Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Executive Committee Meeting

Date: July 24, 2006
Location: Illinois Department on Aging, Chicago, and conference call

ATTENDANCE:
Executive Committee Members:
- Darby Anderson, Addus HealthCare
- Pat Comstock, Illinois Health Care Association
- Kelly Cunningham for Anne Marie Murphy, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
- Donna Ginther, AARP
- Jonathan Lavin, Suburban Area Agency on Aging
- David Lindeman, Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging
- Phyllis Mitzen, citizen member over the age of 60

Department staff:
- Michael Gelder
- Shelly Ebbert
- John Eckert
- Ross Grove
- Leann Dolan
- Paul Bennett

Absent:
- Stephanie Altman, Health and Disability Advocates
- Dennis Bozzi, Life Services Network
- Charles Johnson, Illinois Department on Aging
- Flora Johnson, SEIU Local 880
- Enrique Unanue, Illinois Department of Public Health
- Cathy Weightman-Moore, Catholic Charities Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Guest:
- Jennifer Novak, Illinois Housing Development Authority
- Terry Sullivan, Illinois Council on Long Term Care
SUMMARY:

Welcome
Deputy Gelder welcomed everyone to the meeting. Director Johnson is attending a conference in Washington and is unable to attend this meeting.

Approve minutes
David Lindeman moved to approve the minutes. Phyllis Mitzen seconded. All were in favor.

Department Updates

IDOA

Interagency Leadership Meeting Report
Deputy Gelder reported that he met with Enrique Unanue, IDPH, and Kelly Cunningham and Theresa Wyatt both from HFS on coordinating the states efforts outlined in the OASA. It was an important and successful exchange. Several action steps came out of the meeting.

1. Coordinate from state agencies perspective what is going on with the Disability Services Advisory Committee (DSAC). They have a similar purpose and scope of work. The state agencies would like to see joint activity as opposed to individual efforts.
2. HFS presentation at OASAC to discuss trends in long term care institutional spending and utilization.
3. HFS will schedule a briefing for IDOA staff and OASAC on its new disease management program.
4. State agency representatives will meet more regularly, perhaps monthly, before or after executive committee meetings.
5. HFS will provide the most recent data on institutional spending and utilization. Kelly Cunningham has already sent this information to the Finance workgroup.
6. The conversion workgroup and IDPH are preparing legislation for the spring session.
7. IDOA will organize a contingent from OMB, HFS and Aging to attend the next Rutgers Community Living Exchange invitational conference on Money Follows the Person.
8. Aging will pursue the interest of other organizations and discuss with HFS a demonstration project for dually eligible older adults that would provide financial incentives through capitation to integrate acute chronic care in addition to integrating social and clinical services.
9. Support of the entire OASAC is needed for the conversion projects. Further discussion is needed on the approach. This is a major legislative and budget issue.

Enhanced Transition Report
Shelly Ebbert provided an update on the Enhanced Transition project. Department staff reviewed the quarterly reports from the Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and the information we can generate from the ECCPIS system. The information for the end of the third quarter is the most complete information. The fourth quarter reports are still coming in. The report was not available until Friday and was sent out to the committee today.

As of March 31, 169 clients had been assessed with 65 clients moved out of a nursing facility. The average monthly cost per client is $253.24. Ongoing costs include services such as emergency home response. The average one time costs are $1,220.04. One time costs can include security deposit, purchasing furniture, etc. The average first year costs were $4,785.26, based on one time and ongoing costs. The average income of ET clients is $7,837, which is less than the average income of CCP clients. Our data reflects other states data on ET. Seventy one percent of ET clients transitioned are male. The Department is in the process of matching the data from the two systems so please do not share these numbers as they are not final.
DSAC Report Update
Deputy Gelder provided an update on IDOA input to the Disabled Services Advisory Committee (DSAC) report to the Governor’s office. Some OASAC members are also members of DSAC including Donna Ginther and Myrtle Klauer.

Donna Ginther stated the disabled community is not homogenous; the population is different than seniors. She suggested that the two populations not be put together. In reviewing DSAC’s early report draft, Donna made comments concerning comparisons of services for the disabled to those of people over 60 who become disabled. The list did not include all things offered to seniors or things that would be important to seniors specifically. Donna Ginther explained that DSAC is a very large committee with strong advocates. The group has not been receptive to discuss the overlap or needs of how the under 60 population differs or is similar to senior services.

Deputy Gelder added that there is an overlap seen by the Governor’s office and in the report itself. There are two different approaches to transforming the system and encouraging home and community based options.

Terry Sullivan suggested that the work of OASAC not be slowed down in an effort to integrate or work closely with the DSAC agenda.

Deputy Gelder added that DSAC had been invited to present on the report on the June meeting but the report had not yet been approved. The committee agreed that a representative from DHS should present on September 11 at the full OASAC meeting.

Operations Manual Update
Shelly Ebbert reported that the Department has received feedback regarding the Operations Manual and we are looking at it internally. The next step is to take it back to the group that agreed to review it with the Department. We hope to meet in the next couple of weeks and present a new version to the Executive Committee at the August meeting.

