



State of Illinois  
Illinois Department on Aging

## Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

# Executive Committee Retreat

**Date:** November 30, 2009

**Locations:** Illinois Department on Aging: 160 N. LaSalle, Suite N-700, Chicago, and  
421 E Capitol, Springfield

**Attending: Executive Committee Members:**

Stephanie Altman, Health and Disability Advocates  
Darby Anderson, Addus HealthCare  
Carol Aronson, Shawnee Alliance for Seniors  
Bill Bell, Illinois Department of Public Health  
Pat Comstock, Illinois Health Care Association  
Kelly Cunningham for Theresa Eagleson, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services  
Michael Gelder, Governor's Office  
Charles Johnson, Illinois Department on Aging  
Flora Johnson, SEIU Local 880  
Rob Kilbury, Illinois Department of Human Services  
Myrtle Klauer, Illinois Council for Long Term Care  
Jonathan Lavin, Age Options, Inc  
Phyllis Mitzen, citizen member over the age of 60  
Nancy Nelson, AARP  
Susan Real, family caregiver  
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Catholic Charities Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

**Department staff:**

Sandra Alexander  
Janice Cichowlas  
John Eckert  
Ross Grove  
Tina Chen  
Leann Dolan

**Guests:**

Kirk Riva, Life Services Network  
Dave Lowitzki, SEIU Healthcare Illinois and Indiana  
Dave Vinker, AARP

**None absent.**

### Welcome and Introduction

Director Johnson welcomed members to the meeting.

### Approve October 5 meeting minutes

Darby Anderson moved to approve the minutes of October 5. Stephanie Altman seconded. All were in favor.

### Department Updates

**Illinois Department of Public Health** — Bill Bell reported IDPH has been working on next year's budget, and reviewing surveys. IDPH has also been involved with the Governor's Nursing Home Safety Task Force and the Senate Public Health Committee Hearings dealing with issues of the mentally ill and long term care facilities. There have been several stories in the press. IDPH is monitoring those stories and responding to the Governor's office with ideas and suggestions and expect it to result in legislation dealing with these issues.

**Illinois Department of Human Services** — Rob Kilbury reported IDHS has been busy working on the budget.

**Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services** — Kelly Cunningham reported that IDHFS is developing an RFP to provide services for persons with Alzheimer’s Disease within 5 SLFs throughout the state. IDHFS hopes to have an announcement by the end of the year.

IDHFS continues to work on the Money Follows the Person (MFP) initiative with sister agencies. So far there have been forty transitions. Transitions have not started for the developmentally disabled program. The Illinois Department on Aging has had approximately ten transfers with the rest being mental health.

**Illinois Department on Aging** — Director Johnson reported IDoA has been getting ready for FY 11. IDoA has been in conversations with the Governor’s Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and expects FY 11 to be worse than FY 10. The deadline for the budget development is December 7. OMB is working with the general assembly leadership on the development of the budget by having ongoing meetings with the leaders. The budget will be introduced in February. Considerable work still needs to be done on FY 10. Revenue is \$900 million below what was expected. We will still have to deal with FY 10 as we move to FY 11.

Calendar year 2010 has been named *The Year of the Engaged Older Person* by a senate and house resolution. The Department is working with Jane Angelis at SIU, Carbondale, to highlight volunteer opportunities of older persons and life long learning and workforce development. This is a follow up to the National Governors Association project.

The 2010 Governor’s Conference on Aging is December 9-11. So far there have been 400 registrations. The conference is co sponsored by the Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP), Illinois Department of Insurance.

Many OASAC members are also involved in the American Society on Aging (ASA) conference being held in Chicago on March 15-19.

There is an agreement to rotate between three cities. Every third year the conference will be in Chicago. We should promote this conference to best of our abilities.

Director Johnson explained there are several proposals being discussed to balance the budget. Case management is \$8 million short for the current fiscal year. We can cut or roll over the deficit to the next fiscal year. We could make adjustments to the way case management is funded. We are looking at ways to reduce costs in FY 11.

Carol Aronson added case management units have made recommendations on efficiencies that could save \$2 million. Cutting services would significantly change the way we do business. The Community Care Program (CCP) is not being cut, the caseload is growing and that drives case management. It is next to impossible to cut case management while case loads continue to grow.

Director Johnson explained most state agencies are trying to do expedited payments to provider agencies but this will not solve the problem. We face a challenge with the FY 11 budget but we still have the problem of FY 10. We have rolled over expenditures each year into the next year.

