



State of Illinois  
Illinois Department on Aging

## Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date: November 18, 2019 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. (Approved February 24, 2020)**

### **Locations:**

Illinois Department on Aging, 160 N. LaSalle St., 7<sup>th</sup> floor, Chicago  
Illinois Department on Aging, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

#### **OASAC Committee Members**

Director Basta – Department on Aging  
Paul Bennett – AgeOptions  
Amy S. Brown – CRIS Healthy Aging Center  
Carrie Chapman (for Meghan Carter) – Legal Council for Health Justice  
Theresa Collins – Senior Services Plus Inc.  
Cindy Cunningham – Illinois Adult Day Services Association  
Kelly Fischer – Journey Care Hospice  
Topaz Gunderson-Schweska – Molina Healthcare of Illinois  
Linda Hubbartt – Effingham City-County Committee on Aging  
Susan Hughes – UIC Community Health Sciences School of Public Health  
Michael Koronkowski – UIC College of Pharmacy  
John Larsen – Cantata Adult Life Services  
Phyllis Mitzen – Health and Medicine Policy Research Group  
Sandra Pastore – Oswego Senior Center  
Susan Real – East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging  
Walter Rosenberg – Rush University Medical Center  
Gustavo Saberbein – Help at Home LLC  
Teva Shirley – Southwestern Illinois Visiting Nurse Association  
Liz Vogt (for Sara Ratcliffe) – Illinois HomeCare and Hospice Council  
Cathy Weightman-Moore – Catholic Charities LTC Ombudsman Program  
Logan Wilhelm (for Christopher B. Meister) — Illinois Finance Authority

#### **Ex-officio Committee Members:**

Bonnie Hartman-Walter (for Kelly Cunningham) – Department of Healthcare and Family Services  
Gwen Diehl – Department of Veterans Affairs  
Kelly Richards – State Long Term Care Ombudsman  
Pearl Madlock (for Megan Spitz) – Illinois Housing Development Authority  
Lyle VanDeventer – Department of Human Services

#### **Department on Aging staff:**

Samantha Brill, Sue DeBoer, Selma D’Souza, Mike Dropka, John Eckert, Melanie Kluzek, Sophia Gonzalez, Lora McCurdy, and Gloria Simmons

#### **GUESTS:**

Elizabeth Steele (CRIS Healthy Aging Center)

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

**OASAC Committee Members**

Sherry Barter Hamlin – The Voyage Senior Living  
Bill Bell – Illinois Health Care Association  
Dr. Thomas Cornwell – HomeCare Physicians  
Lori Hendren – AARP Illinois  
Dave Lowitzki – Lowitzki Consulting  
Sharon Manning – Family Caregiver  
David Olsen – Alzheimer Association Illinois Chapter  
Jacqueline Rodriguez – SEIU HealthCare – Illinois and Indiana  
Jason Speaks – Leading Age IL  
Ancy Zacharia – Home Care Physicians

**Ex-officio – OASAC Committee Members not in attendance:**

Debra Bryars– Department of Public Health

**Welcome & Introductions:**

Director Basta welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining the meeting. All members, guests and IDoA staff introduced themselves.

**Call to Order:**

John Eckert asked for a motion to call the meeting to order. Mike Koronkowski made the motion and Paul Bennett seconded. All members voted in favor.

**Approve minutes of Full OASAC August 19, 2019 Meeting:**

John Eckert asked for a motion to review and approve the minutes from August 19, 2019 meeting. Gustavo Saberbein made the motion and Cathy Weightman-Moore seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously by members with no additions or corrections. The minutes will be posted on the Department website.

**Mandatory Annual Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for Boards and Councils:**

Sophia Gonzalez reminded everyone that the Sexual Harassment Prevention Training is due before December 4<sup>th</sup>. An email was sent out earlier this week to those members that have not submitted their SHP certificate. Additional friendly reminders will be sent out closer to the deadline. SHP Certificates can be scanned and emailed to Sophia Gonzalez.

**From Social Isolation to Social Engagement with Smart Speakers Presentation:**

Amy Brown and Elizabeth Steele from CRIS Healthy Aging presented on the use of voice activated technology, Amazon (Alexa) and Google Home to reduce social isolation among older adults in Champaign County. Brown shared that social isolation has been recognized as a detriment of health and that social connections have been found to reduce risks of early death. Amy stated that with Alexa and Google Home older adults can make hands free calls and video calls, have easy voice access to emergency services and get questions answered repeatedly and frustration free. Steele went over the practical features of this technology that included checking weather, date and time, event and medication reminders, calling for help among other features. Brown also shared that the CRIS Healthy Aging has been collaborating with the University of Illinois with the use of smart speakers, Echo Devices. **(PPT attached).**

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

Deputy Director McCurdy shared that the OASAC CCP Medicaid Enrollment Oversight Subcommittee will be meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup>. The Department has continued to work with HFS and DHS to offer training on eligibility and cross training with DHS on spenddown and CCP. DHS shared that they have hired additional staff (300 persons) to work at local offices and they were receptive to doing cross trainings. McCurdy shared that the \$200 rate increase went into effect July 1<sup>st</sup> to assist with the Medicaid application and implementing the Person-Centered Planning requirements. The IDoA Medicaid Uploader will help to do a better job tracking how many Medicaid applications are completed and submitted by the CCUs. The Department is also working on getting information on the status of application, if information was missing. The Department looked at people that are on

CCP and are not enrolled in Medicaid and that may be eligible. Most of these people were in Cook County, this area has had new CCUs. The PPT from the subcommittee meeting was shared with OASAC members. Cindy Cunningham asked if it is possible to change the requirement for people over the age of 65 not to have to reapply for Medicaid. McCurdy shared that HFS is working on the Medicaid Omnibus Exparte requirements and will be providing an update during the next meeting in December which may provide more insight. McCurdy added that the Department is hoping that the higher rate will help with these Medicaid redeterminations.