Other long term care activities
Deputy Gelder reported a pharmacist at UIC, Mike Koronkowski, has agreed to serve on OASAC but is not being nominated by the pharmacist associations. He asked the committee if there were any objections to appointing him to fill the slot representing pharmacists. The Department sent two letters to the president of the pharmacist association informing them of the committee and asking for a representative. Donna Ginther has also sent two e-mails on the same matter. It was agreed that we have done due diligence to get a person selected from the pharmacist association and a letter should be sent from Director Johnson asking this person to serve on OASAC.

IDPH
Enrique was unable to attend. No report from IDPH.

IDHFS
Kelly Cunningham reported that HFS met with IDOA and representatives from CCUs on issues related to the prescreening process. Legislation was introduced in the spring as a result of problems. Some of the issues were worked through this summer. This was a good first meeting.

HFS is interested in the results of the Enhanced Transition/Home Again (ET) data that is being distributed now especially in terms of how it involves SLFs. Particularly HFS is interested in if an SLF resident can qualify for ET given that the SLF should be meeting all of their needs. HFS would like to
participate in the analysis. Shelly Ebbert agreed to discuss the data with Kelly prior to the release of the full year report.

Old Business
Governors Conference Update
Shelly Ebbert reported she had met with the training staff to set aside time for OASAC at the Governor’s Conference in December. This information was included in the email sent to the committee before this meeting.

The full committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 6, 4pm - 5pm. This is the same time slot we had last year. On Thursday, December 7, OASAC will have two sessions back to back, 1pm - 3:45pm. The title is Transformation of Long Term Care in Illinois: Update on OASAC progress. The first town hall meeting is also on Thursday, December 7, 4pm - 5pm. The previous 3 hour session will be used to get questions for this session. If workgroups want to meet at the Governor’s Conference, our meeting room will be available on Wednesday, December 6, before the full committee meeting at 4pm. Workgroups can reserve their time in that room with Leann. A conference phone will also be available during that time.

N4A – Pat Comstock, Donna Ginther, Jonathon Lavin, Phyllis Mitzen, Shelly Ebbert and Representative Hamos are scheduled to present at the conference for a 75 minute session.

Housing follow-up
Shelly Ebbert reported that she had met with Jennifer Novak and John Eckert on housing issues. Dennis Bozzi was unable to attend. They agreed that Jennifer will continue to come to meetings of the full committee and make reports available and also be available to present to individual workgroups related to housing. They also decided that it is important to support the work Paul Bennett is doing on the resource inventory, particularly the housing inventory. The group recommends not creating a new housing workgroup but instead to wait for Paul’s report. The group recommended to the executive committee to acknowledge that housing is an important aspect to long term care reform and to support the Systems Change Grant and Paul’s report on housing.

Jennifer Novak informed the committee of the Comprehensive Planning Act. IHDA is now working under a public act instead of an executive order. The public act requires a mid term report from the Housing Task Force. The interagency subcommittee is meeting this week and will have to report on resources and funding commitments two times a year.

Vision statement
John Eckert reported as follow up from the last meeting that the original and revised vision statements were sent to the executive committee in advance so members can see both drafts side by side. The first version was prepared by the facilitator based on observations at the retreat. The revision is based on feedback received at the June 12 meeting in Chicago. Deputy Gelder asked if the executive committee was ready to recommend the vision statement to the full committee in September.

Committee members discussed the vision statement. Members agreed to send revisions to the Department to make changes and review at the next executive committee meeting in August.

New Business
Conversion Workgroup Recommendation
Terry Sullivan reported for the Conversion workgroup and Enrique Unanue who was unable to attend. The workgroup is working on three things: 1) identify where long term beds are and how they are being used, 2) studying conversion programs of other states to see what has worked and what hasn’t. Some
states converted 1,000 beds to Assisted Living Facilities and others have not had any success. 3) Set up the structure for the conversion grant program within IDPH which currently does not have any funding stream.

The rulemaking process takes 6-9 months. The workgroup does not want to have funding become available and have to delay to set up the structure needed. The conversion program is in Section 30 of the OASA and the majority of the recommendations came from the act. The rules developed by the conversion workgroup are being recommended to the executive committee. The conversion workgroup added language on the grant review criteria. The workgroup wants to make sure the rules are for those nursing facilities that are well coordinated with the needs of their area. The facility must show it is collaborating and working with other service providers in the area. This is not for facilities that are looking to develop a new business plan. The conversion workgroup wants to recommend to IDPH to begin the rulemaking process now so the necessary structure will be in place when funding becomes available.

Committee members discussed the draft rules. Terry Sullivan described the program in Iowa and agreed to send that information to the committee. Members discussed how many grants would be given out and to what areas. Deputy Gelder and Kelly Cunningham agreed that the rules are not clear and could conflict with what they had been told the intent was.

Donna Ginther moved to table this discussion until the committee has a chance to review it. Phyllis Mitzen seconded. All were in favor.