## **Old Business**

**Planning Process to Develop State Plan** — Phyllis Mitzen reported a subcommittee met several weeks ago to discuss the report due in September. Those members were Darby Anderson, Nancy Nelson, Myrtle Klauer, Stephanie Altman and Susan Real along with Sandra Alexander and Jan Cichowlas from the Department. The group agreed to contract with Bob Mollica to facilitate a retreat. He has done extensive research on the kind of work 2880 calls for us to do.

Nancy Nelson, Sandra Alexander and Phyllis Mitzen spoke with him on two occasions. He can work within our budget and has developed work plan that was distributed to members. He is willing to hold 3-5 phone calls prior to the 2-3 day retreat and then he would produce a report with the outcomes.

Stephanie Altman added that the subgroup reached out to members for recommendations and only received a couple of suggestions. It was determined Bob Mollica will work with our budget and meet the criteria.

Nancy Nelson worked with him ten years ago on assisted living. He also has experience on a national level and has the perspective of what other states are doing. He worked with Pennsylvania in 2005 on rebalancing similar to what Illinois is looking for.

Pat Comstock voiced as to whether Dr. Mollica could be objective as it relates to the important role that nursing homes can play.

Director Johnson reassured members that Bob Mollica would be hired to facilitate not direct work.

Pat Comstock suggested the work plan include a review of what we have accomplished so far, what recommendations of OASAC have been implemented. There has also been some things that have happened that contribute to rebalancing such as natural reduction in nursing bed usage that should be included as well.

Phyllis Mitzen moved to proceed with hiring Bob Mollica and moving forward with the plan as amended today. Nancy Nelson seconded. Pat Comstock and Myrtle Klauer voted no with the rest of the members voting yes, motion passed.

Sandra Alexander inquired who should participate in the planning process with Bob Mollica. She suggested the entire executive committee be invited to participate in these calls. We also need to determine the date for the retreat.

Members decided April 6-7 or 7-8 would be good times. Sandra will confirm later with members on the dates for the retreat. Members also decided to use the time already scheduled for executive committee meetings in 2010 for the calls with Bob Mollica to prepare for the retreat.

**Future of workgroups** — Sandra reminded members a motion was passed to suspend the workgroups however some have indicated they would still meet in 2010.

Members discussed the issue and agreed a new motion would need to go to the full committee which does not meet again until March if workgroups want to continue to meet. The idea of suspending the workgroups was to free up staff to work on other things.

Workgroups are concerned they will lose momentum if they stop the work they are doing. It was suggested that the Services Workgroup approach CCPAC to continue their work. It is not necessary to be a member of CCPAC to participate on a CCPAC subcommittee.

## **Workgroup Updates**

**Coordinated Point of Entry** — Suspended

**Finance** — Suspended

**Nursing Home Conversion** — Requested clarification on the workgroup and report. Director Johnson responded workgroups are officially suspended. Phyllis Mitzen explained NHC has work that needs to be done in terms of gathering information, nothing that will have to be reported back to OASAC.

**Services Expansion** — Will work through CCPAC and come back and make a recommendation to OASAC.

**Workforce/Caregiver** — no report

### **Announcements**

Myrtle Klauer reported she has worked on a grants conversion/proposal. She was encouraged by IDPH to move forward for FY 11. The application has been broken into two pieces. The first is intent to apply. If approved, the full grant application could be submitted which is very detailed. These documents were distributed prior to the meeting and will be presented to the full committee in March.

Currently, no money is available. The hope is to have several letters of intent submitted and use that as leverage with the general assembly to request money.

Myrtle Klauer motioned to bring the application of intent and the full application for grant money for nursing home bed conversion to the next full committee meeting in March. Jonathan Lavin seconded. All were in favor, motion passed.

Michael Gelder, Office of the Governor, reported the work of OASAC is central to what the Governor's office is trying to do and is directly related to ongoing efforts.

FY 11 budget discussions are ongoing. For most of the senior staff at the Governor's Office, this is the first time they are going through this. For IDOA, this is the seventh year in a row it has been the worst year ever. The General Assembly is facing \$12 billion deficit as it tries to determine the FY 11 budget. A possible tax increase will be discussed as well as spending cuts and more creative borrowing. There are huge pressures on several departments that spend the vast majority of state funds including IDOA.

If money can be organized and spent more effectively, that would be a better exercise than cutting funding. We are going to look at ways to transfer money and transfer programs for people to leave nursing homes if they feel they haven't had the opportunity.

The state is currently involved in a law suit that charges residents of a nursing home have not had an opportunity to live in the community. The state wants to increase efforts to allow those people to live in the community. The details of who or how many that would effect is unknown. That is the direction we are going while recognizing the important roll nursing homes play as part of a community based system. Wherever people are, they should receive high standard of care.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50.