#### **IDoA/AAA Nutrition Service Provider Survey Presentation:**

Melanie Kluzek, Nutritionist for the Department on Aging presented on the results of a web-based survey issued to Nutrition Service Providers of the OAA Title III Senior Nutrition Program from July through August 2019 to access strengths and weaknesses of the Illinois' Nutrition program. She shared that the survey included 47 questions and the response rate was 81%. The survey included questions that identified providers as Congregate or Home Delivered Meal (HDM) providers. One of the survey questions asked for the type of diets offered to participants and the top three were General/regular diets, diabetic diets and low sodium diets. Seven Congregate meal providers reported offering a vegetarian meal plan and only one HDM provider reported offering a Kosher diet in PSA 12. Another finding was that 33% of respondents reported not having emergency meals that meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans for Natural Disasters and emergencies. In the survey, providers shared that they collect feedback from participants regarding their menu preferences via surveys, comment cards and menu committees. The survey results showed that 76% of the Congregate providers and 69% of HDM providers are offering Nutrition Education to participants on a monthly or quarterly basis. The survey also collected information on complaints and compliments related to food. **(PPT attached)**.

#### **DRAFT 2019 OASAC 2-year Report to GA (2017 & 2018):**

John Eckert shared that the Department is continuing to work on the 2-year OASAC report to the General Assembly and a draft will be shared with the members for review.

#### **Department Updates:**

##### Brochures

Lora McCurdy shared that the Department is working on having the CCP brochures printed in four additional languages. Other key Department brochures and fact sheets are being identified and will be printed in the additional languages as well.

##### Budget/Fiscal

Lora McCurdy shared that the Department received federal CMS approval to increase the Persons who are Elderly Waiver rates. She reminded everyone that the Department had vendor PCG completing rate studies in the past year and a half. The ADS rate had not been increased since 2003, that rate will increase from \$902 to \$1,403. McCurdy noted that a total of 25 ADS have closed within the last 4 years and is hopeful that the Department will recruit more ADS providers with this rate increase. McCurdy also shared that the Department would like to increase referrals from the MCOs and will continue to offer training. Paul Bennet added that there are also issues with no HDM referrals being received from MCOs. McCurdy stated that the Department had launched a standardized referral form Statewide and asked if that had helped increase referrals. The response was that the increase was very minimal.

##### State Plan Strategic Priorities-Inter-Council/Committee work group

John Eckert shared that six strategic priorities for the Department were developed and presented by Director Basta and Lora McCurdy at a recent ASA roundtable discussion at Rush. These have been incorporated into the draft 3-year State Plan Focus Areas as Goals and are being discussed with feedback being offered on corresponding Objectives, Strategies and Outcomes with members during the work group meetings.

##### Census Outreach

Selma D'Souza, Chief of Staff shared that the AAA's will be receiving funding for Census outreach and they will be coordinating with our sister agency DHS on outreach initiatives.

### Elder Abuse Task Force

Sue DeBoer shared that the Elder Abuse Task Force met for the second time last Friday. Two objectives from SJR 13 were discussed: Barriers to Prosecution and State Agency processes related to elder abuse and exploitation. A presentation was shared by two Task Force members, Lt. Kristopher Tharpe and Assistant State's Attorney Tonya Genovese, on how Law Enforcement and Prosecutors interface with APS and possible areas where this could be improved. The state agencies that handle areas of elder abuse and exploitation provided their processes and procedures in an open discussion. The next meeting will be January 28, 2020 where the third goal from SJR 13 will be discussed: Best practices and trainings in other states related to elder abuse.

### CERA Reboot (ver. 2.0)

John Eckert asked the OASAC CCU members how it is going with the critical event reporting (CERA) reboot and some shared that it is going a lot smoother and that it is much faster. One of the differences is that now they can look at 60 days.

### CCP Participant Forms Manager launch

John Eckert shared that the CCP Participant Forms Manager (on-line comprehensive assessment) was launched to update and reflect the Person-Centered language and identify goals. Trainings were offered on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Workforce Stabilization Workgroup Update

Phyllis Mitzen shared that this workgroup continues to meet to discuss what can be done to help increase the pool of and stability of workers within the Aging network. Paul Bennett added that the workgroup is looking at different levels of education and how they can address the needs of a growing aging population. Sandy Pastore shared that she had a call with the Illinois State Board Education and is looking into what has been done with early education under the Childcare providers to see if Aging can replicate that with this population. Susan Hughes asked if the workgroup has discussed community colleges. John Eckert shared that Megan Thornton is working on a database with information on secondary education with both degrees, courses and certifications.

### **Other Issues & Announcements:**

Lora McCurdy asked the members for feedback on the Monthly Quality Webinars that are being offered by the Department. If anyone has any ideas, topics of interest or speakers, please let the Department know. The focus has been on Fall Prevention, but the Department is open to working with experts out in the field.

### **Motion to Adjourn:**

John Eckert asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gustavo Saberbein made a motion and Mike Koronkowski seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 pm.