



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Executive Committee Meeting

Date: May 22, 2006

Location: Illinois Department on Aging, Chicago, and conference call

ATTENDANCE:

Executive Committee Members:

Stephanie Altman, Health and Disability Advocates
Darby Anderson, Addus HealthCare
Pat Comstock, Illinois Health Care Association
Donna Ginther, AARP
Charles Johnson, Illinois Department on Aging
Kelly Cunningham for Anne Marie Murphy, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Jonathan Lavin, Suburban Area Agency on Aging
David Lindeman, Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging
Phyllis Mitzen, citizen member over the age of 60
Enrique Unanue, Illinois Department of Public Health
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Catholic Charities Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Department staff:

Michael Gelder
Shelly Ebbert
John Eckert
Ross Grove
Robin Morgan
Dave Vinkler
Leann Dolan
Paul Bennett

Absent:

Dennis Bozzi, Life Services Network
Flora Johnson, SEIU Local 880

SUMMARY:

Welcome

Director Johnson welcomed the members to the meeting. Participants introduced themselves.

Approve minutes

Darby Anderson moved to approve the minutes. Phyllis Mitzen seconded. All were in favor.

Department Updates

Deputy Gelder updated the committee on the Department's fiscal year 2007 budget which was just signed by the Governor.

- The final budget approved by the General Assembly included all additions Representative Julie Hamos discussed at the retreat.
- Specifically, the budget:
 1. Increases the non-exempt asset level to \$17,500 from \$12,500. (\$1.5 million)
 2. Increases funding for Home Delivered Meals to reduce the waiting lists and provide additional support to providers. (\$1 million)
 3. Increases rates to homemaker providers by \$1 per hour beginning this June and continuing through FY 07. (\$19.1 million)
 4. Increases funding for ADS transportation sufficiently to double rate. (\$1 million)
 5. Increases funding to implement Comprehensive Case Management, which also has been recommended by CCUs and AAAs for the past four years. (\$7.8 million)
 6. Establishes a new funding line to provide case coordinators more flexibility to develop care plans to meet more needs of frail older adults. (\$6.8 million)
 7. Provides a full year's funding to enhance the Department's HelpLine which had been funded with a federal Medicare Part D grant that will expire at the end of the federal fiscal year. (\$1 million)
 8. Provide new funds to enhance the Department's Management Information System so it can consolidate disparate CCP and OAS systems and better track utilization to enable better decision-making about future program expansions. (\$2 million)

In addition, the budget contains funds for the Department to establish a home modification and assistive technology program (\$2 million) consistent with the recommendations of the Governor's Housing Task Force.

The budget is also available on the Department's website.

Deputy Gelder provided an update on legislation. SB 2381 was signed by the Governor. This law directs the Department to work with OASAC to provide assessment of pilots and demos. Donna Ginther stated that the intent of the law was so OASAC and the Services subcommittee could focus on evaluating pilots and demonstration projects by Oct/Nov of 2006.

The Department is working with the facilitator of the retreat to write a summary report of the retreat. The facilitator, Mary Ellen Barry, will present the report at the June 12th meeting in Chicago. A draft vision will be distributed for OASAC to review.

Deputy Gelder commended members for working hard to make Illinois a good place to grow older. It is important for the Department to provide leadership to the OASAC and workgroups. In recognizing that opportunity, the Department has scheduled a meeting with sister agencies named in the legislation. The law is clear that Healthcare and Family Services and the Department of Public Health must play an important part in shepherding us through this process of a robust delivery system. We want to provide

feedback to the committee but felt it important to meet internally and then with the other state agencies, then come back to the executive committee and full committee with our expectations and needs and timeframes for those to achieve the vision we discussed at the retreat. After the Department meets with the other state agencies, the Operations Manual will be revised.

Members discussed the timing of the second annual report that is due to the General Assembly January 1, 2007 and being able to move ahead on items in the report. It was suggested that the Department consider having a meeting in October. The Services Expansion workgroup couldn't do much until they knew what to work on. October would give the workgroup more time to come into the meeting with a solid proposal.

