

**ILLINOIS COUNCIL ON AGING
ANNUAL MEETING**

TELECONFERENCE

**ONE NATURAL RESOURCES WAY – LAKE LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

**160 N. LASALLE ST., SUITE N-700
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018
10:00AM – 12:00PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Phyllis Mitzen, Steve Wolf, Bernarda Wong

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:

Jane Angelis, Anthany Frazier, Paulette Hamlin, Margaret Huyck, Talat Khan, Mubarak Mirjat, Robert O'Connor, Anna Oestreich, Representative Mark Batinick, Representative Anna Moeller, Representative Christine Winger

MEMBERS ABSENT:

J. Diane Adams-Alsberry, Charles Crowder, Rev. Melvin Grimes, Senator Mattie Hunter, Senator Sam McCann, Lee Moriarty, Representative Rita Mayfield

VISITORS:

Patricia Martin, Amy Brown

DEPARTMENT ON AGING STAFF PRESENT:

Jennifer Reif, Deputy Director
Elizabeth Delheimer, Manager – Div. of Community Relations & Outreach, Council Liaison
Rhonda Armstead, General Counsel
Amber Bolden, Administrative Assistant
Anna O'Connell – Manager, Div. of Finance & Administration
Desirey Ackermann, Deputy Divisional Manager
Sandy Leith, Director – Senior Health Insurance Program
Michael Dropka, Public Information Director
Alex Burke, Legislative Liaison
John Eckert, Policy Analyst
Portia Riley, Administrative Assistant

SUMMARY

Opening:

The meeting was called to order by Phyllis Mitzen at 10:05 a.m.

Roll call was taken by Steve Wolf and it was determined that a quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes:

Bernarda Wong moved to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2017 minutes as presented. Steve Wolf seconded the motion. All members voted aye and the minutes were approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

By-laws:

The Council would like to thank Steve Wolf, Diane Adams-Alsberry, Margaret Huyck, and Rhonda Armstead for their help in re-writing the by-laws. All Council members have received a copy of the updated by-laws. Phyllis Mitzen introduced the changes to the by-laws. Bernie Wong moved to approve the amendments to the by-laws. Bob O'Connor 2nd the motion. All members voted aye and the by-laws were approved as amended. The Nominating Committee will be announced during the next full Council meeting.

Ethics Training:

All Council members are expected to complete Ethics and Sexual Harassment training this year. The training materials were sent to all Council members, and are due back no later than May 15, 2018 to Elizabeth Delheimer. If there are Council member who are on other advisory councils, boards, or commissions and have already taken Ethics and Sexual Harassment training, send Elizabeth a copy of the acknowledgement certificate from that training, and the Department will accept the certificate.

Travel and Reimbursement Instructions for ICoA Members:

The Department provided the Travel Guide to the Council members to ensure compliance with the State travel rules and guidelines. The Travel Guide has detailed instructions regarding how to complete a travel voucher, book State rate hotel rooms, determine per diem, timesheets, and provided a letter from the Department to present at hotels to obtain the State rate as well as links. All Council members traveling for Council business are eligible for travel reimbursement; however, the State rate is the only rate that will be reimbursed. Any amount over the State rate is the sole responsibility of the Council member.

Colbert Consent Decree:

Colbert staff provided an update to Council members, regarding the Colbert Consent Decree.

