



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Executive Committee Meeting

Date: August 24, 2005

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Executive Committee Members:

Charles Johnson, Illinois Department on Aging
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

Department staff:

Michael Gelder
Michele Piel
Molly Spengler
Dave Vinkler
Leann Dolan

Absent:

Ann Marie Murphy, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Sydney Bild, Metro Seniors in Action
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Catholic Charities Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Guest:

Alicia Weber, SEIU Local 880, for Flora Johnson

SUMMARY:

Welcome

Director Johnson welcomed the members to the meeting.

Committee Members Being Represented by Proxy

Deputy Gelder discussed the importance of having the same people at each of the meetings and asked the executive committee how they felt about having proxies. Members discussed the problem of having to

reeducate and re-discuss issues as new people come in. It is necessary to build off of previous information and is disconcerting to have to catch people up. Consistency and continuity is important. It was moved and seconded to require members of the Older Adult Services Advisory Committee to attend 80% of meetings in person, if a member is unable to attend, the absence would be subject to review by the Director of Aging. The motion passed with one member voting no.

It was moved and seconded to allow OASAC members to send a proxy to meetings of the full OASAC if the member writes to the Department in advance and receives approval from the Director. The proxy would be allowed to vote as a member for that meeting only. The motion passed.

A request was made, and the Department agreed, that a letter be mailed from Director Johnson to each OASAC member that is not on a workgroup requesting that they join a workgroup. The letter will include a list of committees and contact person.

Workgroup Updates

- David Lindeman presented for the Workforce and Caregiver Workgroup. The workgroup meets on Friday, August 26th. The workgroup continues to revise and select priorities in each area. Individuals will sign up for various responsibilities related to the priorities.
- Donna Ginther presented for the Services Workgroup. They will be meeting on August 29th. The workgroup will also be meeting jointly with the conversion workgroup on September 28 and will have a presentation from the Illinois Housing Development Authority.
- Pat Comstock presented for the Finance Workgroup. The workgroup met August 23. They had a presentation from Department staff on various aging programs and funding. The workgroup is prioritizing programs that add demos that could be expanded. The next meeting will on September 26 before the meeting of the full OASAC.
- Jonathan Lavin presented for the Point of Entry workgroup. The next meeting will be September 9. They will work on the work program chart, discuss branding and discuss access and points of entry. They will also discuss priorities and continue to work on that for the September meeting. The workgroup has added a representative from the nursing facility industry.

The issue of raising the asset limit for CCP was discussed. Jonathan said that issue will move to the finance committee. Donna Ginther also offered to put that issue on the services agenda since that would be a service expansion.

- Enrique Unanue presented for the Nursing Home Conversion workgroup. Matt Hartman of the Illinois Health Care Association is doing staff support for the workgroup. John Eckert will also be staffing the workgroup for the Department on Aging. The workgroup will be doing long range planning and will be looking at changes occurring in the nursing facility industry. Enrique discussed the workgroup's priority items. Enrique will update the workgroup's template originally completed by Terrence Sullivan.

Work Plan Resources

The Work Plan was distributed at the last meeting of the executive committee on July 25 and at the full OASAC meeting on August 8. The Department only received comments from Terrence Sullivan and Pat Comstock. Donna Ginther will resend her comments. Donna had a question regarding the work plan and who is completing it especially in sections that pertain to assignments of various agencies and the intent of the document.

Deputy Gelder responded that the work plan was an attempt to respond to concerns by the executive committee members on cross fertilization of workgroups. Health and Medicine Policy Research Group

(HMPRG) volunteered to track the work being done and trace it back to the legislation. HMPRG's goal was to reflect what is going on from the workgroups and committee meetings they have attended. This is a way to follow through and see what resources exist that we already know about.

Concerns were raised related to the paraphrasing of the legislation. It was suggested that each workgroup chair review the document and give comments to the Department to reflect what they are doing.

Phyllis Mitzen responded to clarify the purpose of the work plan. HMPRG took the legislation, divided it into categories, paraphrased the language, plugged in resources HMPRG was committing with the intent that all groups supporting the process would do the same. The intent was to help solve the need to track the goals and accomplishments of the Advisory Committee and its workgroups.

Many members agreed that they see this document as one that could become public and act as an accountability document. It was suggested and agreed that those members wanting to review the work plan section by section would meet by conference call and send their revised document to the Department. Phyllis Mitzen, Pat Comstock and Donna Ginther said they would be interested in participating. The revised document should be sent to the Department by September 19 to allow the Department to review and send to the full committee in time for the September 26 meeting.

Coordination of Issues that Cross Committee Lines

A concern was raised that workgroups are not working together and the possibility that workgroups could develop different models or conflicting priorities.

The Services and Nursing Home Conversion workgroups will be working closely together to prevent developing different models. The workgroups will be having a joint meeting on September 28. The finance workgroup has also been invited.

Approve Agenda for September 26 meeting

A draft agenda was provided. Several changes were suggested. The agenda will be revised to allow the majority of the meeting to be devoted to the workgroups' proposed priority items and voting. State agencies will be allowed a short time to respond to the proposed items.

Workgroups should provide a short list of priority items to the Department by September 19. This list should include any costs. Workgroup chairs agreed to circulate drafts of their short lists. Workgroups should continue to work on the more detailed template provided by the Department. Both documents should be sent to the Department by September 19. The Department will then assemble these documents and the information will then be circulated to the OASAC to allow members to review thoroughly before the September 26 meeting in Springfield.

Schedule Next Executive Committee Meeting

October 3, 10 a.m. - 12 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.

Schedule Next Meeting for the full OASAC

Future meeting dates will be discussed at the September 26 meeting in Springfield.

The meeting was adjourned.