

**Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Nursing Home Rate Review Workgroup Meeting
October 6, 2010**

401 South Clinton, Chicago, Illinois and 201 S. Grand Avenue East, Springfield

Members Present

Julie Hamos, Chair, Director, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Pat Comstock, Health Care Council of Illinois
Arnie Kanter, Barton Health Care
Dave Lowitzski, Service Employees International Union
Wendy Meltzer, Illinois Citizens for Better Care
Phyllis Mitzen, Health and Medicine Policy Research Group, MFP Client Advocate
Kirk Riva, Life Services Network of Illinois
Nancy Nelson representing Dave Vinkler, AARP

Members Absent

Director, Department of Human Services
Teresa Garate, Department of Public Health

Governor's Office

Michael Gelder
Amy Lulich

General Assembly Members/Staff

Douglas Adams, House Republican Staff
Melissa Black, Senate Democrat Staff
Kim Schultz, Senate Democrat Staff
John Slocum, House Republican Staff
Ashley Snavelly, House Republican Staff
Heather Steans, State Senate, 7th District

State Agency Staff

William Bell, Department of Public Health
Krista Butler, Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
Kelly Cunningham, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Theresa Eagleson, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Barb Ginder, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Rudi Hancock, Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Frank Kopel, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Brenda Hampton, Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health
Dennis R. Smith, Department of Healthcare and Family Services

Providers, Provider Associations, Advocates and Interested Parties

Stephanie Buck, Illinois Pioneer Coalition
Ann Ford, Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living
Susan Gardiner, Illinois Council on Long Term Care
Karen Gillis, Royal Management Company/Lexington Health Care
Donna Ginther, Health Care Council of Illinois
Monica Hammer, Alderman Mary Ann Smith's Office, Chicago
Mark Mroz, MADDO Health Care
Tim O'Brien, Fletcher, O'Brien, Kasper and Nottage
Kristen Pavle, Health and Medicine Policy Research Group
Andrea Perry, Royal Management Corporation/Lexington Health Care
Steven Serikaku, Community Renewal Society
Terry Steczo, County Nursing Homes
Terry Sullivan, Health Care Council of Illinois
Kevin Taylor, Health Care Council of Illinois
Jay Terry, Illinois Citizens for Better Care
Matt Werner, Matt Werner Consulting for Life Services Network
Greg Will, Service Employees International Union

1. Opening Remarks/Review and Approval of September 23, 2010 Minutes

The fifth meeting of the Nursing Home Rate Review Workgroup was called to order at 10:40am by Workgroup Chair, Julie Hamos. Minutes from the September 23, 2010 workgroup meeting were disseminated and approved.

2. Nursing Home Survey Overview by HCCIL

Pat Comstock presented a PowerPoint entitled, "Nursing Homes – What does the Public Really Think?" which summarized the results of two public opinion surveys of registered voters recently commissioned by HCCIL. The PowerPoint is posted on the nursing home safety web site and may be accessed at:
<http://www2.illinois.gov/nursinghomesafety/Documents/Rate%20Review%20Workgroup/NursingHomeSurveyPresentation%20100610.pdf>

The first survey, conducted in July, 2010 (automated, 1000 registered voters) queried individuals generally regarding their views and attitudes toward nursing homes. The second survey, conducted in August, 2010 (live interviews, 600 registered voters) was designed to capture a deeper level of information regarding specific factors which influence the public's perception of nursing homes.

3. Continued Discussion of Options

Chair Hamos recapped several recurring priorities presented by workgroup members, including funding quality, funding staffing ratios established in law and the MDS 3.0 process. Monica Hammer recommended that the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) adopt stronger and better enforcement mechanisms with regarding to nursing home regulation, resulting in a conversation regarding the current process, an overview of penalties established by the Nursing Home Safety Task Force legislation and the current status of IDPH nursing home surveyor hiring and costs. Chair Hamos invited discussion of additional revenue sources which might be tapped in order to fund workgroup priorities.

4. Framing of Required Report

Chair Hamos led a discussion of proposed options for framing the report due to the General Assembly by November 1, 2010. With respect to the provider assessment (i.e. bed tax), several phase-in scenarios were discussed, ranging from an overall delay of one year to allow for receipt and analysis of MDS 3.0 nursing home resident assessment data prior to making any recommendations to recommending a "two phase" bed tax increase to be voted on by the General Assembly when it returns during its fall veto session. The meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2010 from 10:00 am – 12:00pm at the same locations within the Bloom Building in Springfield and the Clinton Building in Chicago.