

Long-Term Care Council Meeting Minutes

Sept. 13, 2022

Meeting was held virtually through WebEx

Voting Members in Attendance:

Director Basta
Lori Hendren
Casey Bailey
Jennifer Belkov
Stacey Aschemann
Melinda McDonald
Veronica Riley
Karin Zosel

No quorum when meeting began.

New member: Peter Basquin is a resident at Albany Care.

DEI Online Training: all board members need to participate in the state's DEI training. The training is 90 minutes and it must be completed by Oct. 1st.

Home Care Ombudsman Update: Joe Danner provided an update. Outreach picked up greatly over the summer. State will transition away from MMAI in 2026. Most issues they are seeing lack of hours or not enough workers. HCOP is trying to prepare for what could be many appeals when the national state of emergency ends.

Top Ombudsman Complaints: Jessica Belsly provided a brief presentation showing the top complaint categories and specific complaint codes from the past three years. She discussed how the pandemic impacted our data. She provided 2019, 2020, and 2021 data.

Legislative Update: Kathryn Ostrowski provided a legislative update. The Department doesn't have anything for veto session but is watching closely to see if there is any legislation that affects long-term care and the individuals that we serve. We are currently building our legislative proposals for the spring.

IDPH Update: Becky Dragoo. Closely watching the CDC guidance with the definition of up to date. Working closely with CMS and CDC to understand the guidance. Received a strike team grant from the CDC and put the money back into training for CNAs. IDPH will provide stipends for mentors in LTC facilities. Working on another grant for people at home recovering from an acute care setting. IDPH continues to work closely with the Ombudsman Program. She also shared a presentation on the most cited LTC deficiencies and compliance issues. Becky provided a basic overview of the LTC Advisory Board. The board was created in statute and the primary function of the board is to provide feedback on rules.

Ombudsman Program Updates: Kelly Richards. We are working to promote Residents Rights Month, which is in October. Director Basta will be doing a video about RR month. The Office is also working to launch a podcast soon. Members were asked if they'd be willing to be interviewed on the podcast. We are working to update our website, so if you have feedback,

please let us know. We're going to have a virtual Ombudsman Conference in October. Oct. 5th, 12th, and 19th. Details will be in the Monday Memo. Director Basta, Beverly Laubert with ACL, Kelly Bagby with AARP will talk about psychotropic meds, Becky Drago will talk about the regulatory piece related to psychotropic meds, and Dr. Susan Whery will be presenting about working with people with mental illness. We're doing Level 2 training virtually. The Resident and Family Support Council today will be focused on what meaningful engagement should look like in long-term care facilities. Later this month we will talk about RR Month. Oct. 11th will be about traveling and then the following meeting will be about preparing for the holidays. The Ombudsman Program received additional ARP funds with an emphasis on residential care communities (basically not nursing homes). We are reviewing the Annual Services Plans. The statewide initiative will be to focus on preventing improper facility-initiated discharges. We are looking to do a guest spotlight in the Monday Memo. If you have info you'd like us to share, please let us know.

HFS Update: Janene Brickey. State was awarded a grant for Money Follows the Person. It was newly announced, so she doesn't have details yet. First step is a 16 month planning phase prior to implementation. HFS has announced 8 awards to PACE organizations (program for all inclusive care for the elderly). 6 providers in Chicago area. 1 provider in Peoria and 1 in East St. Louis. Janene can provide a presentation at the next meeting. It is for individuals to be offered services that are all inclusive in a PACE center. PCP, therapist, dental, and mental health services are all offered in one place. Don't anticipate these opening until Summer 2024.

ISP/Medicaid Fraud: Phil Miller. No Updates.

Veteran's Affairs: Gwen Diehl. Still waiting for fire marshal certification for Chicago facility. Major construction on the Quincy home is underway. Hope to move to the new LTC in 2026. Question was asked if ombudsmen need to be tested in order to visit the facility. Gwen will get back.

Guardianship & Advocacy Commission: Teresa Parks. Resource for guardianship information and provide training for guardians. It is a requirement downstate, but starting in January, the training will be required for all guardians (even in Cook Co) unless the court waives it. They also have a legal advocacy service that provides legal advice and assistance to children and adults with disabilities. IL Guardianship Association webinars will cover mental health code rights. She'll share the link.

Allison Stark is no longer with HFS. Janene will forward the replacement.

The next meeting is December 6, 2022.

There was a quorum at the end of the meeting. Melinda moved to accept the minutes. Stacey seconded.

Melinda moved to adjourn. Stacy Aschemann seconded.