



State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging

**Older Adult Services Advisory Committee
Executive Committee Meeting**

Date: April 10, 2023 (**Approved on July 10, 2023**)

Call in: Dial: #1-415-655-0002 Access code: 2463 394 1835#, then press # again

WebEx: Please see Outlook invite for Video Option

In Attendance:

OASAC Executive Committee Members:

Becky Dragoo for Paula A. Basta, Director, Department on Aging
Sherry Barter-Hamlin, The Voyage Senior Living
Paul Bennett, Citizen member over the age of 60
Mike Koronkowski, UIC College of Pharmacy
David Olsen, Alzheimer's Association Illinois Chapter
Susan Real, East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Gustavo Saberbein, Family Caregiver
Topaz Gunderson-Schweska, Molina Managed Care

Department on Aging staff:

Mike Berkes, Sarah Carlson, Selma D'Souza, John Eckert, Sophia Gonzalez, Jennifer Hebel,
Sandra Pastore, Brian Pastor, Chelsey Peters, Melissa Schackel, Beth Skeeters, Iris Schweier
and Liz Vogt

Not in Attendance:

OASAC Executive Committee Members:

Linda Hubbartt, Senior Services of Effingham City County

Department Representatives:

Kelly Cunningham, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Sheila A. Baker, Department of Public Health
Lyle VanDeventer, DHS, Division of Rehabilitation Services

Introductions & *Call to Order:

John Eckert welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for a motion to call the meeting to order. Mike Koronkowski made the motion and Paul Bennett seconded.

Approval of 01.09.2023, Executive Committee meeting minutes:

John Eckert asked for a motion to review and approve the January 09, 2023, meeting minutes. Gustavo Saberbein made the motion to approve the meeting minutes. Paul Bennett seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously and will be posted on the Department website.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

OASAC Membership Vacancies

Sophia Gonzalez shared that we need a representative from a trade or union member and a Parish Nurse. We did receive a recommendation for the hospice care vacancy, and we are in the process of filling it. Eckert added that we have had trouble filling the parish nurse vacancy and if anyone knows of any Parish Nurse let us know.

Department Updates:

Jennifer Hebel shared that there are two phases for unwinding; the first is the Medicaid redetermination that started April 1st and the second is the PHE that is projected to end May 11th. Once the PHE ends, we will have 6 months to unwind some of the flexibilities that we put into place under Appendix K which will be November 11, 2023. We have been putting together a guidance for the CCUs and AAAs to make it clear what guidance is in effect. In the guidance we are also indicating what policy we will go back to and attaching that policy and explaining at what point in time (phase) this is happening. Hebel explained that the first Medicaid redetermination letters will be sent out in May for a due date in June etc. for each month moving forward. She added that if you have not received guidance that means it is still in progress. Mike Berkes added that the Department is working closely with our partners at HFS for unwinding and making sure we tailor the guidance to the various provider types.

Illinois Care Connections

Hebel stated that Liz Vogt has joined the Department as the Senior Policy Advisor and she was able to say hello during the last meeting and hopes to join later in the meeting. Liz Vogt has taken the Illinois Care Connections program that started as a federal grant to address social isolation in older adults in IL. The Department has partnerships with the Illinois Assistive Technology Program that provides iPads, tablets, headphones, and some WI-FI connections to older adults that indicate they could use them. Mostly around the social isolation, to attend doctor appointments, order groceries, conduct exercise programs, stay in touch with family, whatever they would find beneficial. This program has been running for a while now and is now funded with state funds. We are asking anyone who knows or works with older adults who would benefit from a technology bundle to work with the AAAs and CCUs to submit a referral. Eckert shared that he knows 3,500 people have benefited from this program since it was started, and we want to get more out.

Money Follows the Person

Mike Berkes shared that Money Follows the Person (MFP) has not been operating for several years, but the Department has been working with HFS to seek additional funds and have applied and been approved to move forward with MFP 2.0. HFS is going through planning in FY23 to launch MFP 2.0 in 2024. The Department is working very closely with HFS to put some language together for the new operational protocol. John Eckert and Melissa Schackel in our planning team have been at the front of this work. We are excited about the second version, and we are doing a good review and looking at the history. Eckert added that we have 4 CCUs that agreed to provide this 4-year pilot that will start in January 2024. He shared that our goal is to learn and potentially build a waiver service trying to transition individuals out so they can go back into the community with support. CCSI will provide this program in several counties in Central IL; Alternatives in PSA 03; ECCOA in several counties in their larger population; and Shawnee in several counties where they have several hospitals, nursing homes and large population based. This will cover 22 counties covered of the 102 counties in the state in 5 planning service areas.

