



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: August 22, 2022, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Call in: Dial: #1-415-655-0002 Access code: 245 186 44644#, then press # again

WebEx: Please see Outlook invite for Video Option

IN ATTENDANCE:

OASAC Committee Members

Director Paula A. Basta – Department on Aging
Sherry Barter Hamlin – The Voyage Senior Living
Paul Bennett – Citizen over the age of 60
Meghan Carter – Legal Council for Health Justice
Theresa Collins – Senior Services Plus Inc.
Tracey Colagrossi - Association of Illinois Senior Centers
Suzanne Courtheoux – Ombudsman Association- Legal Aid Chicago
Cindy Cunningham – Illinois Adult Day Services Association
Topaz Gunderson-Schweska – Molina Healthcare of Illinois
Lori Hendren – AARP Illinois
Kathy Honeywell – North Shore Senior Center
Linda Hubbartt – Effingham City-County Committee on Aging
Susan Hughes – UIC Community Health Sciences School of Public Health
Sara Jean Lindholm– Citizen over the age of 60
Michael Koronkowski – UIC College of Pharmacy
Dave Lowitzki – SEIU HealthCare – Illinois and Indiana
John Larson– Cantata Adult Life Services
Sharon Manning – Family Caregiver
Jay Mukoyama – The Clare
David Olsen – Alzheimer Association Illinois Chapter
Kimberly Palermo – Illinois Healthcare Association
Sara Ratcliffe – Illinois Home Care and Hospice Council
Susan Real – East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Walter Rosenberg – Rush University Medical Center
Gustavo Saberbein – Family Caregiver
Jason Speaks – Leading Age IL

Ex-officio Committee Members:

Sheila Baker – Department of Public Health
Gwen Diehl – Department of Veterans Affairs
Robin Morgan (for Kelly Cunningham) – Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Mari Money (for Christopher B. Meister) - Illinois Finance Authority
Kelly Richards – State Long Term Care Ombudsman
Evan Ponder (for Megan Spitz) – Illinois Housing Development Authority
Lyle VanDeventer – Department of Human Services

Department on Aging staff:

Mike Berkes, Amy Brown, Sarah Carlson, Selma D'Souza, John Eckert, Sophia Gonzalez, Sarah Harris, Jennifer Hebel, Amy Lulich, Lora McCurdy, Theresa McKeon, Lee Moriarty, Katherine Ostrowski, Sandy Pastore, Chelsy Peters, Michael Sartorius, Iris Schweier, and LaRhonda Williams

GUESTS:

Brycie Kochuyt and Peter Byer

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**OASAC Committee Members**

June McKoy - Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Jacqueline Rodriguez – SEIU HealthCare – Illinois and Indiana
Ancy Zacharia – Home Care Physicians

Welcome and Introductions:

Director Paula Basta welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for joining the call. Sophia Gonzalez called off the members and guests appearing on WebEx and all other callers were asked to identify themselves.

Call to Order:

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

Approve minutes from the Full OASAC meeting on May 16, 2022:

John Eckert asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2022 meeting. David Olsen made the motion and Sara Jean Lindholm seconded. No additions or corrections were noted. The minutes were approved unanimously by members and will be posted to the Department website.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

CCP Enhanced FMAP Incentive Feedback/Discussion on New Services:

Mike Berkes shared that the Department wants to get feedback from advisory groups and stakeholders on how the FMAP incentive funds will be used for new services. Lora McCurdy added that it is a federal requirement that Department requests feedback from stakeholders and advisory groups like OASAC whenever we amend the Persons who are Elderly Waiver. Some of the new services that are being looked at are assistive technology, home modifications/minor repairs and a fall detection option, which is an added technology and a GPS allowance to the current EHRS service. The Department learned from IL Care Connections, ESS, and the Flexible Senior Services program assistive technology is needed and should be covered as a Waiver service along with home modifications/minor repairs. Berkes added that EHRS has been around for a long time, and it is connected to a land line and the GPS functionality will allow our participants to leave their home and still have access to this service. The Department has started those discussions with HFS the State Medicaid agency, and we are excited because the fall detection enhancement will have positive outcomes for those who struggle to go out. Berkes also shared that the Department is working on definitions and a legal rule for these new services.

Mike Berkes reminded everyone about Appendix K which allowed for remote assessments and provisions with COVID. Appendix K also allowed flexibilities for our service providers, legally responsible family members were allowed to become home care aides and allowed for additional service expansion. Feedback was requested from the members. Lora McCurdy noted that this is a good opportunity to ask questions on what you would like to see. Linda Hubbartt thanked to the Department for providing ESS funds to create a safety environment for older adults and noted they have added grab bars and made other home modifications with those funds.

