



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Executive Committee Meeting

Date: June 13, 2005

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Executive Committee Members:

Stephanie Altman, Health and Disability Advocates
Darby Anderson, Addus HealthCare
Dennis Bozzi, Life Services Network
Pat Comstock, Illinois Health Care Association
Donna Ginther, AARP
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

Department staff:

Michael Gelder
Leann Dolan
Molly Spengler

Absent:

Ann Marie Murphy, Illinois Department of Public Aid
Sydney Bild, Metro Seniors in Action
Flora Johnson, SEIU Local 880

Guests:

Patrick Lenihan, Ph.D., Chicago Center for Health Systems Development
Richard Sewell, M.P.H., Sewell and Associates

SUMMARY:

Welcome

Deputy Director Michael Gelder welcomed the executive committee on behalf of Director Johnson who was unable to attend.

Presentation on Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP)

Guest presenters Richard Sewell and Patrick Lenihan presented their proposal, “A Planing Process and Technical Assistance for Implementation of the Older Adults Services Act,” which they submitted to the Department and were distributed to the executive committee.

The presenters discussed the MAPP process and how they would adopt it to the OASAC goal to transform the long term care system. This is an approach to look at a problem and come up with a solution. This approach looks at the forces and trends, the perceptions the community has and needs the community faces.

Enrique Unanue was concerned that the proposal focuses only on the Department on Aging, not on the Departments of Public Health or Public Aid that also have responsibilities under the law. All three agencies should dedicate planning staff to this task.

In response to questions, the presenters provided examples of situations where the MAPP process has been used and was successful. The Illinois Public Health Institute and Chicago Department of Public Health were cited as examples of successful public agency use of MAPP. The Executive Committee requested a copy of a finished MAPP product.

The presenters reassured the committee that the work of the workgroups would not be wasted. The process will allow for integration of what has been done so far. There may be some gaps to fill in. The process will also ensure that the work of the subgroups is tied together. MAPP can provide the glue to coordinate and find synergies from the work of the workgroups. They felt their technical assistance with MAPP would provide the workgroups with evidence-based information, so content drives the process, and assure that the process leads to identifying the common ground necessary for transformation of long term care in Illinois.

Concerns were raised about the timeline presented and the low cost and minimal hours of the consultants. Deputy Gelder described the need for short term recommendations for the general assembly and the governor’s office by late fall. The focus of the proposal is for the mid to long term objectives. He also explained that their budget reflects a minimal effort to get us started and trained in this process.

The executive committee had no objections to engaging the consultants to help establish a consensus-building process and facilitate the efforts of the workgroups, which need more direction, if the Departments of Aging, Public Aid and Public Health agree that it would help them support the process. The director will discuss the potential of financial contribution from Public Health and Public Aid to expand the training and technical assistance available from the consultants.

Workgroup Updates

- David Lindeman presented for the Workforce and Caregiver Workgroup. The group has been focusing on primary goals and is adding specifics for objectives. A survey has been sent out to get information to key groups to be sure issues are not misrepresented. The workgroup’s last meeting was a face to face meeting in Chicago where the goals of the workforce were reviewed. They have created seven goals with the priority being wages and benefits. The workgroup has three meetings scheduled before the August 8 meeting of the entire committee. They plan to refine their goals, finish the strategic objectives and add more detail. They will also identify key items and strategic objectives that are doable this fiscal year. The workgroup also had a presentation by Phyllis Mitzen regarding the NGA conference in Atlanta. The workgroup sees

overlaps with Point of Service workgroup, and needs more information from Services to focus on particular workforces.

- Donna Ginther presented for the Services Workgroup. The workgroup is focusing on fact-finding: comprehensive assessment tools, including the home care minimum data sets (MDS - HC) and transportation. The workgroup has three subgroups; quality, service expansion and inventory and, nursing home conversion. Conversion may become its own workgroup. Each subgroup is working to identify objectives. They will be discussed with the entire workgroup. All workgroup meetings are face-to-face meetings in Pontiac.
- Pat Comstock presented for the Finance Workgroup. They met by conference call last week and have decided to have future meetings face to face in Pontiac, Illinois. The next meeting is scheduled for June 30. The workgroup is focusing on four goals. 1) Create a context to understand long term care funding issues. The goal is to develop a visual representation to see the flow of money related to senior services, using the Medicaid map developed by HDA last year. 2) Determine the provider costs to deliver long term care services, regardless of the setting. 3) Work together with the Services subcommittee to develop a plan for nursing home conversions and 4) Make recommendations to the OASAC to address long term care funding needs.
- Jonathan Lavin spoke for the Point of Entry workgroup. The workgroup will be meeting in Schaumburg before the Elder Rights Conference on July 19. They are going to look at the elder services program for comprehensive resource inventory that will be used in the ADRC grant. They will share this document with the Executive Committee.

It was decided that each workgroup would put together a list of information they would need on best practices and the Department on Aging will coordinate contacting other states as needed, rather than each workgroup calling states individually. Donna Ginther requested information about the MDS-HC, which the deputy said the Department would provide.

The objectives/strategies template was presented to the Executive Committee.

Real Choice Systems Change Grant Submission

The deputy director distributed a summary of the Real Choice Systems Change grant announcement. He described that funds to change elements of long term care systems has been available to states for the last six years. Illinois has received two of these grants. This year, grants will be awarded for systems change only. Illinois is planning to submit a single application. The Department of Human Services has hired a consultant to put together a common application. Representatives from the OASAC may need to serve on an umbrella group to monitor this grant application which is due July 7. If the grant is approved, the group will also look at all of the efforts at reform and rebalancing.

Schedule Next Executive Committee Meeting

July 25, 3-5 p.m., was chosen for the next meeting. There will be a location in Springfield and Chicago as well as a call in number to participate by phone.

It was requested that workgroups would distribute documents to the executive committee with the goals and objectives that they have established prior to July 25.

Schedule Next Meeting for the full OASAC

The executive committee decided to wait until July 25 to decide on meeting dates for future OASAC meetings.

The meeting was adjourned.