

Illinois Long Term Care Council Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2017

Location: Illinois Department of Natural Resources Building
Lower Level Lakeview B & C Conference Rooms
One Natural Resources Way, Suite 100
Springfield, IL 62702

State Agency Representatives Present:

Department on Aging: Director Jean Bohnhoff, Jaime Freschi, Lauren Shiliga, Jennifer Hogan, Rhonda Armstead, Alex Burke, Anna O’Connell, LaRonda Williams, Becky Ward, Jose Mendez,

Department of Veterans Affairs present via phone: Lenard Winnicki

Department of Healthcare and Family Services present via phone: Janene Brickey

Department of Secretary of State: Mary Riseling

Department of Public Health: Darlene Harney

Illinois State Police: Phil Miller

Recorder: Amber Bolden

Voting members present: Dr. Carlyon Peck, Wayne Smallwood, Brenda Winskill, Greg Wilson

Voting member present via phone: Emily Meade, Dave Suter, Lori Hendren, Marsha Johnson

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Director Bohnhoff. Introductions were made by attendees and roll call was taken. It was noted a quorum was not present until later in the meeting.

Council Guidelines and Bylaws

General Counsel Rhonda Armstead reviewed the bylaws with the Council members. The focus of the membership provisions in the bylaws are in Article 5 on page 7. The Council members’ responsibilities are to review and evaluate legislation and prepare an annual report to be sent to the Governor’s Office and the General Assembly detailing the accomplishments of this Council.

The Council is looking for voting members that are interested in serving and to develop nomination procedures. The bylaws state a member that is absent from three consecutive meetings can be removed from the Council.

Meetings are set in advance for the year; however, adjustments can be made to have quorum. A proxy is allowed to sit in for a voting member. Department on Aging will need a notification in advance of the proxy sitting in on the meeting.

Jamie Freschi stated the two categories that are difficult to fill. First, are members who are current or former resident of facility or family member. The bylaws indicate a minimum of three members for each of this category; however, there are only two voting members in that category. Also, it has been difficult to get a current or former long-term care facility resident council or family council member. There is a minimum of two members required; however, there is only one voting member in that category. Jaime will be reaching out to the regional Ombudsmen to identify any residents who may be interested in serving as members of this Council.

**The Council reached a quorum at approximately 10:30 am when Lori Hendren called in to the meeting.*

Approval of minutes

There was an error on page 2 of the May 23, 2017 minutes. Director Bohnhoff noted the minutes should read as DHS rather than OHS. The error will be corrected before posting on the Department on Aging website.

Dr. Carolyn Peck made a motion to approve the May 23, 2017 minutes. Mary Riesling seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comments

None

Old Business

There is one person who has not completed the annual Ethics training. This individual has been contacted.

At the May 23rd meeting, Lora McCurdy stated she would gather a list of people under the Colbert Consent Decree. Lora will provide the information at the next meeting.

Vacant Board Positions

Director Bohnhoff stated voting members need to decide on a new co-chair. Voting members can nominate and vote on a new co-chair. Council members would like a description of the co-chair's responsibilities.

Illinois State Fair Senior Activities

Elizabeth Delheimer, Manager of Division of Community Outreach provided an overview of the State Fair activities from August 11-20th, 2017. IDoA will be hosting entertainment and educational sessions. Seventeen vendors will participate; some are state agencies and others are private companies.

Springfield Clinic, SIU, Vision Care, HSHS St. Johns, Attorney General, Red Cross, Ameren Walgreens and Sangamon County Health Department are some of the vendors that will be in attendance on Veterans Day and Senior Day.

On the morning of Senior Day, Aug. 14th 2017, Director Bohnhoff will give open remarks. Seniors are encouraged to participate in the “Not so Newlywed” game along with other activities during the State Fair such as spelling bee finals, and grandparent/grandchild contest.

Long Term Care Ombudsman Update

Jamie Freschi, indicated that Bill Bell mentioned at the last meeting that the wording on posters was confusing regarding electronic monitoring and changes have been made to the posters.

The Consumer Choice website was discussed in the last meeting. The first step for the website was to send a mass email to all Long-Term Care facilities. In the letter, it asked for a general email or two email addresses for the facility to send an electronic user guide to obtain an Illinois.gov account. So far, there have been approximately one hundred responses. It is mandatory for facilities who are licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act to complete the electronic questionnaire. Assisted living facilities are not required to fill out the questionnaire. Facilities will have a deadline to complete the questionnaire.

The Annual Adult Protection and Advocacy Conference (APAC) will be held in Springfield this year at the Wyndham City Centre from September 26th-28th. Save the date letters went out to Ombudsmen.