YTD Transition Numbers

- Current YTD transition numbers stand at 1, 977
- 254 Class members transitioned through our Aging Network – 12%
- 338 Class members transitioned using DRS services – 17%
- 936 Class members transitioned through our Community Mental health services – 47%
- 130 Class members transitioned through non-waiver services – 7%
- 136 Class members who didn't transition using any services – 7%
- 183 Class members transitioned through Supportive Living facilities – 9%

Calendar Year Target Transition Totals for 2017

- Calendar year target transition totals were set at 550
- Colbert transitioned 428 Class members
- 37 Class members transitioned through our Aging Network – 8.6%
- 61 Class members transitioned through DRS services – 14%
- 244 Class members transitioned through Community Mental Health services – 57%
- 55 Class members transitioned through non-waiver services – 11%
- 7 Class members who didn't transitioned using any services – 1.6%
- 29 Class members transitioned through Supportive living facilities – 7%

Colbert transition requirements for January 1 – June 30, 2018 are set at 300. Colbert staff is working diligently to achieve the required numbers. Some of the challenges include evaluating and transitioning more individuals with diagnoses of mental illness, and engaging more agencies that will be able to meet the needs of the Class members.

Colbert staff has submitted the 2017 Semi-Annual Report, and it will be available on the Department's website soon. Colbert staff is also working on the FY19 Implementation Plan (IP). They are trying to include different approaches to outreach and evaluation, to reach more Class members, and transition more Class members. Rhonda Armstead informed the Council that a first draft of the IP will be sent to the Plaintiff's Attorney and the Court Monitor on March 30th, and will need to be finalized by the end of June.

Council members would like statistical information, regarding the number of individuals who re-enter the nursing home, after moving out into the community. At present, IDoA does not have the statistical info in question, but is looking at gathering this information in the future. Council members would also like to know if supports are sufficient for those individuals who have transitioned so that they will not end up back in the nursing home. They have great concern for individuals with mental health issues who transition into the community. Colbert staff monitor the Class Member for 1-year after transitioning into the community, and can provide statistical information of re-entry within the 1-year timeframe which will be provided at the next Council meeting.

Money Follows the Person

John Eckert provided the Council with an update.

- Money Follows the Person program (MFP) identified people on Medicaid residing in nursing facilities that wanted to move into the community with services and supports.
- In addition to pre-transition care coordination provided by trained MFP Transition Coordinators, many eligible participants received one-time moving costs including setting up an apartment, environmental modifications, and/or Assistive Technology in addition to waiver services prior to the transition.
- The program began in 2009 and is an inter-agency collaboration with IDoA, and 3 Divisions in DHS (DRS, DMH, DDD).
- In 2013 with the Colbert Consent Decree, MFP activities in Cook county were assumed by 2 MCOs with a limited role for CCUs.

John Eckert provided a spreadsheet to Council members showing the totals of the transition activities taking place within the programs (IDoA, DHS-DRS, DMH, DDD) since 2009. Throughout 2017, Aging has transitioned 231 individuals through the diligent work of Transition Coordinators through all the Care Coordination Units within the 101 counties outside of Cook County. The spreadsheet shows a break-down of the different state agencies, and includes Colbert. The MFP program is now sun setting and all the Departments/Divisions stopped taking new referrals on June 30, 2017. However, the Department still has individuals in the system waiting for housing, and these individuals will remain in the queue. The Department will continue to help these individuals through December 31, 2018. By the end of 2019, the individuals would have finished their 365 days of post-transition MFP eligibility. With individuals in the MFP program, the Transition Coordinators conduct an extensive case review before a participant can transition, and a critical incident report is also completed if necessary. After an individual has transitioned into the community, a face-to-face visit is conducted weekly for the first month and every other week for the second month. There are 23 states that are still active in the MFP program. All Medicaid dollars Illinois received for MFP were getting an enhanced federal match to use for additional rebalancing initiatives.

With the MFP program ending, the Department is developing a Post-MFP Enhanced Deinstitutionalization (EDEI) initiative very similar to MFP. The new program will bring all the forms in-house, and the Department will still be able to offer the one-time moving costs, assistive technology, and environmental modifications. The Department is working to get this new program running within the next couple of months. The funding for EDEI will be General Revenue Funds.