Bridge Demonstration Project

John Eckert shared that we have talked about the Coordinated Care Alliance (CCA) Bridge Enhanced Transition Demonstration Project for several years and now we are looking at getting some funding, it has been approved in the states aging fiscal year FY24 budget. It is going to be with CCA, Center for Health and Social Care Integration (CHaSCI), Rush University Medical Center. He shared that the Bridge piece is a way to identify and assess people to follow up going back to the community; basically, Enhanced Choices using the Bridge model. It will also be getting the Medicare Chronic Care Management. Individuals that are high risk and are on Medicare will be able to be followed when they go back into the community and get this enhanced transition in place, and we will also make sure that a percentage of individuals on Medicaid are included in this pilot. Deputy Director Becky Dragoo shared that she is excited with everything the team is doing and she thinks it is important that we push to the extent we can all these models that are different and provide Comprehensive Care as we move forward. We know that our older adult population is growing, and this is such an important place to be in collaboration. Paul Bennet asked how this would interface with people who are in managed care. Eckert shared that we were not going to identify MCO folks in this pilot. Deputy Director Dragoo shared that one thing we can keep in mind is that as we move forward with this model, we can glean some good results and apply it forward. We need to understand the evidence and how the program serves older adults with a goal of expanding if it is successful. For the first year we will select 2 CCUs to take the lead and may expand to four in subsequent years.

Records Retention Policy

John Eckert provided an updated on the Record Retention and Destruction policy that is going to be available soon for our CCUs and various providers. Our planning and office of General Counsel divisions have been working on this policy and we will be requiring all our providers across all programs to retain records for a minimum of 6 years. We are also looking at a process for any paper that does not need to be a copy, that can be completed electronically. Any files that are 6 years or younger we will go ahead and let them convert those into a PDF archiving format. We are hoping this alleviates the storage issue that many of our providers are having with storage spaces full of boxes. Providers will have to fill out an attestation form saying they have X number of boxes from year XX to year XX with X number of cases and share it with our general counsel and they will run them through the Secretary of State for approval. Once the form is approved by the Secretary of State the provider will have 14 days to make sure they are destroyed. The Department has a nice chart and we have decided to start with providers. We do have significant guidance from the Secretary of State to make sure we are following the process. Sarah Carlson from legal added that we appreciate everyone's patience with this because it is more than just the general counsel, even more than just the Secretary of State, and we are stuck with what they gave us in terms of the State Record Retention Act. Paul Bennett asked what the providers are attesting to. Eckert responded that they are attesting to what they are saying is being destroyed; we want someone that can physically open the box and confirm that it is X number of cases. He also shared that this would include former contractors and we are also in the process of including this if someone were to stop providing services for the state, we want to make sure that they properly back out of it and just don't walk away and ensure that we have evidence that documents were properly secured and/or destroyed.

CCP Eligibility Requirements

Paul Bennett asked about the changing eligibility requirements for CCP assets. Deputy Director Becky Dragoo responded that yes, that is the case, HFS has proposed that the asset limits for older adults' eligibility for Medicaid are now coming in line with the those under the Community Care Program and will be increased to \$17,500. The good news is that many older adults and

individuals that have been previously ineligible for Medicaid benefits will be now. Deputy Director Becky Dragoo confirmed that CMS has approved this increase in assets and asked everyone to stay tuned for updates. Bennett stated that it seems that a lot more people will need to apply for Medicaid. Deputy Director agreed with Bennett.

Public Health Emergency Unwinding

Deputy Director Becky Dragoo shared that with the AAA's there is some unwinding of the Public Health Emergency there as well. Particularly with the two meals for home delivered meals and some of the flexibilities we had under the PHE for nutrition requirements and around home delivered meals and congregate dining. Some lessons were learned during COVID, and we still have an abundance of older adults that are reluctant to return to congregate dining sites out of fear. Our AAAs were trying to do some good work and bring our older adults back because we know that dining in that congregate setting helps relieve and mitigate against social isolation. Our AAAs are in the process of revising their area plans. We also have a lot of good work and initiatives going on with the AAAs around caregivers and support for caregivers.

Review/approve Agenda for February 27, 2023, Full OASAC Meeting:

John Eckert asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the February meeting. David Olsen made the motion and Sherry Barter-Hamlin seconded. All were in favor and the agenda was approved. We will have presentations on the Colbert/Williams Consent Decrees, Colbert Pilot, Long Live IL Campaign, and Jason Speaks.

Other Issues & Announcements:

None.

Motion to Adjourn:

John Eckert asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Olsen made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Paul Bennett seconded. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously at 2:36 p.m.