



State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging

Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Executive Committee Meeting

Date: April 27, 2009

Attending: Stephanie Altman, Carol Aronson, Bill Bell, Dennis Bozzi, Kelly Cunningham, Flora Johnson, Robert Kilbury, Jonathan Lavin, Phyllis Mitzen, Nancy Nelson, Tara Peele, Susan Real, Cathy Weightman-Moore, Jean Summerfield, and John Eckert. **Staff:** Michael Gelder, Jan Cichowlas, James Miner (Intern) and Nicole Seyller (Intern). **Guests:** Sharon Post (SEIU).

Welcome and Introductions: Michael Gelder opened the meeting from Chicago.

Approval of the March 23 Minutes: Stephanie Altman moved to approve the minutes, and Nancy Nelson seconded the motion to approve the minutes. **Corrections:** Julie Hamos refers to a separate bill (not HB 366). This will be clarified in the minutes. The minutes were approved for March 23, 2009 with the noted correction.

Department Updates:

IDPH: In next year's budget beginning October, there will be a reinstatement of revisit fees and possibly a certification fee for providers. The fees will be used to fund the program to make up for the lack of funding increases from Congress. The estimate for revisit fee is \$2500. The estimate for re-certification is 11%, 22%, or 33%.

This revenue funds the states to perform federal certification activity. The recertification is a new revenue generating mechanism. This would result in \$1million to \$2 million to fund nursing homes across the state. This information was obtained at the annual CMF meeting in DC.

IDHFS: Much of the work has been budget-related recently. Phyllis Mitzen and Kelly Cunningham attended the National conference in Baltimore regarding Money Follows the Person (report below).

Solicitation for applications for the supportive living program was recently submitted. 74 applications were received (6 for people with disabilities). There are 113 supportive living facilities, and this number continues to grow. The dementia rule making creates a pilot program for up to 5 programs around the state. The programs can be new or added to existing programs. There is a comment period before the rule is finalized.

Many residents with dementia reside in the community; IDHFS wants to establish something geared toward this population to see how affective supporting living is as a service option.

IDHA: Illinois housing search is now online. In early June it will open for everyone to search for housing. It has been up for one week, and there are several postings on it. Response from Chicago Housing Authority and Cook County housing has been good.

If AAA's are willing, they could email their local contacts to spread the word about this site. Landlords are not required to be limited in the amount they can charge. There are guidelines to see what the rents are, but it should be available to all rentals. More stimulus housing funds were received.

IDHS: There are appropriation hearings tomorrow and again on Thursday. DHS received \$20 million in ARRA dollars to spend through a vocation program. DHS received an increase of \$25 million for personal care attendants. DHS will be short of providing services for about 1000 persons. There are a number of outliers in the program with service plans that exceed normal ranges. DHS intends to cut those down to the average service costs. By doing this, they think they can save approximately \$40 million. This should be enough to cover the potential losses.

IDoA: We had our House Appropriations Committee hearing before the two-week legislative break. The governor requested rate increases for homecare aids and helath insurance. The appropriation increase will not cover all the expected spending. The house committee asked us for projected budget scenarios of cutting \$40 million and \$80 million. The intention behind the exercise is for IDOA to anticipate and prepare for the loss of a tax increase. We can only cut rates, services, or clients. We have to consult with the general assembly to find out which combinations of those options would be best, as each has its own undesirable consequences. The aging network is interested in working on revenue enhancements to offset the shortages.

The economic recovery process has been a huge effort. Accountability for the funding of the recovery act requires that funds are spent according to the public's interests and federal intentions. The people needing nutrition help in the community will be receiving recovery funding. 2/3 of the dollars will be targeted for congregate meal services, and 1/3 for home delivered meal services. We have also received funds for older adult employment opportunities.

Instructions on spending and reporting have been delayed because Congress has not confirmed a secretary of HHS.

The governor appointed an outside group to look at Illinois state government. The Taxpayer Action Board will make suggestions for streamlining and saving state funds. John Stephen from the Lucas group is the chair of the Medicaid subcommittee and has been looking at our programs very closely. The members are very familiar with state government and the national Medicaid data for comparison purposes. If you have ideas or recommendations, you can go to the Taxpayer Action Board meetings.

