
Long-Term Care Planning Committee

June 10, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: David Guttchen, Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Margy Gerundo-Murkette, State Department on Aging (SDA); Jennifer Glick, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS); Beth Leslie, Office of Protection and Advocacy (OP&A); Laura McMenamin, Department of Housing (DOH); Bob Smith, Department of Developmental Services (DDS); Michael Santoro, DOH

Others Present: Barbara Parks Wolf, OPM

Review and Approval of Minutes

David Guttchen called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

David requested a motion to accept the minutes of the December 10, 2013 Planning Committee meeting. A motion was presented, seconded and passed unanimously by the Committee members.

Updates and Announcements

Legislative Update: David reviewed the long-term services and supports (LTSS) related legislation proposed by the Governor and legislation passed in the 2014 legislative session (see hand-outs). Planning Committee members were invited to elaborate on any of the legislation. All the LTSS legislative initiatives proposed by the Governor passed in this session. In general, this year was significant with regard to the large number of LTSS-related legislation that was raised and passed.

2013 LTC Plan Status Report: Barbara Parks Wolf presented a draft of the second annual status report on the 2013 Long-Term Services and Supports Plan and thanked those Planning Committee members who submitted updates (see hand-out). Planning Committee members were invited to provide any missing information to the status report and a final version will be sent out to the group later in the summer.

Member Updates:

- Jennifer Glick explained that now individuals over age 65 who are on the Mental Health Medicaid Waiver will be eligible for the Assisted Living Demonstration. Also, there is a new group addressing older adult behavioral health issues that will focus on integrating behavioral and physical health concerns. Current initiatives include asset mapping.

- Beth Leslie announced that Jim McGaughey, Executive Director of the Office of Protection and Advocacy, retired as of June 1st. Gretchen Knauff, is Acting Executive Director.
- Margy Gerundo-Murkette announced that Commissioner Prague, State Department on Aging, has retired. Margy is serving as Acting Deputy Commissioner. Also, the State Department on Aging has completed its three-year State Plan on Aging and will be submitting it to the federal government in the next month.

Long-Term Care Advisory Council Comments

Julie Evans Starr, co-chair of the Long-Term Care Advisory Council and Executive Director of the Commission on Aging (COA), provided an update on Advisory Council activities and LTSS legislation.

Laurie Julian, Director of Public Policy for the CT Alzheimer’s Association, provided details on Public Act 14-194 which establishes mandatory Alzheimer’s and dementia-specific training for a wide range of personnel, including emergency medical technicians (EMTs), probate judges, paid conservators, and protective services employees. David noted that the goal of the legislation is to integrate this new training requirement into existing training requirements.

Julie addressed several bills:

- COA is partnering with other agencies as they begin to implement *Pubic Act 14-73: An Act Concerning Livable Communities and Elderly Nutrition*. COA has also launched a CT for Livable Communities website (<http://www.livablect.org>). \$1 million was initially earmarked for this legislation but was removed toward the end of the legislation session. Much work is needed to create welcoming communities and ensure that individuals are not isolated while living in their communities.
- *Special Act 14-6 (HB 5222): An Act Concerning a Study of Funding and Support for Home and Community-Based Care for Elderly Persons and Persons with Alzheimer's disease* requires COA to study issues related to access to services and funding for Alzheimer's disease. Much of this work has already been done and COA will work to collect this information and present it to the General Assembly.
- COA will be meeting with Commissioner Porter of the Department of Rehabilitation Services to assist in the implementation of \$6 million in bonding funds to provide grants to older adults and persons with disabilities to make home modifications and purchase assisted technology so they can remain in their own homes and age in place.

Other Business

No other business was raised.

Meeting Schedule for 2014

Tues., September 9th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Room 1A - LOB

Tues., December 9th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Room 1A - LOB

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.