



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Executive Committee Meeting

Date: April 23, 2007

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

ATTENDANCE:

Executive Committee Members:

Stephanie Altman, Health and Disability Advocates
Darby Anderson, Addus HealthCare
Dennis Bozzi, Life Services Network
Kelly Cunningham for Theresa Wyatt, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Donna Ginther, AARP
Charles Johnson, Illinois Department on Aging
Flora Johnson, SEIU Local 880
Jonathan Lavin, Age Options, Inc
David Lindeman, Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging
Phyllis Mitzen, citizen member over the age of 60

Department staff:

Michael Gelder
Shelly Ebbert
John Eckert
Leann Dolan
Paul Bennett

Guests:

Jeremy Schroeder, SEIU

Absent:

Carol Aronson, Shawnee Alliance for Seniors
Pat Comstock, Illinois Health Care Association
Enrique Unanue, Illinois Department of Public Health
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Catholic Charities Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

SUMMARY

Director Johnson welcomed members to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Darby Anderson moved to approve the minutes. Flora Johnson seconded. The minutes passed.

Department Updates

Healthcare and Family Services – Kelly Cunningham reported Theresa Wyatt has been approved as the permanent Medicaid director.

HFS is working on the Illinois Covered Initiative to get everyone in the state health care insurance as stated in SB 5, amendment 1.

HFS is still waiting for a decision on the MFP grant. The decision is expected by the end of April. CMS had asked for clarification on budget items a couple of weeks ago.

Department on Aging – Deputy Gelder reported Nancy Nelson has been appointed to the OASAC. She is replacing Debbie Witt as the representative for home health agencies.

An interagency meeting was held last week. The main topic of discussion was legislation. HB 652 passed the House with one no vote. The Senate sponsors are Cullerton and Ronan. HB 1728 which would make an IDPH demonstration program permanent requires homemakers along with nursing home employees to have a fingerprint ID check. This legislation would cost \$10 more for each Lifescan print. The Department met with Addus to look at this issue from the homemaker perspective, and has heard from AFSCME. This bill has a lot of support in the General Assembly. The Department will coordinate a conference call with IDPH and other stakeholders.

The bill also includes a registry for employees that have abuse findings against them. Currently findings against employees are not communicated between Aging and DPH. Aging does not have an administrative hearing officer so alleged abusers can not appeal the findings. In cases of elder abuse by the homemaker, only the provider agency that employs the abuser is notified. Other provider agencies that could possibly hire the individual in the future are not informed.

IHDA discussed the Illinois Housing Trust Fund which would establish real estate transfer tax changes.

The MDS was also discussed at the interagency meeting. The group reached a consensus regarding areas of contention. IDOA is interested in the data as a part of a broader set of issues. HFS is willing to come up with a set up questions to identify those people most likely to return to the community.

There are three bills regarding the personal needs allowance of nursing facility residents. All three bills have passed their house of origin. They increase the personal needs allowance \$50 and \$90. In one bill, the increase would be paid from the tobacco settlement fund.

Kelly Cunningham reported a consent decree established as a result of Jackson vs. Miram, requires an individual entering or residing in a nursing facility be evaluated for a need for a motorized wheel chair.

Shelly Ebbert reported Phase III of CCC went into effect April 1 as planned. All case managers in the state have been trained on the philosophy and tool for Comprehensive Care Coordination. The billing system reflects an increased reimbursement level for intense casework and an opportunity for intensive case monitoring.

The Enhanced Transition (ET) project will be funded for another year with the \$2 million from IHDA. The ET contracts will be developed by early May to go out to existing sites. The Department will continue to fund the six existing sites and look at expanding the program next year. The Assistive Technology money has been sent to the AAAs.

Shelly Ebbert reported attending the Cash and Counseling annual meeting in Annapolis last week. The Department will have consultation available through Boston College. Of the 12 states

expanding, eight have already implemented C and C. IDOA is ready to begin enrolling clients next week. Other states have been hung up with issues concerning their waivers.

Old Business

Report to the General Assembly

Shelly Ebbert reported the report has been sent to most members of the OASAC. Some members had requested large quantities and those orders will be slightly delayed until additional copies are printed.

The timeline for the completion of next year's report has been revised to include suggestions made at the last meeting. The Department anticipates the 2008 report will not be so extensive and will more closely resemble the executive summary. Additional copies of this years report were made due to the extensive background included in the report. Any requests for additional copies should be sent to Leann Dolan.

Workgroup Updates

Workforce/Caregiver – David Lindeman reported the workgroup is doing a review of priorities and waiting on results from Darby Anderson's survey. The workgroup had an issue that will be raised in new business regarding distribution of proposed legislation to workgroup members in an effort to keep them informed as issues arise instead of waiting until they become an immediate issue. The workgroup would like to look at legislation proactively and would like the Department to provide them with a list of legislation the Department is monitoring. The workgroup does not want to create any additional work for the Department.