The Department is flexible. A meeting can be changed or an extra meeting could be called if necessary. Director Johnson also explained that the Department is getting a better feel for what our relationship with the Office of Management and Budget is going to be. We know what we need to do and will prepare documents to start discussions with them in October and November.

Jonathan Lavin suggested that the Committee have the draft report completed by September or October.

Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Retreat

This item is on the agenda to give the committee an opportunity to provide feedback on the retreat.

Jonathan Lavin suggested we list out the expected outcomes that are required by the law.

Members agreed that the retreat was productive but there is still work to be done. Members requested clarification on when a member can't or shouldn't comment on things.

Kelly Cunningham, Healthcare and Family Services, addressed comments made at the last meeting that some members were dissatisfied with other state agencies involvement in OASAC. Kelly inquired of members expectations regarding HFS and offered to take that information back to HFS who is looking for guidance on what is expected of them. This issue will also be addressed in the interagency meeting.

Donna Ginther explained that when the bill was originally drafted with all three agencies, it listed out several tasks. These were never believed to be finite. Drafters of the legislation believed that DPH and HFS as well as Aging would be involved in the overhaul of long term care because it directly impacts how they do business. It is not just what agencies are required to do but how does this overhaul effect agencies and how can the directors collectively and individually use OASAC as a sounding board. A decrease in the reliance on nursing home beds should result in an increase in money for in home services.

Member suggested the three state agencies provide a written or verbal report at each OASAC meeting. Departments should be reporting on anything the agency is doing to overhaul the system and reduce nursing home beds and support seniors living in their own homes.

New members

There are three new members to the committee. Carol Aronson replaces Paul Bennett. Pat Stacy Cohen replaces Karen Anne Rose. Debbie Trueblood-Witt replaces Linda Leone.

Agenda for June 12 meeting of the full committee

Deputy Gelder suggested that the committee make workgroup reports more helpful to the committee during meetings of the full committee. A suggested format for workgroup updates at full committee meetings was e mailed to the executive committee. For the June 12 meeting, information would need to

be submitted by June 7 to the Department. At future meetings, the executive committee would decide which workgroups present based on which workgroups have action items that need approval or items that the workgroup would like input from the full committee on. Deputy Gelder added that there would be flexibility allowed for workgroups who meet closer to the meeting date of the full committee or who have things come up.

Members were encouraged to look at the Department's website and section on the OASAC. Phyllis Mitzen also suggested looking at Michigan's website which contains reports and minutes in a table. Members agreed look at the Department's website and provide feedback.

Workgroup Updates

Services Expansion – Donna Ginther reported that the next meeting is June 13 in Pontiac. The workgroup will be taking on the charge just given to them and discuss the possibilities for the \$6.8 million. The workgroup will also discuss what Comprehensive Case Management can look like. Donna met with Robin Morgan today and put together a meeting schedule for rest of the year. Meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. The July – September meetings will focus on new programs and innovative ideas. Topics include nutrition programs, homemaker/adult day service and medication management. The October meeting will focus on flushing out ideas further to help with the development of the report. Carol Aronson has agreed to join as co chair of the Services Workgroup with approval this committee.

Donna Ginther moved to approve Carol Aronson as Co-chair of the Services Expansion workgroup. Cathy Weightman-Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Director Johnson will inform the committee if co-chairs are automatically also on the executive committee.

Finance - Stephanie Altman reported that the workgroup has met and discussed the mapping project design. Heather O'Donnell has been collecting the information. The workgroup will need help getting more necessary data. Preliminary pie charts and graphs have been sent out to show what types of things are possible and the kind of comparison that can be done. Once all of the data are received, a timeframe will be given for completion of the project. Once the mapping is completed, the workgroup can discuss what information has been learned and what questions have come from it. The workgroup intends to make this document useful for the Department as well. The next meeting is June 2 by conference call 9:30 – 12.

