

LTC Council Meeting

June 7, 2022

Voting Members:

Director Basta – Yes

Kim Palermo –

David Sutor –

Greg Wilson –

Casey Bailey –

Julie Preston –

Lori Hendren

Malinda McDonald –

Stacey Aschemann –

Karen Zosel -

Matt Hartman –

Marsha Johnson – Yes

Veronica Riley –

Bruce Carmona –

Jen Belkov – Yes

No quorum.

COVID Therapies – Dr. Arti Barnes discussed how to best leverage treatments for COVID-19. Two oral pills and 2 oral pills are currently available. She shared how to locate treatments. If immune systems can't respond to vaccine or they are medically unable to receive the vaccine, there is an alternative option. Need to do the treatments before an individual is too sick. Goal is to get the treatments to everyone who needs it, including individuals living in long-term care facilities. Questions can be sent to DPH.MABTHERAPY@Illinois.gov

Rate Reform – Andy Allison & Mark McCurdy

\$700M package of reforms financed by state, federal, and facility funding. Net gain to NHs is at least \$340M in federal funding and \$130M in new state funding. In addition, there is \$65M in existing redirected funding. The reforms dedicate this money to specific reforms. IL may end up more cost-based outcomes than any other state.

Staffing incentives range between \$9 and \$38.68 per Medicaid resident per day (PMRD) if a facility achieves at least 70% of the Federal STRIVE target for nursing staffing levels. Between July and Dec. of this year, all facilities would receive at least \$18.59 PMRD if they achieve 85% of the STRIVE target. The staffing incentive represents half of all new funding and is expected to total about \$360M/year when all facilities reach the 85% milestone.

New Quality Improvement Program based on Long Stay Quality STAR rating has a new commitment of \$70M. Trying to give a reasonable profit level as a reward.

Direct Subsidies for a New CNA Pay Scale – trying to adjust the entire CNA market. It is an experience reward, not a tenure reward as longevity doesn't have to be in a particular facility. CNA pay scale and training subsidies total \$85M/year. The Medicaid share of the market is big enough to create a domino effect on the CNA market as a whole. NHs will need to document experience levels of CNAs to help track this.

100% Ownership Transparency is part of this – looking to see who really owns facilities.

PASSR – John Eckert

John described the changes in the PASSR. One main piece of the redesign is to check for mental health needs with the Level 1 screen. If a Level 2 screen needed, staff from Maximus will follow up with residents in nursing homes to see if the individual can move back into the community with services and supports. On April 16th, there was another launch looking at SMHRFs and SLFs. There is a new front door diversion program in place.

Glenda Corbett – DEI

She shared slides talking about Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice. There will be a requirement for

state employees and council members to complete DEI training. It should be completed no later than Oct. 1, 2022.

Legislative Update – Katherine Ostrowski

These items have been signed by the Governor since the past update.

SB4024 updates language of the Consumer Choice website removing label, “Resident’s Rights to Know”.

HB0246 rate reform

HB4343 Medicaid Omnibus legislation.

SB0702 creates housing council advisory for senior housing

SB3490 creates the IL Commission on LGBTQ Aging, etc.

SB1405 allows for a visitor to a health care setting even during a public health emergency

SB3707 requires dementia training for Community Care Providers.

Not passed: HB4572 – APS bill - reporting of suspicious death.

State Office Update – Kelly Richards

Home Care Ombudsman Position – LaRhonda Williams was previously in this position. Joe Danner will be the new supervisor of the Home Care Ombudsman Program.

We are currently conducting new certification training to comply with the new federal requirements.

We are doing observations and conducting monitoring visits.

We will be receiving ARPA funding from ACL to be focused on residential care communities.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (June 15) – partnering with APS to raise awareness about this important day. Brian Pastor with APS talked about how staff going out to various events to get exposure.

APS provided a toolkit to providers to promote the work that is being done.

HCO Program – Joe Danner

Increasing in-person outreach. Attending the ACL learning collaborative virtually this week. Joe is the new Deputy State Home Care Ombudsman. They are working to get information out about the program statewide.

State Agency Update:

Janene Brickey – HFS submitted application for Money Follows the Person. Awards are to be announced mid-August.

Phil Miller – no update.

Rahnee Patrick – DHS. Making advancements in the electronic verification system.

Gwen Diehl – no update.

Theresa Parks – GAC. Continue to roll out supported decision making. Several materials available on their website.

Sheila Baker – IDPH. In the process of going live with staffing system. They are analyzing the first round of PBJ data.