

**Minutes of the Meeting of
the Illinois Long-Term Care Council
April 16, 2013**

Voting Members Present: John England, Ann Ford, Director John Holton, Stephen Iden, Margaret Niederer, Sally Petrone, and Tami Wacker

Voting Members Present via Conference Call: Phyllis Mitzen

Voting Members Absent: Pat Comstock, Tony DelGiorno, Eva Hall, Myrtle Klauer, Wayne Smallwood, and Dave Vinkler

State Agency Representatives Present: Mary Riseling, MSGT Todd Trautvetter, Doree Vetter, and Kitty Watson

Guests and Others Present: Erin Davis with IDoA, Dr. Gerardi with Aetna, Neyna Johnson, Kristin Murphy with Illini Care (via conference call), and Colleen Morley-Wines with Meridian

Recorder: Kathy Seketa

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Call to order: Tami Wacker, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

The meeting was opened with introductions of attendees and guests.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – Steve Iden made a motion to accept the January 15, 2013 minutes with three changes – taking Robyn O’Neals name off the list, adding Pat Comstock to the “Voting members Absent” and deleting “Action Item” from Margaret Niederer’s motion under OLD BUSINESS. Ann Ford seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Later in the meeting it was determined that there was not a quorum, meaning voting on addenda items were prohibited. As such, the motion to approve the January 15, 2013 minutes is void.

STATE AGENCIES REPORTS

Kitty Watson Illinois Treasurer’s Office - Kitty was asked about the web. She said the list of acronyms is on the IDoA website.

Tami asked if all membership lists have been updated and minutes posted. Sally Petrone said they were; but she needed to check about the Public Forum document.

Doree Vetter IDVA – Doree stated she had nothing to report; there has been no progress; they have not received funding as of yet.

MSGT Todd Trautvetter ISP – Todd stated that ISP just hired two investigators; they are looking to bring seven more on board within the next six months. He stated that they may have up to nine investigators retiring within the next four years.

Todd mentioned that, in the light of the recent bombing at the Boston Marathon, the public needs to report anything that looks suspicious.

Todd was asked if they have any published figures on recouping/savings from the number of cases they have handled. Todd said he was in the process of preparing an annual report which he would share when it is completed.

Tami asked what ISP was doing differently with Managed Care starting up; Todd said they are educating themselves on it.

Sally asked what Brad Harts' responsibilities are as OIG for DHS. Todd said he is a Personal Assistant to the program. They are looking into abuses of the system-the rules are loose and open. 60% of the fraud is the point/scores for how many hours are determined that a person is eligible for...staff is being paid way over minimum wage. Todd said the hot zones are St. Clair and Winnebago counties and East St. Louis. He said they have seen a lot of cases where the doctor signs off on services without even seeing the patient.

Neyna asked if there was an abuse registry; Todd said not at this time. Todd stated that each office has its own policies; there needs to be something put in the statutes to create uniformity.

Tami said she has seen residents that did not really need to be in a nursing home, but they wanted to be in – Medicaid recipients but no medical condition.

Dr. Gerardi, Aetna, said he was involved in the Colbert case in Chicago. He predicted that the more investigations that are done, the more they are going to see people receiving unneeded services, and these cases will quickly become high profile cases.

Tami stated that, as an advocate, she can't really report someone who is receiving unneeded services. Todd said a person should step away from the politics and, as a citizen, say "this is wrong".

Director Holton, IDoA, stated that a lot of people have taken advantage of the program. He has seen it as a systemic explosion, notably with having a clients child being the paid caregiver. Director Holton said discussions with HFS estimate 2/3 of those receiving Medicaid should not be getting it-not in need of it. They are taking funds from someone who is in need.

Ann Ford stated that sometimes in an effort to save money for the program, a caseworker may have to cut hours off a needy person. Sometimes the client understands the appeal process and sometimes they don't. Dr. Gerardi said their goal is to address such issues.

Margaret asked if the Council had sufficient information to ask for more police in Todd's area. Todd said ISP has 61 investigators – mandated by law – geographically placed per the numbers.