The Department also oversees the Choices for Care program assessments, which works with individuals who are being discharged from hospitals and have gone into nursing facilities with many going for short-term rehabilitation, and may want to move back into the community after rehab. The Department is working to increase the interactions between the Care Coordination Unit, and the resident at the nursing facility to help make it easier to transition back into the community after rehabilitation. Bernarda Wong would like to see statistical data on how many of these individuals are limited English speaking, and John Eckert agreed to gather the information for Council review.

John Eckert additionally wanted to recognize the University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Nursing staff for the great work they have done through their contracts with HFS and IDoA with the development of training materials, uniform forms, data gathering, reports development, quality of life surveys and peer mentoring with the Transition Coordinators.

Jane Angelis acknowledged the great work, and the years of commitment John Eckert has put into the MFP program over the years. Jane suggested that with a lack of funds looming, this might be a good time to create new partnerships. The Illinois Workforce Innovation award will approve their new strategic plan on Thursday in Peoria, and there is a lot of language in the plan that seems to relate with what the Department is doing. Jane suggest that the Council discuss this topic at some point to see if there might be a new way of developing some funding for the great work John is doing.

OASAC Joint Meeting:

There next meeting will be a joint meeting between the Council and the OASAC Committee scheduled for May 21, 2018 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. The meeting will be held via video conference between the IDoA Springfield office at the DNR Building, and the IDoA Chicago office in the MABB Building. Rhonda Armstead informed the Council that an advanced notice would have to be sent to Council members, regarding the substitute date for a joint meeting with OASAC on May 21st. Rhonda will check the rules to find out how many days in advance the notice will have to be sent. The June 12th Council meeting has been cancelled.

SHIP Program Update:

The Council submitted a letter to Legislators in support of the SHIP program. Age Options also put out an alert that Phyllis Mitzen forwarded to the Council members. Funding for the SHIP program is still uncertain. The spending bill was passed, but we will not know all the details on the funding for SHIP until March 23, 2018. Currently SHIP is not funded pass April 1, 2018. The Department would like to thank the Council for supporting the program, and advocating for SHIP services that are so vital to the community we serve. The Department is already looking at 2019 for funding, and may be asking for the Council's help again later this year. The Department is trying to get to a point where the SHIP program is no longer under discretionary funding, and has a permanent funding source.

To help reduce fraud, people across the country will be receiving new Medicare cards by the end of 2019. The FBI and Attorney Generals' across the nation have been working on this endeavor for several years. The new cards will not contain personal information of the beneficiary. The old Medicare card contained social security numbers, but the new Medicare card will have a Medicare Beneficiary Identifier number (MBI). The health insurance claim number will not appear on the new card. Mass mailings of the new Medicare cards will on April 1, 2018. In Illinois, we will not see the new cards starting to arrive until late summer. As soon as an individual receives the new Medicare card, they should start using the card. The old Medicare card should be shredded and thrown away as soon as possible. Many of the SHIP offices will set-up shredding bins within their office to help people get rid of the old cards in a safe environment. The new card has the individual's name, and information that will let providers know if the person has Medicare Part A, or B and the date effective. The public should be encouraged to call the 800-Medicare number, which is a 24/7 call center. If there are any questions about the new card, the call center will be able to answer those questions. There are TV commercials coming out about the new cards. Facebook has announcements coming out, and YouTube has a video of the new card arriving on their website. There are blogs about this subject on the Internet, and there is also a secure federal website for people to view their benefits. The website is on the Medicare page at: www.mymedicare.gov. People can go to this website, enter their personal information and set-up an account to access their benefits. The new cards will arrive only via the U.S. Postal Service. The MBI number on the new cards should only be provided to physicians and providers that deal with Medicare. By January 1, 2020 the entire system will only accept the MBI numbers. However, the Department is encouraging everyone to start using the new cards right away.