Paul Bennett asked if there is a ceiling amount being proposed for the home modifications or if the Department is thinking of doing something like what is available with DRS. Lora McCurdy responded that Jenifer Hebel has researched what other states are doing and the Department has not come up with a dollar amount. Thoughts or suggestions were welcomed. Mike Berkes shared that the FMAP reinvestment spending plan is \$7.5-8 MIL in

general when we amend. John Eckert added that we are thinking about that several thousand dollars per project, but it will also involve someone doing an assessment and drawing schematics as part of it. There will be several steps to it, but we will try to do some good size projects. McCurdy asked Bennett if he had any thoughts. Bennett shared that he would need to think about it and added that an amount that would be allowed in the state budget but also covered something if it was done. He shared that during the public hearings for the area plans he heard the need is there, but it costs for someone to come out to your home to do something and there is a minimal amount that needs to be allocated. Sara Jean Lindholm shared that best practices may not be a good idea. Lyle Vandeventer shared that he is glad to hear that both home and assisted technology will be added. He stated that they have been doing this for years and he has the responsibility in central support to monitor all the high-cost projects about \$5,000 or more come across his desk to be reviewed. An assessment needs to be done and they contract with two providers to do these assessments. One of these providers is at UIC on Assistive technology and the other in Springfield is the Illinois Assistive Technology Program. He offered to walk Aging through the process. The Department will reach out to Vandeventer to schedule a meeting. Bennett suggested to build a system to track those dollars over a period and if a person changes care coordinators there is a tracking of what dollars have been spent.

Brycie Kochuyt shared that they have some experience with home modifications their caregiver supplemental funds and if a caregiver needs something done in the homes to better care for their loved ones, they can use the funds that way. She added that they make sure they get three bids from to review and determine which one best meets the person's need but many times it has to do with costs. She asked if CCUs will need to contract with these entities and noted that there will be a need for Department parameters because most remodeling's are expensive. Amy Lulich responded that there is a lot of information out there and the Department will try to rely on how DRS contracts. She added that it is anticipated there will be RFP contracting. The Department confirmed that home modifications would be a stand-alone service. Eckert added that a second pendant would be provided to each participant for additional safety.

UIC College of Pharmacy Presentation:

Mike Koronkowski shared that he would be sharing slides that will hopefully provide an overarching view of his perspective at the UIC College of Pharmacy and where they might intersect or impact Aging. He shared that most of slides are pictures because pictures tell stories. He shared that UIC College of Pharmacy is one of six in Illinois. Demonstration work is how state agencies, government entities, a community-based organizations can collaborate, interact, and align with the academic medical units in a variety of ways because we know that working together is better. The mission of UIC College of Pharmacy's has a five-point mission that includes education, research, innovation, leadership, and collaboration. Health care providers. He shared some fun facts that include the College of Pharmacy working with Navy Pier, Pharmacognosy and the Morton Arboretum College of Pharmacy partners with many others and tries to help in any way they can. Koronkowski shared that with the College of Pharmacy worked to develop vaccines and added that in IL 41% got the vaccine and we could do better. He stated that collaborations are instrumental, and they are working with the Chicago Department of Public Health to maximize vaccinations.

Mike Koronkowski additionally noted that the HRSA Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program and Engage IL worked to develop age friendly systems and disseminate trainings and informational materials for both professionals and older adults. Among other programs are the Chicago Commons wellness and safety Primary Care outputs and deliverables, develop Dementia-Friendly programming and impactful training for age friendly communities, collaborating with the City and the Chicago Department of Housing Authority, and Consent Decrees dementia friendly prisons. They are learning from success stories from other states and have developed guides for Caregivers, dementia expert guides to help caregivers' day to day. They also have the GWEP online curriculum for providers and caregivers, that includes 32 online modules for continuing education. The Senior Center Wellness Program, now that the senior centers are beginning to open, they have the 4 M's screen program (what Matters; Medication; Mentation; Mobility) that screens over 200 seniors a month. CMS has expanded funding for virtual check-ins and primary care doctors are learning that increased touch points are very meaningful. They have developed a scholar & leaders' program in their professional Geriatrics and have trained over 80 students.

John Eckert shared questions from the chat before opening to any presentation questions. Paul Bennett asked what everyone is hearing about the 5th vaccination. Koronkowski responded that from his perspective there will be

more boosters coming in September. There was also a question about Koronkowski reaching out to directly after the affordable housing development developers to talk about the Dementia work and housing. Koronkowski agreed and stated that they have been working with the Chicago Department of Housing and there are some programs that they work through the Housing and urban Development at a national level. They are trying to push the forums nationally through the Institute for Health Care Improvement. They are trying to raise the stakes by creating what is called Aged-Friendly villages to keep the seniors engaged.

