



State of Illinois
Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor
Illinois Department on Aging
Charles D. Johnson, Director

Illinois Long-Term Care Council Meeting

Date: March 12, 2008

Location: Hawthorn Suites, Bloomington, Illinois

Members in Attendance: Brigit Dyer-Reynolds, Nancy Flowers, Martha Holstein, Jerry Jordan, Sue Kerrigan, Myrtle Klauer, Wendy Meltzer, Margaret Niederer, Michael O'Donnell, Sally Petrone, David Sutor

Members Not Present: Diane Coleman, Pat Comstock, Barbara Craig, Ben Perkins, Pam Edelmann-Sall, Julie Sampson, Dave Vinkler

Guests: None

State of Illinois Staff: Bill Bell, Rick Dees, Marie Havens, Neyna Johnson, Sharon Woods, Mary Killough, Connie Hill

The meeting officially opened with Co-Chairs Nancy Flowers and Mary Killough introducing themselves and asking Council members to make their own introductions. Mary Killough is the new co-chair who recently replaced Michael Gelder when she began employment with IDoA in December as the Division Manager of the Division of Home and Community Services.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the November 14, 2007 meeting were approved as sent.

LTC Council Mission and Bylaws:

Nancy Flowers and Mary Killough read and discussed the LTC Councils' mission and bylaws:

Article V

Section 5-1 The council's responsibilities shall include making recommendations and commenting on issues pertaining to long term care and the State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program to the Department.

Section 5-2 The Council shall advise the Department on matters pertaining to the quality of life and quality of care in the continuum of long-term care.

Section 5-3 The Council shall evaluate, comment on reports regarding, and make recommendations on, the quality of life and quality of care in long-term care facilities and on the duties and responsibilities of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

Section 5-4 The Council shall prepare and circulate an annual report to the Governor, the General Assembly, and other interested parties concerning the duties and accomplishments of the Illinois Long Term Care Council and all other related matters pertaining to long-term care and protection of residents' rights.

Section 5-5 The Council shall make recommendations to the Director, upon his or her request, as to individuals who are capable of serving as the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman and who should make appropriate application for that position should it become vacant.

Section 5-6 Any formal recommendation of the Council shall be voted upon in the same manner as any other action, recommendation or decision of the Council.

Section 5-7 In the event that the Department chooses not to follow a formal recommendation of the Council, the Department shall transmit a written explanation of the reason thereof to members of the Council.

After an open discussion, the members agreed to move forward on specific issues that were later collapsed into four categories:

I: Functioning of the Council

- A. Create method for sub-committee to work/meet
- B. Improve communication among LTC members
- C. Articulate issues as "will of the Council"

II: Relationships with other state groups working on LTC issues

- A. Received review annual reports, - IDPH, HHS
- B. Invite IDPH to use council as a forum
- C. Get update from agencies
- D. Work with OASAC and other groups to develop coordinated and effective messaging/collaborate

III: Advocacy Issues

- A. Increase funding LTCOP
- B. Increase PNA
- C. Re-evaluate fines
- D. Employment of mental health professionals in nursing homes
- E. Medication distribution and bar coding
- F. Understaffing
- G. NH Ownership issues ie. Carlyle

IV: General Issues

- A. Discussions re: quality care, systemic issues
- B. Nursing homes and quality outcomes "Road to Excellence"

Legislative Update:

Sally Petrone led a discussion on pertinent legislative bills on long term care.

It was moved by Jerry Jordan and seconded by Margaret Niederer to permit Brigit Dyer-Reynolds to carry the Council's voice to the State Capitol in support of SB2830, SB1933 and for an increase in LTCOP program funding. Motion passed.

A second motion was made by Margaret Niederer and seconded by Michael O'Donnell to have the LTC Council support passage of SB2830. Motion passed.

After discussing HB4264, Wendy will change the amendment language offered by ICBC, IALTCO, and the Office of State LTCO to strike "electronically" from bill language since it was discovered that assisted living surveys are hand written and cannot be electronically sent anywhere.