Medicare Part B is something that everyone pays for. It's the medical portion of your insurance. Part B covers outpatient activities, ambulance, and labs. It includes all medical services that is not in a hospital bed, or nursing facility. The cost for Part B is about \$134.00 a month for anyone new going into Medicare. In 2015, 2016, and 2017 there was not a cost of living increase so people who were paying \$109.00 a month for Medicare Part B were held harmless under Social Security law, which means they did not have an increase in their premiums. In 2018 there was 2% COLA increase in the Social Security benefit thus the Medicare premiums increased 2%. There are a few groups of individuals who have always paid the higher Medicare premiums, which would be any person who is signing up as a new Medicare recipient, and individuals not receiving Social Security benefits and who are paying their Medicare premiums directly. Individuals who have very low income also have a \$134.00 a month premium cost. Premiums for individuals with very low income are usually paid for by Medicaid, or one of the Medicaid saving programs through Illinois Medicaid. Low-income individuals do not see the increase.

The Department has a public campaign running on the Department's Facebook page. All SHIP sites have been encouraged to link to the Department's Facebook page, and share the packet of materials that the Department is putting out on the Facebook page. The Department will also run press releases on the Facebook page throughout the summer. Also for limited English-speaking elderly, the Department works with the Coalition of Limited English Speaking Elderly (CLESE). CLESE is overseeing several sub-grants that the Department gives out, which are bringing SHIP counselors to the table that speaks any language imaginable. The Department's goal in this endeavor is to serve as many individuals as possible.

Senior Hall of Fame Awards:

The Department is taking nominations for the 2018 Senior Hall of Fame awards. The deadline is May 31, 2018. If Council members have someone they would like to nominate, please forward those names to Elizabeth Delheimer by May 31, 2018. Council members can also nominate themselves. The 2018 inductees will be noted as Bicentennial winners.

Bernarda Wong is one of the Bicentennial Commissioners. There are many activities planned for the Bicentennial celebration during the State Fair. There is an event where people are asked to nominate a Veteran to receive an award, and they're looking for 10 nominees for this event. Bernarda believes June is the deadline for submitting a nominee. The Commission is also doing events with children to support education. Council members were encouraged to go onto the Bicentennial website for the full schedule of events.

OLD BUSINESS

FY17 Annual Report:

In compliance with the by-laws, the Council members were asked to review and make comment on the "Annual Report. Elizabeth Delheimer will be sending a draft copy to Council members at the end of the week. Council members will have 2-weeks to respond, and will assume if there are no questions/comments, she will move forward with the report.

Community Care Program Services Task Force Update:

Council members received a copy of the Community Care Program Services Task Force Report which is now on file. The CCP Task Force has dissolved.

Mubarak Mirjat questioned the way seniors are being asked to send in citizenship papers over, and over again. There are minority seniors in his area who are being affected by this issue. Mubarak would like to know if there are checks and balances in place that could help with this issue. Deputy Director Reif asked that Mubarak send in the names of the individuals in question to Elizabeth Delheimer, and the Department will personally look at those situations and make sure all the issues are worked through.

Phyllis Mitzen asked if there was accountability to the Council, or the Legislators. Deputy Director Reif explained that the accountability is held within the Department's 5 different Associations and Councils.

Bernarda Wong asked the Deputy Director to discuss the Adult Day Centers (ADS), the rate increase, and how this all relates to the Department. Deputy Director Reif stated that Adult Day Care Centers are critical to the aging population that we serve. The Department is aware that we must increase attendance at the ADSs throughout the State. We are actively working on increasing applications, and conducting a rate study to be completed in the Fall of 2018. The Department is also working with the ADSs to understand some of their challenges and needs. We are reaching out to the Aging Network to determine how we can expand the program to encompass the entire State. We are also in the middle of a rate study for the Emergency Home Response (EHRS), and preliminary information is forthcoming so we are on track to do these rate studies that the federal government has mandated to be conducted every 5 years for our waiver. Deputy Director Reif mentioned HB 4871, which is a new bill introduced this year that relates to the issues surrounding ADSs, and the rate increase. The Deputy Director will send information to Council members, regarding HB 4871. The Department has concerns about this bill since the Department is currently conducting a rate studies. With HB 4871, we have outside individuals who are going to analyze Illinois' rates, as well as national rates across the country so the timing of this bill is somewhat challenging.