The Ombudsman documentation system transitioned from Ombuds Manager to Peer Place. There was a time in which data information could not be entered into the system. A deadline of July 14th was giving for all Ombudsman to get their documentation entered into the system. Most programs were unable to meet the July 14th deadline, so August 1st was the extended deadline. At this time, benchmark reports cannot be run to show Ombudsmen activities. A monthly update will be sent out to Council members to keep members up to date.

Legislative Update

Alex Burke, asked for legislation proposals for next year. The current legislation regarding financial exploitation indicates APS doesn't have jurisdiction to investigate allegations arising at a facility. There was legislation drafted last year but didn't moved forward.

There is a list of bills that passed both Houses and have been sent to the Governor's desk. There are staff changes in the Governor's Office. Currently, Alex is collecting proposals for IDoA to present at upcoming legislative session. As soon as the Governor starts signing bills there will be a legislative update on the website.

The Community Care Program Task Force has members that are legislators and in the community. IDoA and the Governor's Office is currently appointing and designating members of task force.

Home Care Ombudsman Update

Molina Healthcare Illinois is the only Medicare/Medicaid Alignment Initiative (MMAI) plan in Central Illinois and they have reduced the number of counties that they are providing services. Family Health Plan (FHP) and ICP which is the Medicaid plan, and MMAI terminated services in Christian, Logan, Macon, Menard, Piatt and Sangamon counties. Individuals in those counties that will go back to traditional Medicare or Medicaid has taken effect since May 1, 2017. Cigna Health Spring which is a plan in the Chicago area is no longer accepting new enrollments and plans on withdrawing from the Illinois market in 2018.

The Client Assistant Program which was run by Department of Human Services provided advocacy services for two populations of people, including: in home and community based services which are the wavier services and vocational rehab for people who are blind or visually impaired, deaf and hard of hearing for Latinos and Hispanics with those disabilities. As of June 1st the CAP program will be focusing on providing advocacy for the vocational rehab population. The Home Care Ombudsman Program will be focusing on in home services program.

There has been a significant rise on the home services and appeals. There are at least six or seven appeals this month. Most are wavier related cases.

State Agency updates:

IDoA – The Home and Community Services Division announced the Critical Event Reporting Policy was released to the network. This policy follows the federal guidelines for safety, welfare and quality assurance for all participants. This policy provides awareness to APS, MCOs, and CCP and we are trying to make sure the care coordinators are aware of everything occurring with the client. The Service Improvement Program (SIP) is a program where people can send complaints, falls, hospital visits, and grievances from a service provider, care coordinator and the agency. This week 600 reports were received. The wavier renewal is on a five-year cycle.

There was a new CCU added to PSA 12 named Autonomous Care Management (ACM). ACM currently has an office in the St. Louis area. They bid on and received a contract in Chicago.

Director Bohnhoff announced new staff members: Lauren Shiliga, Chief of Staff, Jennifer Stevens, Senior Policy Advisor, and Amber Bolden, Administrative Assistant.

State Treasurer Office – None

Health and Family Services -With the budget passed, there was a rate increase for supportive living and specialized mental health rehabilitation facilities. Also, passed and signed was a rate increase for personal needs allowance for population residing in community integrated living arrangements. The dementia selection process is still moving forward. A provider notice was posted on the HFS website explaining the Money Follows the Person Program. The Supportive Living Program wavier renewal was submitted in of March. CMS granted a 90-day extension.

Illinois State Police Medicaid Fraud Unit- Participated in the National Health Care Fraud Take Down last week that included attendance from various agencies throughout nation. There is a possibility of some revisions to some investigation processes. There were thirteen individuals indicated or arrested. Ten were associated with the Medicaid provider and three were nurses involved in drug diversion programs. The goal is to concentrate on healthcare fraud.

Secretary of State – Mobile units and rules of the road classes will start back again. The Rules of the Road Course will start in the fall for the deaf and hard of hearing community. The goal is to recertify six hundred thousand handicap and sixty-five disabled license plate placard holders. Currently being developed is the electronic process for the placard holders.

Department of Human Services– None

Veteran’s Affairs – Construction on a new veteran’s home in Chicago is to be completed in 2019. Admissions for residents may start January 2019. The goal is to convert many rooms to single rooms.

Department of Public Health- The annual report is now on the DPH website. The annual report goes back ten years and includes new rules with the Federal CMS. The facilities have new CMS rules coming down and there is interpreted guidance for new rules. Enclosed are current numbers for the state of Illinois:

Licensed facilities – 1,045

Certified facilities (only) under hospitals or DHS – 89

Assisted living facilities only – 435

2 potential strikes in nursing homes

UIS Gerontology – Since the budget passed, access for financial aid is available for students. There has been an increase in enrollment at UIS especially in the Gerontology Department. There was a facility strike towards the end of the Spring semester, however it has been resolved.

Family members – None

Motion to Adjourn:

Mary Riesling made a motion to adjourn. Greg Wilson seconded the motion. Adjournment unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned.