



State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging

Older Adult Services Advisory Committee & Illinois Council on Aging Joint Meeting Minutes

Date: August 20, 2018 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. (Approved November 19, 2018)

Locations:

Illinois Department on Aging, 160 N. LaSalle St., 7th floor, Chicago

Illinois Department on Aging (at the DNR bldg.), One Natural Resources Way, Springfield

IN ATTENDANCE:

OASAC Committee Members

Jamie Ewing Deputy Director (for Jean Bohnhoff), Director & OASAC Chair– Department on Aging

Bill Bell – Illinois Health Care Association

Amy S. Brown –CRIS Healthy Aging Center

Cindy Cunningham – Illinois Adult Day Services Association

Kelly Fischer – Journey Care Hospice

Terri Harkin – SEIU HealthCare – Illinois and Indiana

Andrew Kretschmar – Alzheimer’s Association, Greater Illinois

John Larsen- Cantata Adult Life Services

Sharon Manning- Family Caregiver

Phyllis Mitzen – Health and Medicine Policy Research Group

Sandra Pastore- Oswego Senior Center

Liz Vogt (for Sara Ratcliffe) – Illinois HomeCare and Hospice Council

Gustavo Saberbein – Help at Home LLC

Teva Shirley – Southwestern Illinois Visiting Nurse Association

Jason Speaks – Leading Age IL

Cathy Weightman-Moore – Catholic Charities LTC Ombudsman Program

Ancy Zacharia – Home Care Physicians

Ex-officio Committee Members:

Kelly Cunningham – Department of Healthcare and Family Services

Len Winnicki (for Gwen Diehl) – Department of Veterans Affairs

Jamie Freschi– State Long Term Care Ombudsman

Mari Money— Illinois Finance Authority

Lyle VanDeventer – Department of Human Services

Department on Aging staff:

Rhonda Armstead, Alex Burke, John Eckert, Sophia Gonzalez, Jose Jimenez, Lora McCurdy, Carla Mills and Anna O’Connell

GUESTS:

Bonnie Hartman-Walter (Department of Healthcare and Family Services), Chris Fulton (AgeSmart Community Resources)

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

OASAC Committee Members

Paul Bennett – Next Level Health Partners

Theresa Collins – Senior Services Plus Inc.

Sherry Barter Hamlin – River-to-River Residential Corporation

Dr. Thomas Cornwell – HomeCare Physicians
Carla D. Fiessinger— Monaham Law Group
Lori Hendren – AARP
Susan Hughes – UIC Community Health Sciences School of Public Health
Michael Koronkowski – UIC College of Pharmacy
Dave Lowitzki – SEIU HealthCare Illinois and Indiana
Susan Real – Caregiver – East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Louise Starmann – Citizen Member

Ex-officio – OASAC Committee Members not in attendance:

Debra Bryars– Department of Public Health
Megan Spitz – Illinois Housing Development Authority
Representative – Governor’s office

Introductions & Call to Order:

Everyone was welcomed to the joint meeting. Members and guests introduced themselves. John Eckert asked for a motion to call the meeting to order. Teva Shirley made a motion to call the meeting to order and Cathy Weightman-Moore seconded. All members voted in favor.

Approve minutes of Full OASAC May 21, 2018 Meeting:

John Eckert asked for a motion to review and approve the minutes from May 21, 2018 meeting. Gustavo Saberbein made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Phyllis Mitzen seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously by members with one addition to add Sandy Pastore as attending the May 21st meeting. All members voted in favor. The addition will be made, and the minutes will be posted on the Department website.

Update on Workforce Stabilization surveys:

Phyllis Mitzen, workgroup chair shared that the workgroup has created subgroups to work on two separate surveys: one looking into CCU Care Coordinator (CC) retention and another looking at Homecare Aide (HCA) retention. The CC subgroup has created and sent out a survey via Survey Monkey and about 70% responses have been received from the CCU’s at this time. This subgroup will meet in September to review the results and create recommendations. Gustavo Saberbein added that they have received 30 responses to the CC survey that sites wages, lack of career paths and complexity of cases affect CC recruitment and retention. Saberbein shared that the subgroup will have the next call to analyze the results on September 20th. Mitzen stated that they are hoping to dig down to see if there are any innovative suggestions. The HCA subgroup is also developing a survey but have longer timeframes to prepare and distribute. Terri Harkin shared that this subgroup plans to model the CC survey to get an understanding of the significance of HCA turnover. Mitzen shared that both subgroups have completed a lot of good work that will hopefully help the Department.

Update on Veterans Directed Program:

John Eckert stated that the Veterans Directed Program was a federal initiative with the VA Medical Centers (5 in Illinois) to help Veterans stay in the community by giving the Veteran an option of hiring a personal assistant using an approved budget. The Veteran Directed Programs is operated by the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) independently, but the Department worked with the AAA’s to develop and implement these programs. The federal VA issued startup funds for the programs and the AAA’s have contracts with the VA Medical Centers for referrals and Fiscal Management Services (FMS) for assistance with completing paperwork to be a legal employer. AAA Options Counselors will work with the Veterans to set up a plan and a budget to help them stay at home. The VA Medical Center determines eligibility for the program. AgeSmart is one of the AAA’s that operate this program in Illinois. Chris Fulton from AgeSmart shared that they initially her program worked with the Marion VA in 2011 and received their first referral in March 2013. AgeSmart worked on their Readiness Review following what other AAA’s (such as Egyptian, Midland & Northwestern) had done and contracted with a FMS. AgeSmart received 6 referrals in July of 2014; four of these Veterans are still with the Veterans Directed Program. Referral numbers have been increasing for AgeSmart, this year 2018 they received 30 referrals. AgeSmart covers 7 counties in Illinois; they are currently serving 38 veterans in the city of St. Louis and 67 in Illinois. Fulton shared that to be successful AAA’s must be able to sell the program to staff at the VAMC and show that the Veterans Directed Program is less expensive, and that Veterans are happy with the program.