Mike Koronkowski also stated that he knows that Sandy Pastore is working on a high school curriculum to try to prepare people at a younger age to pair with careers in Geriatrics. There is a need to try and get diversity because what we do know is that most older adults, what their touch points and want those who serve them to look, and sound like them. Lee Moriarty from the Ombudsman Resident & Family Support Council shared that they meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month and will be meeting tomorrow at 3pm to talk about understanding what drugs you're on and what they are for. More information can be found on the Ombudsman website page. Koronkowski shared that there is a legislation on a policy that will cap medications at \$2,000 out of pocket cost for older adults. John Eckert noted up that flu shots in Illinois have been dropping and it seems to be that vaccinations have been politicized. Koronkowski shared that one of the challenges with vaccines is that they are not as effective as we say they are, and nothing is 100%. How do you convince someone they have to understand that it protects them? Koronkowski asked everyone to contact him if anyone thinks they can think intersect. **(PPT attached)**

Department Updates:

Legislative Special Session Update

Katherine Ostrowski shared that there will not be a special session. The veto session will be from November 15th-17th and November 29th- December 15th. Aging doesn't have any initiatives for the veto session. There is one APS related, three Ombudsman related that would impact Aging but are under our sister agencies and we will be meeting with the Governors office.

Budget/Fiscal

Sarah Harris, CFO shared that as this the end of the year we are soon coming to the end of being able to turn bills in. For anyone that is aware of any bills that need to be submitted, they need to be in tomorrow by 4pm. Fiscal also shared that there is an issue with rejects under CCP. There are about \$12 MIL rejecting and there is a lot of pressure for the upcoming fiscal year. Perhaps there is a need to work together between the CCUs and the providers, a communication issue. Fiscal is moving forward with the FY23 budget submission and new services. We will be receiving extensions for the federal grants so we can spend the money.

ARPA Funding Implementation

Sandy Pastore shared that with the ARPA funding has been used for the expansion of nutrition services across the state, reducing waitlists, and getting rid of waitlists in most areas across the state. They have also been able to buy additional transportation to get meals out and offering more choices of meals including ethnic meals and medically tailored meals. For the high-risk folks, they are also getting an additional meal, either a shelf stable meal or frozen meals. These funds are allowing us to expand T-Care. In PSA 07 they are having a food day once a week and hoping to get people to come out and congregate and get together. Ethnic food trucks have been purchased to help provide different kinds of meals. Chelsey Peters added that the funding is through September 2024.

Ongoing Vaccination Outreach Activities

Lora McCurdy asked Amy Lulich about the coordination with IDPH on the new outreach campaign. Lulich shared that last Monday at the Senior Day at the State Fair the new COVID campaign, Long Live IL, will launch with different vaccination efforts. These efforts include tool kits, taking pictures, messages, and social media posts to promote vaccination for older adults. Post cards that can also be printed, posters were launched last week.

IDoA Virtual Conference September 29, 2022

Mike Berkes shared that the Department put out an IFB for a face-to-face conference and no vendor came back and there is no venue for October. As an alternative to a face-to-face conference, the Department will be holding a one-day virtual conference to cover topics on how to support healthy aging. We will have presenters from Public Health, Mental Health, Behavioral Health, and Fall Prevention as we look to adding this to the Waiver. We will also have a presenter from Rush to discuss the importance of data and understanding the analysis that you do and obtaining meaningful program outcomes. Save the date: September 29th and stay tuned. Berkes additionally noted that he and the training team continue to meet with the procurement team to alter the previous IFB and hoping that we can have a large conference in May 2023.

Health Benefit Coverage for Immigrant Adults Aged 42 through 64 Years

Amy Lulich shared that the Health Benefit Coverage for Immigrant Adults aged 42 through 64 years old enrollment started and there is a lot of efforts out there to get the word out to this population. An update was provided during the last HFS Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) meeting. Enrollment for the age 55-64 age group there are 5,327 persons ever enrolled since the program started and it has resulted in \$14 MIL in claims. Lora McCurdy stated that maybe we could hear from HFS, or DRS and we can ask a representative from HFS for the next meeting.

Other Issues & Announcements:

John Eckert shared that Illinois was one of the five states awarded Money Follows the Person (MFP) funds, it is up to \$5 MIL and will have 18 months to design and flesh out the program. It was HFS that applied and will lead the program, and it will allow Aging to higher positions to help run the program. Once we see the copy of the award we can share. Again, it's going to take eighteen months for HFS to work with the other state partners to flesh out what the parameters for the program and look at how it will look and operate in Illinois. The Department is happy to see it come back. Lee Moriarty asked if Ombudsman would be involved with MFP and Eckert confirmed that they will be helping people that may have problems when they are trying to move out of nursing facilities and not cooperating with paperwork.

Lora McCurdy stated that during the next meeting we will invite Lisa Gregory to talk about the Pace Program, we can send out the press release to let you know who was selected.

Susan Hughes shared that FIT & Strong has received funding by IDPH through ARPA funds, they received 750 thousand dollars to spread Fit & Strong. She shared that she is very excited, and this has taken a tremendous amount of work to get a contract with UIC. Hughes will send a fact sheet to share with OASAC. Director Basta congratulated Hughes and thanked everyone who is doing this work.

Motion to Adjourn

John Eckert asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting; Dr. June McKoy made a motion and Mike Koronkowski seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15p.m.