visitors and how they should proceed. John Eckert answered that they do not need to reach out to us, just please document and follow setting policies. Mike Berkes stated we will follow up regarding FTF vs. zoom meeting. Linda Hubbartt motioned to approve August OASAC agenda. Mike Koronkowski seconded the motion. Members voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

Additional Announcements/Comments:

None.

New IDoA Chicago Address:

Director Basta shared the new IDoA Chicago address:

555 W. Monroe St. Chicago, IL 60661

Motion to Adjourn:

John Eckert asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda Hubbartt made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Paul Bennett seconded. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously.