



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Executive Committee Meeting

Date: August 30, 2006

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

ATTENDANCE:

Executive Committee Members:

Stephanie Altman, Health and Disability Advocates
Darby Anderson, Addus HealthCare
Carol Aronson, Shawnee Alliance for Seniors
Dennis Bozzi, Life Services Network
Kelly Cunningham (for Anne Marie Murphy), Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Donna Ginther, AARP
Flora Johnson, SEIU Local 880
David Lindeman, Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging
Phyllis Mitzen, citizen member over the age of 60
Debbie Trueblood Witt, Illinois Home Care Council
Enrique Unanue, Illinois Department of Public Health
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Catholic Charities Long Term Care Ombudsman Program
Theresa Eagleson Wyatt (for Anne Marie Murphy), Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services

Department staff:

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

Absent:

Pat Comstock, Illinois Health Care Association
Charles Johnson, Illinois Department on Aging
Jonathan Lavin, Suburban Area Agency on Aging

Guest:

Maggie Laslo, SEUI
Theresa Wyatt, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services

SUMMARY:

Welcome

Deputy Gelder welcomed everyone to the meeting. Director Johnson was unable to attend.

Approve July Executive Committee minutes

The minutes were corrected to reflect Darby Anderson as present and Cathy Weightman- Moore as absent. Phyllis Mitzen was also added to the section regarding the N4A presentation. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Department Updates

Illinois Department on Aging

Deputy Gelder reminded members that they are required to follow the ethics act which includes filling out and submitting completed time sheets. Two members, Marion Hanks-Bell and Patricia O’Dea Evans, have not turned in ethics statements and are at risk of being removed from the committee.

The OASAC has several new members. Mike Koronkowski is a pharmacist at UIC with specialty in gerontology. Jonathan Lackland replaces Brian Schwarberg at the Alzheimer’s Association. Margaret Rudnik is the new representative for hospice organizations. She starts as the executive director of the Illinois Hospice and Palliative Care Organization on October 1. Frank Daigh has also been appointed as an unpaid caregiver for someone over 60.

The executive committee also welcomes new members: Carol Aronson and Debbie Witt.

Deputy Gelder addressed a member’s concerns regarding how the Department is publicizing efforts on expansion of programs, services and new rates. The Department realizes the public needs to be informed of our efforts. We have established advisory groups including groups representing providers and groups looking at long term care from an institutional perspective. The Department has a Public Information Officer, Januari Smith, whose main responsibility is to get information to the public. The Department is making efforts to get information out quickly. It is a challenge to get people the information at the right time without raising expectations as to what we are capable of.

Deputy Gelder suggested if members are interested, a meeting could be arranged with Januari Smith. It was also suggested that a workgroup be formed to include providers and other groups that are not involved.

Carol Aronson added that Shawnee Alliance for Seniors has received numerous calls as a result of a letter sent to seniors from the Governor’s office. The letter implies that some programs that are being developed have already started. Her agency is keeping a list of people interested in the services advertised and will contact them once they are available. Carol recommended that the Department create a standardized power point presentation or talking points to be sent to CCUs and AAAs to use at speaking engagements. This would ensure that everyone is giving out consistent information that the Department has approved and that is accurate.

Phyllis Mitzen also suggested the Department establish a way to provide regular updates to the network on projects. She suggested it is necessary to provide as much information as possible so people know that projects are progressing.

Deputy Gelder advised that the start date for Emergency Home Response is October 15. A detailed update on projects will be presented at the September 11 meeting of the full committee.

Illinois Department of Public Health

Enrique Unanue reported the conversion workgroup is developing regulatory language. A questionnaire was sent out to all nursing facilities. The responses are coming in and the analysis is expected to be completed in October/November. So far, IDPH has had 45-50% return on the questionnaires and expects more. IDPH staff will follow up with those facilities that have not responded.

Enrique explained the Conversion workgroups recommendation for IDPH rules. The state was divided into four regions. The items in the planning board questionnaire will be prioritized to ask the facilities if they wish to submit grant requests for the conversion program. IDPH would issue one grant in each of four regions per year for demonstration programs resulting in a report mechanism to provide statistics on the results of the conversion or renovation. The proposed program would provide \$10 million per year for 5 years divided equally among all four regions. The statute requires 20% match by the facility. IDPH needs to develop a rating system to determine the most cost effective programs. The conversion workgroup meets again on September 27.

Enrique also explained that the conversion workgroup will continue working to develop the entire package including the letter for requests for grants, what grants will be and how the application will be rated. The conversion workgroup would like the committee to vote on the concept of four regions and the dollar amount. This would allow the workgroup to work back from that point through the entire grant package.

Enrique responded to questions from members and explained that the conversion workgroup decided the money should be equally distributed among the four areas but this could still be changed.

Stephanie Altman moved that the rules be presented to the full committee but without predetermined regions and dollar amounts. Phyllis Mitzen seconded. The motion passed.

If there are further questions about what the conversion workgroup is working on or the questionnaire, questions should be e mailed to Enrique or Terry Sullivan.

Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services

Theresa Wyatt reported HFS will guarantee payment to physicians on a 60 day payment cycle. Nursing facilities will be brought closer to a 60 day cycle. JCAR approved rules for HFS on the MDS payment for nursing facilities. The rules will be adopted and implemented Jan 1, 2007. HFS has received a lot of interest on the Money Follows the Person grant due to the feds. There is a meeting among state agencies next week on how to proceed.

