

## LTC Council Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2020

Meeting held via WebEx

Roll Call:

Director Basta

Kelly Richards

Julia Preston

Kim Polermo

Matt Hartman – absent

Laurie Hendron – absent

Marcia Johnson

Carolyn Peck

Karin Zosel

David Sutter - absent

Greg Wilson - absent

Malinda McDonald

HFS – Jeanene Brickey

ISP - Phil Miller - absent

John Hosteny - absent

Ali Johnson

Gwen Diehl

Josh from Sect of State

Betty Stewart

ROs: Julie (PSA01); Sharon M. (PSA02CCDJ); Jen Glackin (PSA03); Theresa Kuhlman (PSA04); Angie Baker (PSA05); Stephen Maxwell (PSA06); Megan Jizmagian (PSA07); Ashley V. (PSA10); Bernard Cobbins (PSA12); Lawrence Wagner (PSA13LAC)  
Jessica Belsly / Chuck Miller / LaRhonda Williams / Lora / Selma / Samantha Brill/  
Jason Jordan

IDPH Update – Angela Tang & Deb Burdsall

PowerPoint Presentation shared on IDPH LTC COVID-19 Response. LTC COVID-19 cases account for 3% of all cases and 11% of hospitalizations.

Emergency Rules have gone into effect which expand the testing requirements to multiple types of long-term care facilities.

Discussion of vaccination roll out that will hopefully begin next week. Facilities are encouraged to sign up to partner with Walgreens and CVS by Friday. The pharmacy will manage the entire vaccination process. There are currently around 2,000 facilities registered for this program.

Compassionate care visitation should be handled with a person-centered approach. Facilities need to take a risk-based approach to care.

Essential Caregiver Guidance should be released soon and address family members assisting to provide care for residents.

Anthony Vaughn provided an overview of the IL Dept. of Veterans Affairs. He presented benefit programs available through the VA – federal benefits and state benefits.

Lawrence Wagner, Regional Ombudsman for suburban Cook Co. provided an update on the strike taking place in 11 facilities. At the facility he visited, there were about 5-10 staff striking. Some staff received pay increases to cross the picket line.

Kelly Richards stated she has been meeting daily with the ROs and Ombudsmen continue to make visits to the facilities that are striking on a daily basis.

Kelly Richards – Ombudsman Program Update

Since the last meeting, she has released visitation guidance for Ombudsmen, which can be found on the IDoA website. Her office is working to distribute additional PPE to Ombudsmen. The IL LTCOP Policies and Procedures Manual is being revised to bring it into compliance with the federal Ombudsman Rule.

Two potential new members – Lee Moriarty and Veronica Riley. Kelly shared a brief bio of each new member and a vote was taken to approve their membership.

Discussion of Goals for 2021: Director suggested looking at the LTCOP annual report for ideas of potential areas of focus.

LaRhonda Williams – Home Care Ombudsman Program Update

Statewide MMAI rollout has been pushed back to July 2021. Some of the managed care plans have been changing.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: March , June 1, September 7, December 8, 2021

Gwen Diehl – IL DVA Update

IDPH came into the LaSalle VA home and they are also getting help from outside consultants. There was a hearing on Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> with the IL Senate. The ribbon cutting was held at the new VA home in Chicago. They hope to begin admitting residents in February 2021.

Strike Notice Update – Don't have a lot of info at this point. Kelly continually trying to get info from IDPH. Kelly is working regularly with ACL. ACL suggested National Guard could be back up if staff strike. SEIU update today is they are still in negotiations that are moving slowly, but moving forward.

Discharge Notices – Executive Order issued last week suspending all discharge hearings for non-payment.

Home Care Ombudsman Program – LaRhonda Williams. Unable to access participants in person has been a challenge. Using email primarily to send documents. Willing to conduct community education via webinar. They have 3 openings. Home Services Program are suspending termination because we are in a national emergency. However, some HSP waive participants are still receiving termination notices. Asking community partners to include HCOP info in newsletters and other correspondence.

Jeanene Brickey – HFS. Most staff working from home. Working to make sure DHS is still processing applications. As things change, they are issuing provider notices.

Phil Miller – ISP. Most staff working from home. Some staff are doing window visits if necessary. Working with a COVID-19 fraud taskforce.

Ali Johnson – DHS Compliance Officer. Williams/Colbert having difficulty to reach those class members. Setting up telehealth services. Will encourage partners to work more closely with the Ombudsman Program in terms of what the resident rights are. Working with IDPH to create a letter and guidance document in case a class member chooses to self-discharge due to COVID-19.

Gwen Diehl – Veterans Home. Creating negative pressure isolation rooms so they can keep residents who test positive. 7 – 10 beds at each facility. There is only 1 positive test in the veteran homes.

Malinda McDonald – Resident. The important thing to do is family visits through window or skype, etc. She's seen a lot of residents decline because they haven't had family contact. Communication about the strike plan has not been communicated with families and that would be helpful.

Next meeting scheduled for December 2, 2021.