**Coordinated Point of Entry, Neutrality Statement**

The Neutrality Statement was distributed to members prior to the meeting. Jonathan Lavin reported he would like the committee to review it and provide comments to make the document as strong as possible. Jonathan asked that the workgroup chairs take the document to their workgroups and provide feedback. This is not something OASAC needs to sign off on at this time. Jonathan explained he wants to make sure the concept is complete and not get ahead of ourselves. Deputy Gelder suggested this be included in the annual report once everyone has signed off on it.

**Branding Exercise**

Paul Bennett reported on branding as discussed at the last meeting. The Coordinated Point of Entry workgroup made a recommendation to OASAC that it adopt a brand for access to services by January 1, 2007. The document distributed to members before the meeting on branding is a summary that includes five different possible brands. The workgroup still has some concerns and questions including what is being branded and if there is any concern using the words elder or aging in the brand name.

Donna Ginther commented that the document is easy to read and lays out the concerns nicely. Donna has an opportunity to put a question on AARP’s website every six weeks. Some questions generate a lot of answers. The exact wording must be completed by mid August to have a question on the website.

At a listening session held by AARP, participants liked the name Senior Care Options. Donna will report back to the committee on other feedback. AARP will be doing a telephone survey on older adult services which will use a random sample. Donna asked that a question on branding be included in the survey. AARP will also be doing a survey at senior day at the state fair and will include a question on branding. Donna will work with Paul and Jon to develop language for the website question and the telephone survey.

Paul Bennett suggested the Department also consider asking a question to every caller at the Senior HelpLine. Deputy Gelder agreed to consider the suggestions.
The committee discussed what is being branded, the point of entry or the service delivery network. Donna referred to the law which says point of entry should be branded. The law does not refer to the services.

Donna suggested a separate conference call be held to discuss the issue of branding. The term long term care represents the entire system but to most people, it means nursing facilities. Are we branding the entire system or only home and community based services. The committee agreed to have a separate call before the next executive committee meeting to discuss branding.

**Workgroup updates**

Services Expansion – Donna Ginther circulated draft minutes from the last Services meeting to the executive committee. The Services workgroup has two recommendations they would like to move forward to the Department on the issue of flexible services. The workgroup has five recommendations and set aside three other areas that needed additional information from the Department on. The Department is gathering the guidelines that senior programs with discretionary funds use to distribute money throughout the state and if there are services the group would recommend not using the flexible services money for. Donna clarified that the recommendation is the money should include all clients that the CCU has the ability to divert from a nursing facility, not just CCP clients. The workgroup set aside those issues to allow for more discussion and are interested in next steps from the Department. The next meeting of the Services workgroup is August 10.

Shelly Ebbert thanked Donna for the work the Services workgroup has done and suggested the Department review the recommendations before providing any further requests.

Finance – Pat Comstock reported the workgroup’s next meeting is August 2. The workgroup received information from HFS on nursing facilities long term care expenditures which the workgroup needed for the mapping project. The initial charts and graphs will be prepared using the information. The workgroup may not be able to review the neutrality statement at this meeting but will put it on a future agenda.

Workforce/Caregiver – No report.

Coordinated Point of Entry – Paul Bennett reported the committee had a discussion with provider agencies at the last meeting and, put together a survey sent to the AAAs to get baseline information on access to services. The workgroup hopes to have a report on the current structure.

Donna Ginther asked if her request to add Carol Aronson to the executive committee had been considered. Deputy Gelder agreed to follow up with Director Johnson on the issue of co-chairs serving on the executive committee.

**Systems Change Grant update**

Paul Bennett reported 13 focus groups have been scheduled out of the thirty he plans to have. One has already taken place with another one scheduled for this Thursday. Paul also continues to work on the inventory. The decision was made to move ahead and develop the access program building upon UIC’s efforts and the housing and urban planning database. This can be adapted to aging services and made available to AAAs that do not have a current database. The goal is to have it ready in two weeks. This was sent out to the areas that do not have a database system. Paul encouraged all areas to continue data entry even if it is not in the same system.
**Announcements**

Deputy Gelder informed the committee that IllinoisBenefits.org is a resource web-based inventory which the Department has purchased and which other states have used and could be adapted to Illinois and could be provided to the AAAs. The Department is hoping to meet with them this week. There is mandate in the OASA to develop a comprehensive website. This could be an opportunity to pursue that as option. The Department has invested more than $500,000 already.

Donna Ginther requested a presentation on IllinoisBenefits.org at the September 11 meeting of the full committee.

Deputy Gelder responded that the first step is a presentation to staff. There is space on the Medicare Interactive Website to serve this purpose. The committee discussed the website and who should be contracted to run the resource website that is mandated by the act. Shelly Ebbert added that a meeting had been scheduled with Paul Bennett and Jonathan Lavin with the Medicare Rights Center to look at the existing website. That meeting will be rescheduled.

The meeting was adjourned at 5pm.

Minutes were amended and approved on August 30, 2006