Kelly Cunningham reported HFS has convened discussions with IDOA, CCUs and nursing facility representatives to address problems with the prescreening process. Legislation was introduced last spring that nearly passed that would have caused problems for HFS on perceived delays on prescreens. HFS has talked with the CCU Council and is trying to sort through the issues and continue discussions on timeframes and other issues to get the situation improved.

Old Business**Governor's Conference Update**

Shelly Ebbert reported presentation descriptions have been submitted to the training unit to be included in the Governor's Conference booklet based on the feedback received from Donna Ginther and Jonathan Lavin. The presentations were for the session on Transformation of Long

Term Care in IL and the Town Hall meeting with the Departments on Aging, Public Health and Healthcare and Family Services.

Operations Manual

Stephanie Altman reported the smaller committee of herself, Shelly Ebbert, Donna Ginther, Jonathan Lavin and Leann Dolan met and reviewed the Operations Manual line by line. The Manual has been revised and the group is recommending that the executive committee present it to the full committee on September 11 for approval.

Stephanie highlighted several areas that have changes. The group determined that meetings can be conducted in person, by video or by telephone. The Manual also clarifies the issue of proxy. Members are allowed to send an authorized representative to a meeting with a written request to the chair that can vote only for that meeting. This would still count as absence for the member. Members are still required to attend 80% of meetings. Executive committee and workgroups do not have attendance requirements.

The Manual also clarifies that members may not share official reports made by the committee until they are released by the Department.

The group also agreed that all members of the executive committee must be members of the full advisory committee and workgroups must be chaired and co chaired by voting members.

Workgroup chairs will be appointed by the Director of Aging.

Two workgroups are immediately affected by this change. Conversion is chaired by a state agency staff person who is ex officio and non-voting. Conversion also has a co chair that is not a voting member of OASAC. The Point of Entry workgroup is co-chaired by a contractual person, not a voting member. The group also agreed that workgroups should have an open membership each January.

Stephanie Altman moved to recommend that Operations Manual to the full committee at the September 11 meeting and all members would be bound by it.

Stephanie explained that OASAC is not a corporation or a not for profit so we do not need by laws. This is binding and members should agree to abide by the Operations Manual.

Donna suggested something be added to the manual to explain how to make changes. All were in favor.

Vision Statement

A revised vision statement was sent out to the executive committee that includes changes from Jonathan Lavin. Members had some slight changes in wording.

Stephanie Altman moved to present the OASAC vision statement to the full committee as amended by Darby to state “The OASAC vision is one where across Illinois...”

Darby seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Neutrality statement

Paul Bennett reminded members to share the neutrality statement with their workgroups and consider the points of conflict of interest and quality. The CPOE workgroup is not looking for approval at this time but interested in providing the information to others.

Branding exercise

The recommendation was made at the last meeting the CPOE workgroup recommend to OASAC that they adopt a brand for services by January, 2007. The workgroup has made two recommendations; the first is to adopt a brand by January 1 and the second is to define the brand name to the access system and not entire entity. A smaller workgroup meeting was scheduled to discuss branding but that meeting was cancelled.

Members discussed branding and agreed it is an important issue. Darby expressed concern that it may be too soon to decide on a brand. It was agreed to continue discussions on branding but not to vote on it at this time.

New Business

The draft agenda for the September 11 meeting of the full committee was distributed to the executive committee. Members made suggestions and the Department agreed to clearly identify items that require action and to move the action items to the beginning of the meeting and presentations to the end. It was also agreed that the presentations that are scheduled are important and necessary and should be given adequate time.

The workgroup goals from 2006 were sent out to the executive committee. The Department took what was in last years report and put it into spreadsheet. Workgroups should be thinking about what they want to have in this years report. Workgroups should be thinking about what they want to celebrate from last years report and recommendations for next years.

Workgroup Reports

Services – Donna reported the workgroup has met twice since the last meeting and is focused on recommendations brought by Shelly and is responding to the questions asked. The next meeting of Services will be focused on the big picture policy items related to CCM.

Finance – Debbie Witt reported the workgroup continues to work on the mapping project and are very close to having something publishable. This information will not be ready to present at the September 11 meeting.

Workforce and Caregiver – David Lindeman reported the workgroup is moving forward on two items. The survey regarding health benefits and feedback from other state associations is being summarized. The workgroup also anticipates holding a consensus conference after Thanksgiving on working caregivers that would involve members and businesses. The workgroup's next meeting is on September 11.

CPOE – Paul Bennett reported the workgroup continues to work on identifying how to build the present system and CPOE. AARP members had asked if CPOE and Services should work together. The chairs agreed to meet by phone to discuss the need for a joint meeting.

Conversion – Report was covered earlier.

Systems Change Update

Paul Bennett presented his examining the process involved in nursing facility placement and reintegration into the community. Please provide any feedback to Paul. Hard copies will be passed out at the September 11 meeting. Members noted the value of the report and that they have begun to use the information.

Announcements

Shelly Ebbert requested workgroup chairs submit reports for the September 11 meeting by September 5.

The meeting was adjourned 5:35.

These minutes were approved on September 25, 2006.