Margaret asked Dr. Gerardi, "If a CCU who is not from Managed Care makes an assessment, would you be able to go in and say, "that is not the right number"?" Dr. Gerardi said they do not make the plan decision; they can appeal the decision.

Steve mentioned rumors at a DHS office which stated the need to reduce the DON score to get some of the less needy clients off the books.

Tami asked Dr. Gerardi how many special investigators they have; he said they have a Unit – no investigators. They scan information and look for patterns. There was discussion on thresholds of Prosecutors offices for having a payment stopped. Todd said that the criteria varies within the state-with the attorneys, etc. for determination of action. Dr. Gerardi said Eatna can terminate a plan.

Mary Riseling, Secretary of State(SOS)

Mary talked about new legislation regarding disability placards and license plates. Right now if a person has a placard, they can park free at parking meters. With the new legislation, only certain colors will qualify for the meter exemption (yellow and gray). The requirements to have meter exemption include, owning a valid drivers' license, confined to an assistive device so you have no or minimal use of both arms (can't raise arms over 42 inches), and can't walk unassisted more than 20 feet. Mary stated that starting May, 2013, SOS will start recertification training – batches of 50,000 every 18 days. She stated that the penalties for misuse of the placards will also be increased. She said nothing has changed with temporaries; they are not meter-exempt. (There were two handouts.)

Doree asked if a person with a handicapped plate must also have a placard; the answer was “yes”.

State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program Report – MFP - Neyna Johnson stated that the CMS contract for MFP has been extended through 2016. There have been 234 nursing home consultations between January – March, 2013 (848 to date) and 507 individual consultations (2,101 to date).

Online referral submissions to HFS is up and running – appears to be working out well. The number of referrals has increased. HFS is still working to improve the on-line form. They anticipate increased efficiency of monitoring as they improve the timeliness of follow-ups and TC completing accurate and timely documentation. HFS has a mandated policy of 10 business days maximum for follow-up.

Neyna said HFS is going to hold more training – the next Webinar training will be on “Documentation”; the last training was on Mental Illness.

Concern was raised on how MCO will change the look and face for when the resident returns to the nursing home for rehab – Community-based versus nursing home non-Medicaid. The rehab patient has to show progress for continued coverage. The Community-based method has the DON score performed by IDoA or DRS; but the new system will have the MCO doing the evaluation to determine the services to place. October is the date for serving dual eligibles.

HFS has a contract with three CILS to work on transitions.

Colbert - Neyna provided an update. Aetna and Centene received MCO contracts. Notices were sent to families and plaintiffs. One for MFP will also be produced. A new Colbert video is being developed and will be filmed in Chicago using current MFP residents, UIS-Spfld. staff, and MC and TC Coordinators.

Transition Engagement Specialists are being hired to support Aging Disabilities Resource Centers/Network's (Chicago) role as a cross disability single point of entry to long-term supports and services for older adults and people with disabilities, and strengthen the collaboration between the ADRCs and IL MFP. Currently there are seven ARDC's in PSA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 & 13.

HUD – Neyna reported that the Governor announced a 12 million dollar HUD award to advance supportive living efforts in IL. This grant will help people with disabilities to live independently in apartments designed for special needs and financial needs across the state, and rental property owners to house tenants with extremely low incomes. (A handout was distributed.)

Death Review Teams, Sexual Assault Teams, Fatality Review Teams –Per a request from the last meeting, Tami sent an e-mail regarding clarification of the teams. She read a response from Darlene Harney – The first two mentioned are the same team – they review cases of both deaths and sexual assaults. DPH-LTC does not have a “Fatality Review Team”.

Tami read a e-mail response from Teri Berriman regarding DPH’s Abuse Prevention Review Team, which was based on “Brian’s Law” (405 ILCS 82/) Developmental Disability and Mental Health Safety Act. There are two teams in Illinois – one North and one South. Effectiveness of the Team is determined by the number of reviews and action that come from the reviews. They do not review all abuse cases; they review samplings of sexual assault and death cases to determine patterns and possible solutions. They put on trainings and make recommended regulatory changes to the Director of their agency.