Deputy Gelder agreed to provide to the executive committee the Department's list of bills we are following. The workgroup chairs can share this information with their respective workgroups. Deputy Gelder also agreed to circulate legislation electronically prior to a meeting where it is going to be discussed if possible.

Services Expansion – Donna Ginther reported the workgroup continues to do fact-finding this spring on various topics including housing with services, senior centers, and nutrition. The workgroup will then switch gears to look specifically at recommendations to present to the full committee.

Finance – no report

Coordinated Point of Entry – Jonathan Lavin reported the workgroup passed a recommendation and motion to the Department. The workgroup met on March 30 and earlier today. The group approved a motion to state "the CPOE workgroup recommends all components (i.e. meeting standards and expectations of the Department) of a seamless, collaborative, integrated CPOE system be provided by either a formal collaboration of agencies (multi-agency system) or a single organization, whichever is in the best interest of the needs of older adults in a particular region".

The workgroup has asked the Department for clarification related to the legal ability under the OASA and the OAA for this interpretation to be used by the Department.

The workgroup is working on branding in terms of person getting access to the network and how definitions work in terms of the recommendations. The workgroup is looking at the law and other services on what is seamless, collaborative, and etc. The workgroup hopes to have a set of recommendations on branding as well as on I and A, at the June meeting. The next meeting of the workgroup is June 21.

Conversion workgroup – Phyllis Mitzen reported the workgroup is also in the learning phase. They had a presentation by Bill Dart, HFS, on the Medicaid rate structure. Kevin Taylor, Illinois Council on Long Term Care shared information on other state's conversion efforts. Steve Wolf spoke on HB 613 and Pat Comstock updated the workgroup on the status of Health Facilities Planning Board.

The workgroup will be meeting to set the agenda for the rest of the year.

Finance workgroup – Stephanie Altman reported the workgroup is finalizing the primer/map. It is in the final edit and waiting for final sign off from the state agencies. The primer was presented at the NCOA conference. The final draft has been circulated to the Department's on Aging and Healthcare and Family Services for final review and to give final sign off.

The workgroup met in person last month and set the meeting schedule for the next three in person meetings. The workgroup has a lot of new members and has had good discussions regarding research projects including the primary reasons why people don't enroll in Medicaid.

Stephanie also reported the Finance workgroup voted to ask the Department to start in July to track the barriers that exist for current CCP clients to enroll in Medicaid. The workgroup is aware the asset recovery is a major reason. Some new members to the workgroup that work at CCUs and AAAs have mentioned they could do a cursory collection of data regarding who applies or resists applying to Medicaid. The CCUs on the finance workgroup are interested in tracking this information and would do so if requested by the department.

Deputy Gelder reported HB 652 would require the Department to provide CCP only to those clients who have applied for Medicaid and if eligible, enrolled. That would eliminate the gap between those eligible and those that have not finished the application process. This is a controversial measure. CCP is currently provided even if the client didn't follow up on the application. If HB 652 passes, we would be precluded from providing CCP for those eligible but not enrolled.

Shelly Ebbert added there is also concern that we would be required to terminate services if a current client did not accept Medicaid. This could be difficult to track in cases of spend down and those eligible on a month to month basis.

Deputy Gelder encouraged anyone with concerns about this bill to attend the Senate hearing when it is discussed. Donna Ginther also suggested people contact the sponsor with concerns prior to the hearing.

The committee discussed HB 652 and agreed the issue needs to be studied to be sure it does not cause harm. Members agreed to present an amendment to the sponsor that would change the legislation to require the Department on Aging and OASAC to study the issue of Medicaid related to CCP.

Systems Change Update – Paul Bennett reported he is analyzing the data for the Money Management report. A draft will be sent to the Department for review. The project is looking at an analysis of Money Management program participants to establish a finance floor a person would need to return to community. This is a part of the systems change reintegration focus.

Paul met this week with staff from the Northeastern Area Agency on Aging regarding the inventory and putting the information into a database. Paul is optimistic the product will be available for use by everyone in the state by July.

The Systems Change grant was originally a three year grant which UIC collapsed into two years. Paul will request a six month extension on the grant from the Department.

Deputy Gelder assured members any extension would be at no additional cost.

The nursing home report is on the home and community based services website as well as the national ADRC website. It has also been posted on the Department on Aging's website.

Legislative Updates – Deputy Gelder provided a brief legislative update.

HB 3508 would establish resident's right to know that would provide information for nursing home residents or those considering nursing home placement for a relative or themselves. The legislation creates a Consumer Choice Information Report for each type of licensed long term care facility and outlines the type of information to be included in the reports. The legislation would require information on nursing facilities be available on the Department's website and outlines other responsibilities for the LTCOP. There have been several meetings held to discuss the wording of each question. Everyone seems to agree on the set of questions which would then go to rule if the bill passes. The Department would then distribute the questionnaire to licensed institutions. Once the responses are returned, the Department would post them on the website. There would not be any review by the Department. The posting would occur annually. Funding has not been made available to aid in implementation.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.
These minutes were approved on May 23, 2007.