Phyllis Mitzen suggested that this topic be a standing item on the Council's agenda.

Budget and Payment Update:

The Department has a minimal amount of bills that are older than 90 days, around 4.5 million. Year-to-date we have processed over \$500 million in payments. We do have some bills that are older than 60 days, which represents less than 20% of our current billing. We are not yet turning around payments within a week, but the bill pay system is presently stable. We are waiting to hear from our federal contacts, regarding the federal budget. It takes a while for the overall federal budget to trickle down into all the various branches and programs. We do not expect to have definite numbers for the Department's allocations until May 2018, which is the normal process that the budget goes through. Our State budget proposal was introduced in February 2018, per the statutory dates and we are now in the active faze of on-going budget discussions in the General Assembly. We had our first Budget Hearing in the House and

Appropriation Committee, and we have another Hearing in the Senate scheduled for April 2018. Legislators will have many active budget discussions going on in May before the new fiscal year starts so the Department could have a budget before then.

Phyllis Mitzen asked if the wage increase is being anticipated in terms of the work force. CFO O'Connell explained that we have our proposed budget for FY 19. The FY 19 budget does not include the rate increase that was put into place for the FY 18 budget; however current rates are sliding in with the minimum wage. We anticipate that this will be part of budget negotiations. As Deputy Director Reif stated earlier, the Department has 2 rate studies on the way. The overall rate study will be an 18-month process, starting with the EHRS, moving on to ADS, and in the Fall of 2019 after those comprehensive rate studies have yielded some preliminary feedback, the Department will begin the rate study for in-home services. The Department wants to make sure that rates are adequate to get the services needed. The comprehensive rate studies will provide the information we need to determine rates and services going forward, to find rates that are sustainable for the Department and allow us to offer the needed services. Currently our rate going forward, even without the rate increase, would be enough to meet minimum wage standards. There is a cost-split for in-home services where the Department mandates that a minimum of 77% of what we pay hourly must go towards direct service worker cost.

Phyllis Mitzen and Bernie Wong wanted it noted in the record that the Council has great concern, regarding the ability of the providers to recruit and retain good workers for home care due to the rates issues. This very subject was discussed at length in the OASAC meetings, and it is a serious problem the Council needs to address. The Council is officially on record expressing the concerns that they have, as to the validity of the workforce, and budgeting appropriately for the workforce. Hopefully the rate study will help provide solutions sooner than the Fall of 2019. Per Bernie Wong, Senator Hunter also wants to go on record that she supports this subject as well.

Legislative Update

The Senate is in this week, and the House is on break until April 9th. The Senate will be going on break after this Thursday, and will return April 9th as well. Alex Burke is monitoring a few hundred bills presently, and stated that the Department is making headway on some of our initiatives. Once they return they will only have a week to move things out of Committee so things will start moving quickly once they return from break. One initiative we discussed in the past was HB 4847, which has now moved to the House Floor. HB 4847 deals with the jurisdictional gap between Adult Protective services (APS) and the Office of the Inspector General. The rest of our bills have moved into committees. We hope to get this out as soon as the House returns from break. One of the bills we discussed at the last Council meeting was SB 2913. This bill has significant and negative implications for our CCUs. A new amendment was introduced yesterday which removes some of our concerns. The Department will continue to monitor SB 2913 closely, as it moves forward. SB 2913 moved some of the responsibility for pre-screens, and assessments from our the CCUs to the hospitals, which created conflicts of interest. The Department started a new process over the last 1½ years, regarding how to handle pre-admission screening. The CCUs, OASAC, and other organizations were involved with the project. These groups introduced language in a new amendment that removes the Department's