AgeSmart dropped the Veteran Illinois Program (VIP) name to avoid confusion and now use Veteran Directed Home because outside organizations were claiming to have a Veterans Independence Program. Currently they have monthly meetings with the St. Louis VAMC. Fulton shared that AgeSmart's Veteran Directed Home Program has been successful because they have consistent communication with the VAMC's they are hiring additional Options Counselors and have a full-time biller for the program. Currently AgeSmart utilizes GT Independence from Michigan as their FMS for the program. GT has one person in the service area that will go out to the Veteran's home and fill out the necessary paperwork to be an employer. Eckert shared that there are only 2,000 Veterans nationally enrolled in this program.

OASAC CCP Medicaid Enrollment Oversight Subcommittee (PA100-0587):

Deputy Director Jamie Ewing shared that the OASAC CCP Medicaid Enrollment Oversight Subcommittee includes several OASAC members and the required members of this subcommittee are set in statue. There are 3 scheduled meetings set for September 25, 2018; January 8, 2019; and May 7, 2019. A fourth meeting has not been scheduled. The subcommittee will be looking at three different data sets that include 1) individuals in CCP-enrolled in Medicaid 2) individuals in CCP – not enrolled in Medicaid 3) individuals in CCP – eligible for Medicaid but not enrolled.

Better Care Illinois- Behavioral Health Initiative:

Kelly Cunningham presented on the Better Care Illinois - Behavioral Health Initiative (BHI). Cunningham shared that State agencies have had a major concern regarding spending and utilization for BH services. She reviewed a PowerPoint handout that showed individuals enrolled in Medicaid with diagnosed behavioral health needs make up 25% of the Medicaid population but utilize 56% of the total spending. It was also shared that Illinois has identified 6 goals to improve Behavioral Health outcomes. The BHI will change the State Plan and include an 1115 Waiver that will generate several pilot programs. The BHI – Integrated Health Home has a primary focus on coordination of care for individuals with more intensive needs. There have been three town hall meetings across the state explaining what BHI is and what it's objectives include. The first phase of BHI will be rolled out on January 1, 2019. *PowerPoint attached.*

Department Updates:

Budget/Fiscal

Anna O'Connell, CFO shared that there are no new updates for FY19. The Department is paying bills for FY18 and are being sent to the Comptroller promptly.

Legislation

Alex Burke shared that they are waiting for the Governor to sign several bills and there will be a legislative update on the Department website in a couple of weeks. Some bills being followed by the Department are HB 4847, HB 4867, and HB 4687.

Automated Medication Dispenser (AMD) Roll-out

Lora McCurdy shared that the Department trained Providers and CCUs in May and the AMD roll out began on July 1st. The Department continues to work with the Providers and the CCUs to enroll participants in this new Aging Waiver service. The Department is trying to coordinate with the 5 AMD providers to go to Springfield and record a video demonstration of their units. The Department does have a grid that can be shared with OASAC that compares these units. McCurdy noted that a "responsible party" is required for the AMD unit. Teva Shirley shared that their CCU's Care Coordinators are talking to participants about the AMD service, but none have enrolled at this time.

Determination of Need (DON) Trainings

Lora McCurdy shared that there have been several regional DON trainings (2 in Springfield, 2 in Chicago, in the Suburbs, Southern IL, and in Peoria). These are mandatory trainings for all Care Coordinators and supervisors. This training covers administering the DON in a consistent manner. McCurdy also noted that the Department is working with the data people to determine how this training will be evaluated.

Community Care Program (CCP) Rules

John Eckert shared that final revisions have been made to the Person-Centered Planning language and Adult Day Service integrated setting CCP rules. They have been shared with HFS for review and feedback as well. The second 45-day notice will be issued soon. The Department is also working on updating the CCP brochures and roll out with training is planned for December 2018. Lora McCurdy also noted that rate studies are also in process for the Department. The ADS rate study has had focus group meetings and a survey has been sent out to the ADS providers. PCG is the vendor and a second survey is due on August 24th.

Navigating Change Symposium

Lora McCurdy noted that a total of 450 persons participated in the Navigating Change Symposium that included five different training tracks. The Department received positive feedback from those that attended. Another symposium is being planned for next summer by the training division. If anyone has any feedback for topics or speakers, please contact McCurdy.

Other Issues & Announcements:

Kelly Fischer shared that JourneyCare had invited Margaret Danilovich from Northwestern University (she presented during a previous OASAC on her research with exercise programs) to do some training with her agency.

Motion to Adjourn:

John Eckert asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kelly Fischer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Teva Shirley seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 pm.