



State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging

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

Date: January 13, 2020 **(Approved July 13, 2020)**

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:

Paula Basta, Director, Department on Aging
Paul Bennett, AgeOptions
Linda Hubbartt, Senior Services of Effingham County
Mike Koronkowski, UIC College of Pharmacy
Gustavo Saberbein, Help at Home/Oxford HealthCare
Teva Shirley, Southwestern Illinois Visiting Nurse Association
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Long-Term Care Ombudsmen, Catholic Charities

Department Representatives:

Bonnie Hartman-Walter (for Kelly Cunningham), HFS
Megan Spitz, Illinois Housing Development Authority
Lyle VanDeventer, DHS, Division of Rehabilitation Services

Department on Aging staff:

Samantha Brill, Becky Dragoo, Selma D 'Souza, John Eckert, Sophia Gonzalez, Jose Jimenez, Jason Jordan, Megan Thornton and Lora McCurdy

Absent:

OASAC Executive Committee Members:

Amy Brown, CRIS Healthy Aging Center
Phyllis Mitzen, Health and Medicine Policy Research Group
Susan Real, East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging

Department Representatives:

Debra Bryars, Department of Public Health

Introductions; call to order, and approval of October 21, 2019 minutes:

Lora McCurdy 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 Gustavo Saberbein made the motion; Paul Bennett

seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Eckert asked for a motion to approve the October 21, 2019 minutes. Cathy Weightman-Moore made the motion to approve the minutes; Mike Koronkowski seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously with no additions or corrections and will be posted on the Department website.

Update on 2 Year OASAC Report to the GA:

John Eckert shared a draft of the 2-Year OASAC report to the General Assembly and informed everyone that the Department continues to work on this report. The report includes updates from DHS, HFS (including MCOs), and IHDA. Additional topics included in this report are Choices for Care, Behavioral Health Transformation, Colbert, Services and Aging Waiver, Critical Event Reporting, and Person-Centered Planning. It was also clarified that the report covers January 2017- December 2018. Comments were requested from members on the draft report. Paul Bennett stated the report seems more like an IDoA Report and not an OASAC Report. Bennett suggested that the report should include OASAC activities, including what the Advisory Council is doing.

Update on State Plan Focus Areas:

Jose Jimenez shared that the Department is working on focus areas for the 3-year State Plan that will cover 2021-2023. He shared that these focus areas include the following: Older Americans Act (OAA) Core Programs (Titles III, IV, V and VII), ACL Discretionary Grants & Other Funding Sources, Participant-Directed/Person-Centered Planning, Elder Justice, Data & IT, and Social Determinants of Health & Age-Friendly Communities. The Department continues to work on the individual goals and objectives, measurable strategies and outcomes of the goals for each of the priorities identified. During the last OASAC meeting, several members volunteered to meet with the Department and AAA's to discuss these priorities. In the future, the draft priorities can be shared with OASAC for feedback. Lora McCurdy stated that feedback is appreciated and that the Department is moving in a good direction. All states' received guidance from CMS and measurable outcomes are being created. Jimenez shared that a Public Information document needs to be submitted to ACL soon and that Public Hearings will be scheduled.

Update on Workforce Stabilization Work Group:

Megan Thornton shared that the Workforce Stabilization workgroup has been meeting on a monthly basis and have created a CCU survey on Care Coordinator retention. More data is needed regarding CC retention issues. The workgroup has discussed implementing Gerontology at the high school level, capturing students at college level (Intern Programs), and Gerontology Programs. Paul Bennett shared that Megan is doing an outstanding job and that this workgroup does not only need to collect data but also do something to create a tool for recruitment. Thornton shared that Sandy Pastore is working with former Department Director John Holton on a Gerontology curriculum. Director Basta stated that we need to encourage other educational institutions to have a Gerontology curriculum. Becky Dragoo asked if the workgroup has looked at WorkNet, the state's workforce development portal that can be used as an Adult Education pathway. Bennett stated that both the CCU survey and HomeCare survey obtained some scary results of high turnover rate, people not staying at the job for more than 2 or 3 months and CCUs being the training ground for MCOs. Bennett suggested that we look at how we can use this data obtained to our benefit and help our network have employees. Dragoo suggested adding diversity in the workforce, laying out a track and adding more education.

Lora McCurdy stated that the Department wants to touch base with the CCUs, regarding the rate increase that took effect in July 2019, to find out if there has been a positive impact. Thornton asked for more feedback on what should be included on the survey to be sent out to the CCUs. Teva Shirley suggested focusing on tuition and Internships to get people excited to come into the workforce.

Review/approve Agenda for February 24, 2020 full OASAC Meeting:

Members were asked to look at the February full OASAC Agenda. Gustavo Saberbein will present on his organization and the array of services they provide. John Eckert asked for a motion to approve the February agenda. Mike Koronkowski made a motion to approve the agenda; Teva Shirley seconded. All were in favor; the agenda was approved.

Other Issues & Announcements:

John Eckert shared that the NOFO for the CCUs to upgrade their IT/computer needs has gone out. The need for a capacity to get electronic signatures under Person Centered Planning was discussed. All waiver providers are required to sign the Person-Centered Plan. This grant offers an opportunity for all CCUs to update their technology.

Motion to Adjourn:

Sophia Gonzalez asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gustavo Saberbein made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Paul Bennett seconded. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously at 2:45 p.m.