Old Business:

The 2009 OASAC report was submitted to the General Assembly. This report is the guide for workgroup chairs and members to continue their work efforts this year. The Taxpayer Action Board received our report and complimented our long term care reform efforts. The 6 measures worked on last year seem to be right on target with their questions.

Agenda for the next meeting:

The next Full OASAC meeting is June 15 (not 6/8). We need the work groups to discuss their progress on the 6 measures set last year (goals, objectives, and progress).

Possible topics for discussion: (approximate time allotments for meeting discussion in parentheses)

- CCP waiver (discussing how AWAQ rules and regulations will affect CCP. This is considered a priority discussion topic. ? minutes)
- Housing search website (hand out ahead of time and then answer questions at meeting for 5 minutes)
- Veteran's Administration project (hand out ahead of time and then answer questions at meeting for 5 minutes)
- DON study addendum report (designate at least 30 minutes)
- Money Follows the Person update from Kelly Cunningham (hold off until September when some data has been generated; discuss for 5-10 minutes)
- Project 20/20 (less urgent)
- Budget in general (designate 30 minutes)
- Legislation (designate 30 minutes)
- Work group chairs (designate 60 minutes)

New Business:

Connecting people through technology:

The Central Management Services has a website which lists every video conference site which connects with our IVN system (the system used at IDoA). Check:
<http://bccs.illinois.gov/ivnsites/ivndirsearch.asp>

Overlapping Work group issues for 2009:

The workgroups will be more efficient through inter-communication. The workgroups are not meant to perpetuate the silo effect. They are meant to communicate, share, and come together in their common goals.

Jan Cichowlas will be sending an annotated 2009 OASAC report to the Workgroup Co-Chairs. This coded report will serve as a guide as to what goals/objective/measures should be addressed by which Workgroup. Some need to be addressed jointly by more than one Workgroup. Between this meeting and the next Executive meeting on May 11th, Workgroup Co-Chairs should review Jan's annotated report and come prepared to tell us how they are working in the areas that require overlap with other Workgroup, and what progress has been made.

Money Follows the Person:

Phyllis Mitzen and Kelly Cunningham attended the National Conference in Baltimore the 1st week in March. They learned that transitions are going slower in all states, not just Illinois. Illinois has proposed the highest number of persons for transition in the country. This helps explain why it is taking so long. Illinois is making progress. The DRS program has made some transitions. In an institutional setting, the length of stay is 6 to 24 months (6 months representing a minimum stay). Other states are struggling to find appropriate housing for transition residents. The rebalancing aspect of MFP requires that an enhanced match has to be spent on systemic rebalancing activity. The goal and intention is to focus on rebalancing the system rather than only the transitioning. Illinois has a fairly low threshold for nursing home placement compared to other states.

UIC College of Nursing offers an innovative part of the program, which was recognized by the federal members. Some of the quality improvement work we are working on will spill over into our work on MFP.

The DON Study:

Final touches are being added so it can be released to the General Assembly.

Workgroup Updates:

Services Workgroup:

Correction from last minutes: the comment in March about awaiting a report from Lucia on behalf of the AAAs was not accurate. There was no report forthcoming.

We met March 30. We have two reports ongoing. We have a medication management report ready for the next meeting. Our second issue paper will be ready soon. We spent most of our last meeting going over the DON study.

Finance Workgroup:

The next meeting is May 4. Nicole Seyller (IDoA graduate student intern from U-Chicago) is doing the bulk of health care reform and global financing research.

Workforce/Caregiver Workgroup:

Darby Anderson has four members working with him on objectives for 2009. Working with Alzheimer's Association is one of them. The group is working on a caregiver event down state. Next meeting is May 11.

Coordinated Point of Entry Workgroup:

The group met March 30. We have a plan for putting our set of standards together.

Nursing Home Conversion Workgroup:

The next meeting is April 28. We will meet with our new member from the policy side of the Dept of Public Health, Leticia Reyes. One of the cross over issues is respite. The group should have more information about what other states are doing on respite.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m., and legislative issues were discussed after the meeting adjourned, for those who wanted to participate.