Medicaid NH Reimbursement Rates and the MDS, presentation by Sharon Woods, DHFS

Sharon Woods discussed the reimbursement rates for nursing facilities and how the rates are made of three components- support, capital and nursing. Support and capital rates are computed based on cost report information submitted by nursing facilities. The support component covers general service and administration costs, such as food, laundry, housekeeping, utilities, maintenance. The capital component covers the building, including mortgage interest and asset depreciation. The nursing component covers costs associated with direct care, nursing, and other group care related health and treatment services.

Previously, the nursing component was calculated based on information gathered during Inspection of Care (IOC) reviews. The Minimum Data Set (MDS)-based methodology replaces the IOC reviews. The IOC became antiquated and rather than update an old system, HFS implemented a totally new system based on the MDS.

The MDS, which is a federally mandated assessment used by all nursing facilities is being used for an MDS-based reimbursement methodology for nursing facilities that was implemented by HFS on January 1, 2007. The methodology encompasses around 50 areas of need from the MDS such as activities of daily living, skin care, ostomy care, end stage renal disease, certain exceptional care categories, such as traumatic brain injury and ventilator care and mental health services.

The average nursing facility rate is \$112/per day with the lowest being in southern Illinois with \$69.80/day and the highest being in Cook County at \$191.79/day.

The State of Illinois's Comptroller's Office is currently processing vouchers from November 7, 2007- averaging 97 days to pay for Medicaid services in nursing facilities.

Other business:

LTC Council sub-committees were discussed and it was recommended to resurrect them.

Majority of the committees did not meet in 2007 since it was felt the committees violated the Open Meetings Act. Further discussion rendered the decision to develop an executive committee of Co-chairs and subcommittee chairs. Subcommittees to begin meeting are:

- Ombudsman — Wendy Meltzer
- Legislative/advocacy — Sue Kerrigan and Brigit Dyer- Reynolds
- Quality standards — Michael O'Donnell, Martha Holstein, Myrtle Klauer
- Culture change — collapse into Quality standards

A motion was made by Sue Kerrigan and seconded by Jerry Jordan to post relevant information on the IDoA web site of the LTC Council- minutes of LTC meeting, meeting location/times, and dates of subcommittee meetings and calls. Motion passed. Mary Killough recommended that when such a request is made, it should be brought to the attention of Director Johnson and in writing. Members agreed.

Dave Sutor made a motion and Sue Kerrigan seconded to hold LTC Council meetings at video teleconferencing locations in Springfield and Chicago. Motion passed.

The frequency of LTC Council meetings was discussed. David Sutor moved that a 4th meeting be added to the calendar, allowing four LTC Council meetings be held/year. Motion seconded by Michael O'Donnell. Motion passed.

There was discussion on public awareness, press releases, and for media coverage for the LTCOP. David Sutor and Nancy Flowers will work on language to request staff support from the Department. David Sutor made the motion and it was seconded by Brigit Dyer-Reynolds to forward that motion to Director Johnson. The motion passed.

OSCAR reports were discussed. Currently, regional ombudsmen receive Oscar reports from the Office. Wendy volunteered to scan the reports and make them available. Motion was made by Margaret Niedener to have the Office of SLTCO send hard copies of Oscar reports to the appropriate regional ombudsmen and to ICBC, Illinois Citizens for Better Care. Seconded by Myrtle Klauer. Motion passed.

Michael O'Donnell made a suggestion to have a mental health presentation at an upcoming Council meeting since Illinois lacks qualified providers to treat these clients. He also believes that reviewing Oscar 4 reports will discover mental health needs of nursing facility residents.

Wendy Meltzer reported a need for people to serve on the Abuse and Sexual Assault Team that IDPH will soon be starting. She asked for Council members to send names to her. Wendy also agreed to send details about the Review Teams and the disciplines needed on a review team.

Neyna Johnson asked about ensuring all slots on the LTC Council are filled. The nomination form should be put on the IDoA web site with a list of Council members. And, if a member is no longer interested in serving on the Council, they should send a resignation letter to the IDoA Director.

The upcoming LTC Council meetings were scheduled for

2nd meeting-June 10, 2008

3rd meeting - November 18, 2008

4th meeting- late August

All meeting dates may be changed if video teleconferencing is not available.

Announcements:

Brigit Dyer-Reynolds announced the April 25-26 ICARE's fundraiser - Barbeque and Blues Bash and Walk-run to be held in Sherman, Illinois. She'll send flyers to the members.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Connie Hill