concern for the bill. The new amendment has not been posted yet but should be posted to committee today or as soon as the House returns from break. Currently there are 71 opponents, and 3 in support of the amendment. The Hospital Association, CCUs, and other Advisory Councils, as well as many others have reached out in our position to Senator Mulroe. Council members should feel free to reach out to Senator Mulroe with their concerns as well. Council members can go on the website: www.my.ilga.gov to file personal witness slips with their concerns as well. Once on the my.ilga.gov website, go to the Public Health Committee in the Senate, and you can look up bills by the number. The Department would like to thank the CCUs, CCPAC, OASAC, and all the other groups that helped the Department with this endeavor by reaching out to Legislators with their concerns.

Deputy Director Reif informed Council members that SB 2913 is a very serious matter, as it relates to the Aging Network. This bill would remove all our CCUs Aging Network from the hospital settings, and the services would go directly through the Hospital Association. This would cause many challenges for the Department, including the deflection. It's imperative that everyone understands how this would impact the Aging Network. Alex Burke and the Executive Team will continue to work with the Aging Network to try and overcome some of the challenges, as we continue to strengthen the response time to individuals in that setting.

Phyllis Mitzen explained that IDoA contracts with the CCUs. The CCUs are in the hospitals to do the work John Eckert was explained earlier, with Money Follows the Person (MFP) and Colbert. The CCUs are in the hospital to deflect people from going into nursing home in the first place, or they follow individuals into the nursing homes to assure that they get back into the community. This has been the goal of IDoA for many years. SB 2913 would potentially undermine that. Hopefully the new process will help strengthen the position of the CCUs in the hospitals to move things along faster and get people back into the community. Council members should call their Legislators to let them know about their concerns, regarding this bill.

Membership Update:

Deputy Director Reif reported that Director Bohnhoff is actively looking for individuals in the PSAs that are not currently represented by Council members. Director Bohnhoff has contacted chambers of commerce, senior centers, Aging Network, etc.

Orientation Manual:

Anthony Frazier and Diane Adams-Alsberry have done an extraordinary job putting together the Orientation Manual. The Council would like to thank them for their dedication this the project.

Anthony Frazier and Diane Adams-Alsberry would like to personally thank the Department, and Council members for helping to bring the Illinois Council on Aging Orientation Manual project to fruition.

The title of the Orientation Manual will be "Illinois Council on Aging Orientation Manual". The Manual was designed to provide new and current Council Member with the appropriate resources, knowledge, and guidance to help promote the well-being of older adults throughout

the State. It also serves as a valuable on-line reference portal for legislators, Department staff, and the public. The 5 sections of the Manual are: U.S. Administration on Aging (ACL); Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA); Illinois Council on Aging (ICoA); National and Illinois Legislation Affecting Older Americans & Illinoisans; Selected Summary of Research Affecting Older Illinoisans – Background Documents/White Papers. It should be noted that each of the 5 sections are subject to revisions at the professional discretion of the Department and the Illinois Council on Aging. The manual will be placed on the Department's website under Partners & Providers, Advisory Groups, and on the Illinois Council on Aging web page.

Phyllis Mitzen would like to note that Diane was unable to join the meeting today. Diane has been undergoing some very significant treatment, and the Council would like to wish her well.

The Council would like to officially thank Dana Rosenzweig for his service. Dana has resigned from his position with the Council. Our thanks and appreciation should be officially noted for all the time and effort that he has put into the Council over the years. Dana brought that mental health voice to the Council, and we should note the fact that we no longer have that voice on the Council.

Public Comment

Patricia Brown would like to thank the Council. The meeting was most interesting, and Patricia hopes she can attend more meeting in the future.

Amy Brown, CRIS, provided information on the past 2 Senior Hall of Fame inductees from her provider area (Danville and Champaign).

Motion to Adjourn:

Bernarda Wong moved to adjourn the meeting, Steve Wolf seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

s/Steve Wolf

Steve Wolf, Secretary
Illinois Council on Aging