Workforce/Caregiver – David Lindeman reported the workgroup continues to work towards the workgroup's goals. Some of them need additional support and will be difficult to accomplish without modest funding. The workgroup is looking at how to move ahead and is willing to go outside the state process if possible to try to find money.

Coordinated Point of Entry – Jonathan Lavin reported the workgroup is looking at what points of entry should provide. Michigan's RFP for single points of access is being reviewed. The workgroup has decided to work with the existing system. The workgroup is also focusing on branding. The workgroup has list of possible brands including Illinois Aging Answers, Illinois Aging Starting Points, and Illinois ElderCare Options.

Donna Ginther added that AARP had branded their elder care campaign but that was not about Point of Entry. It was for the entire system.

Jonathan Lavin explained that other states use brands for the entire network not just access points. The workgroup is not sure how to proceed with this.

The Governor's office indicated they wanted to form formal focus groups and deal directly with clients to identify what seniors would relate to in terms of a brand name. Paul Bennett will be organizing focus panels. It was suggested to add branding to his agenda.

The Department will follow up on how the Governor's office wants the formal focus groups to be conducted and how it will be paid for as well as any implications this would have on other Department initiatives such as ADRCs. The next meeting of the workgroup is June 15 in Bloomington.

Nursing Home Conversion – Nursing Home Conversion - Enrique Unanue reported the next meeting is June 6 to review and make recommendations for the final revised draft version of the Health Facilities Planning Board's annual assessment tool for nursing homes. The workgroup is trying to get an actual count of the number of beds used in nursing facilities, and revisions to this tool would provide this information. Over the years, beds have been converted to other functions (e.g., staff offices, therapy rooms) and it has taken six months to get information about the converted rooms. By January, 2007, the Health Facilities Planning Board should have a handle on licensed beds vs. actual beds in use, and should get at true picture of what is out there.

The workgroup will also look at rule language for a conversion piece that is defined in the Older Adults Services Act. Once language is determined, there will be rules developed for IDPH's innovation grant program. The Department of Public Health must complete rules and then will look at releasing money for innovative grant requests. The requests must be from a nursing facility. The rules will be reviewed with the Conversion workgroup. The amount of money available is not known. It could be over \$1.5 million and must be for nursing home conversion. Enrique was asked if the state was looking at "Greenhouse" movement for nursing homes, moving towards less institutionalized environment. Enrique explained that regulatory language in a nursing facility environment is moving toward the consumer-focused and less "traditional institutional" model as identified in the Greenhouse model. That will not appear in the survey due to restrictive regulatory rules. The next meeting June 6 at 10 at Pat Comstock's office.

Systems Change Update

Paul Bennett reported that the Institutional Review Board at the UIC approved the plan for the 20 focus groups. Paul is beginning to recruit and identify sites and consumers, caregivers and providers. He indicated that Department staff are critiquing a final draft copy of the first "deliverable" of the grant which is an issue brief on the during home transition process. Clarification of roles and responsibilities of existing agency network providers is being modified. The Dialogue in terms of the services inventory and how best to go about collecting this information it is being worked out. An RFI has been developed to assess the capabilities of database software vendors but has not yet gone out. Eight out of the 13 AAAs have the ability to access services data electronically and Paul is looking at ways to assist the five other AAAs with making this information available electronically as well.

Other business

On June 22, AARP will hold a second symposium. AARP is bringing in the director of the National Family Caregiver Alliance, Diane Feinburg. A location has not yet been determined.

In July, AARP will hold a symposium on comprehensive case management and is looking for a national speaker.

On June 8 at 5:30, Bob Molika and Larry Palucka will talk about financing long term care. Phyllis Mitzen will provide additional information to members.

Jonathan Lavin informed members that the National Council on Aging/ American Society on Aging Joint Conference will be held in Chicago. Proposals are due June 5 and can be submitted online.

Deputy Gelder will submit a form for OASAC to present at the Governor's Conference. This will be announced at the OASAC meeting on June 12 and then the committee can make a final decision. Copies of the call for sessions are on the internet.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.