Illinois Department on Aging

JB Pritzker, Governor
Mary Killough, Acting Director

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Older Adult Services Advisory Committee
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2025

<u>OASAC Executive Committee Members in Attendance</u>
Sherry Barter-Hamlin – The Voyage Senior Living
Paul Bennett, Citizen member over the age of 60
Topaz Gunderson-Schweska, Molina Managed Care
Linda Hubbartt - ECCOA
June M. McKoy, MD – Northwestern University, Gerontology
Susan Real, East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Gustavo Saberbein, Family Caregiver
Ex-Officio Committee Members in attendance:
Mary Killough, CHAIR – Director, Department on Aging
Brandi Haberland for Lisa Gregory, VICE CHAIR – Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Erin Rife, VICE CHAIR – Department of Public Health

<u>OASAC Members in Attendance:</u>
Erik Hanson, Corbin McGhee

<u>State Staff in Attendance</u>
IDoA: John Eckert, Fabian Eghiabumhe, Sophia Gonzalez, Derek Hedges, Iris Huber, Carrie Marcy, Sandy Pastore, T'Kira Siler-Wilkerson, and Beth Skeeters, Amy Wiater-Rodriguez.

AGENDA ITEMS

<u>Call to Order & Introductions</u>
John Eckert welcomed members to the meeting. Announcement that Lisa Gregory is not able to attend today's meeting, but Brandi Haberland will be sitting in for her today. John Eckert and asked for a motion to call the meeting to order. Linda Hubbartt, made the motion, seconded by Gustavo Saberbein. John Eckert called for a vote on the motion, all approved and the meeting was called to order.

<u>Review & Approval of the Executive Meeting Minutes from April 7, 2025, and July 14, 2025</u>
John Eckert asked if there were any additions or corrections for the April 7th minutes that were provided for review prior to the meeting. Sherry Barter-Hamlin made a motion to accept the minutes and Linda Hubbartt seconded. John Eckert called for a vote on the motion, all approved and the April 7th Executive Committee Meeting minutes were approved.

John Eckert asked if there were any additions or corrections for the July 14th minutes that were provided for review prior to the meeting. Gustavo Saberbein made a motion to accept the minutes and Linda Hubbartt seconded. John Eckert called for a vote on the motion, all approved and the April 7th Executive Committee Meeting minutes were approved.

Public Comments

None

Review Final Draft of OASAC Bylaws

John Eckert facilitated the review of the bylaws document that was provided for review prior to the meeting. We will have IDoA's Legal Office review prior to bringing to the November 17th meeting for a final review and vote by the membership. Feedback from the committee members were favorable, specially that it now is a document that reads well. Paul Bennett had a recommendation regarding the Executive Committee making it two paragraphs, starting with all appointments and the verbiage needs some clarification.

Review Status of OASAC CY 25 Rebalancing & HCBS Priority Areas Document

John Eckert presented the review and status of the OASAC CY 25 Rebalancing & HCBS Priority Areas Document: Colbert-Williams is due for an update. Continue to work and improve on the data driven piece. Illinois continues to make great progress growth in dementia friendly communities We continue to address social isolation through Illinois Care Connections Grants. Housing remains a priority and the new Multi-Sector Plan on Aging and Erik Hanson our representative from the Illinois Housing Development Authority. We continue to work in the Managed care organizations. Continuing to ensure the client's needs are being met. Money Follows the Person is scheduled this month, with 4 CCU's in 10-12 counties in a handful of nursing facilities, using federal dollars to pay for the full-time transition coordinator. Subcommittees: continue to look at workforce issues, we do have a grant with RUSH Center for Excellence on Aging, who will be presenting at the IDoA Conference at a roundtable. Conversations with NIU trying to expand their curriculum to identify professionals to work in the aging fields. Continuing updates from various committee members, November Erik Hanson will talk about the DRS waiver and Molly his Deputy Director is going to talk about their other home services programs. PACE development, there are a few new sites that will be updated for the annual report. Persons who are Elderly Waiver, preparing the five-year update and looking to adding remote assessment and a couple other items.

Discuss member speakers for OASAC meeting November 17, 2025

John Eckert discussed that Erik Hanson and folks from the Home Services Program have been asked to present at the November meeting, but also asked the group for ideas and thoughts for additional speakers. Sandy Pastore mentioned the Illinois Treasurer's Office, as they have information on financial literacy tools, Illinois Secure Choice for employers that don't offer a 401k, and a couple other programs, including iCash and will follow-up with a point of contact. Director Killough has been meeting with a group from UIC and suggested that since this group worked as a Subcommittee to give recommendations for the Summits, that an update on this might be a good topic for a speaker.

Discuss formation of Medication Safety Workgroup

John Eckert discussed that Adam Bursua was not able to attend today's meeting, therefore this discussion has been postponed.

Preparation for the CY 25 OASAC Report to the General Assembly

John Eckert discussed that the report will be an updated version of the last year's report that was well received.

Discuss and Approve the agenda for the OASAC Meeting November 17, 2025

John Eckert discussed the agenda draft for the November 17th meeting. Sue Hughes has submitted her resignation at the end of her term, and we do have a recommendation for her replacement. The fall veto session includes an amendment to the Older American Services Act to remove the Parish Nurse position that we have been unable to fill and has been a recurring audit item. There was a discussion regarding which date to place on the agenda for the 3rd quarter meeting and it was decided to utilize the August date as September is the end of the quarter. John Eckert asked for a motion to approve the draft agenda with the changes discussed. Susan Real made the motion, seconded by Linda Hubbartt seconded. John Eckert called for a vote on the motion, all approved and the OASAC meeting agenda for November 17, 2025, was approved.

Other Issues and Recommendations

My name is Amy Wiatr-Rodriguez, and I wanted to introduce myself to those of you that I don't yet know me yet. I started 1 August as the new division manager for Home and Community Services (HCBS) with the Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA). I'm coming to IDoA from Administration for Community Living (ACL) at the federal level where I was at for 18 years. I was actually kind of the liaison to Illinois for many of those years to the Illinois Department on Aging, working on Older Americans Act and other programs. Prior to being at the federal level, I was employed at Age Options, so familiar with the Illinois Aging Network But certainly getting caught up on a lot of things that, that have transpired since I was last working in in Illinois. So I look forward to working with and meeting you. I'll be at the IDoA Conference next week and hope to to see many of you in person that I haven't yet connected with. So that's one update. And then 2nd update that I don't know if it was shared at this meeting, but I can share that our Federal State Plan on Aging, the plan that's required for our Federal Older Americans Act Funds, did receive approval 30 September. So our federal colleagues got that approval issued to us right before the shutdown activity, so we're grateful for that and now the real fun begins because now we get to implement that plan. So we'll look forward to sharing more information with you all as we move into an implementation space. Just as a reminder, it's a three-year plan, so it's federal fiscal year 2026-2028. We have three main goals and John, you alluded to some of those when you were reviewing priorities, but the goals are: For a statewide visibility of the aging network, continuous quality assurance and improvement activities that are person centered while maximizing effectiveness and increasing public awareness and knowledge of caregiver needs as well as resources and services available to promote increased engagement and person centered trauma informed, and evidence based programs and services.

Motion to Adjourn

John Eckert asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sherry Barter Hamlin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Linda Hubbartt. John Eckert called for a vote on the motion to adjourn. All approved and the meeting was adjourned.