Erin Davis, IDoA’s new Legal Service Developer, (took over Lee Beneze’s position), was introduced. She stated she will be attending a meeting with Senator Steans to put language into bill format which will expand authority to allow Ombudsmen to go into the community.

Margaret stated that she would hope that AARP would support such a bill. She recommended that the ILTCC write the Federal government to put into Federal law to give Ombudsmen independence. Tami stated that funding would have to be attached with the expansion of the Ombudsman role.

LEGISLATION

Tami went over a list of bills:

HB1540 –addresses a Resident Representative maintaining a list of who has access to the residents room and the residents financial accounts. There was no provision for access rights of the resident. Language changes to be addressed included “Vulnerable” rather than “elderly”. Sally Petrone testified; the bill did not move – it died.

SB1292 – requires each retirement system to establish a policy with the goal of increasing the racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of its fiduciaries, update the goals annually, and submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly by September 1 of each year.

HB1584 - grants power to fiduciaries to take control of digital accounts – to continue, or terminate any accounts of a person or estate to whom he owes a fiduciary duty on any social networking website, microblogging or short message service website, or electronic mail service website unless such actions are contrary to the express provisions of the will, trust instrument, power of attorney, or court order creating the fiduciary powers.

HB2350 – refers to live scan fingerprinting. It supports the idea of the State having one Contract for everyone – one set fee for everyone.

HB 2373 - amends the POA. Steve reported that the Bill is stalled at this point. Tami said ILTCC has a meeting with Rep. Tabares to look at the “theme” of the bill.

HB 2628 – requires nursing home to have electronic monitoring devices.

On the Senate side:

SB 1476 – amends the IL Nursing Home Act and the Home Care Act.

SB 2353 – amends the Nursing Home Act, the ID/DD Community Care Act, and the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act.

A handout was provided on the IALTCO Legislation – with positions listed.

NEW BUSINESS

Managed Care Organizations Report

Colleen Morley-Wines from Maridian – Colleen thanked everyone for the invite. She said Maridian is not live yet. The initial target areas will be East St. Louis and Peoria.

Kristin Murphy - Illini Care – Kristin stated their coverage areas are Rockford and the Quad Cities. She addressed how to handle appeals and concerns – let the Care Coordinator (CC) know the issues. The CC can help file an appeal/grievance or the person can handle it on their own.

Margaret asked if Managed Care has anyone going into Supportive Living or Adult Day Care. Dr. Gerardi, from Aetna, stated that they will go into any place under their authority.

Tami asked about member education – what type of LTC services are covered. Dr. Gerardi said they have a packet they go over at the initial assessment, and it's 2-3 hours in length. Six months is the given window to complete assessments; and the assessments are all face-to-face.

The questions was asked if there were internal teams to value quality control; Aetna responded that they will be doing 100% audits for the next couple months. They are also holding quarterly meetings.

ACTION ITEM- MCOs will provide contact lists of point-persons to call when problems arise. Sally Petrone said she would provide Regional LTCOP ROR contact lists to MCOs.

Other

The next meeting will be July 16, 2013 same place, same time.

Robyn O'Neill has resigned from the ILTCC.

It was noted that Kitty Watson, LTC Council member was not listed in the 2012 Governor's Conference Public Forum Booklet.

Margaret Niederer had questions about LTCOP goals and accomplishments.

A revised LTCOP Manual is still a work in process – was supposed to be finished in February, 2013.

It was mentioned that the LTC Advisory Board is part of the Open Meetings Act. Sally said she would provide notice of the next meetings.

Benchmarks–The Office has a contract with the Consumer Voice, Marea Greene to evaluate the FY2013 Program and recommend continuous quality improvement measures for the FY2014 Program benchmarks.

The LTCOP Level I training manual was revised over a year ago. The Level I online training has been in the works since July, 2012 and has faced major setbacks.

The Level II training and curriculum should be drafted and piloted by the Fall of 2013. Both training curriculums have been written by Grace Sweatt in collaboration with IALTCO and the Office.

Steve asked about timesheets – asking if ILTCC should be documenting their meeting times.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:52 pm.