

Nursing Home Financial Advisory (NHFA) Committee

April 10, 2024, 9:30-11:30

Via Microsoft Teams

NHFA Committee Members in Attendance: Barbara Cass (Co-Chair), Department of Public Health (DPH); Adelita Orefice, DPH; Nicholas Mazzotto, Department of Social Services (DSS); Commissioner Manisha Juthani, DPH; Matthew Barrett, CT Association of Health Care Facilities and CT Center for Assisted Living; Mag Morelli, LeadingAge; and Michael Morris, Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority.

Legislators in Attendance: None

Members Absent: Nicole Godburn, DSS; Mairead Painter, State Long Term Care Ombudsperson; Claudio Gualitieri, Office of Policy and Management; and Melissa Morton, OPM.

Full meeting recording can be accessed here:

<https://youtu.be/5hlpzm-C7Is>

A slide deck presentation was also presented.



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Financial Advisory C

Minutes:

The meeting called to order by Barbara Cass at 9:32 A.M.

Matt Barrett made a motion to approve the January 10, 2024, meeting minutes and it was seconded by Adelita Orefice.

DSS and DPH reviewed the slide deck which identified the following:

- Bed Capacity and census data for the reporting period of January 1-March 31, 2024. Nicholas Mazzotto from DSS indicated the census has been steady for the past quarter and is currently at 87.6%.

- Barbara Cass from DPH indicated that the number of nursing homes was reduced by one since the last reporting period and CT currently has 198 licensed nursing homes. The nursing home that closed this last quarter had a capacity of 150 beds.
- Nicholas Mazzotto from DSS reported that there is currently one nursing home, Trinity Terrace, which has 46 beds in receivership. Interim rate requests this past quarter were received from one nursing home facility, Geer Nursing Home. The request was related to a substantiated increase in vendor labor costs and was approved.
- Barbara Cass provided an overview of the Change in Ownerships that have occurred with 8 that have been completed 3 quarters through state fiscal year 2024 with 11 currently pending. Ms. Cass indicated that the 11 that are pending are in different phases of the process. Ms. Cass further described the five most frequently cited federal deficiencies since January and identified while the frequency may have changed, the type of deficiencies has not except for F842, resident records. She stated the deficient practice is related to incomplete medical records. Lastly, Ms. Cass provided information on Immediate Jeopardy findings and provided longitudinal data since 2022.

Member discussion:

Matt Barrett commented on the value the slides bring to the meetings and how the longitudinal information provides perspective. Mr. Barrett indicated he shares the information with his members as they work on reinforcing quality.

Mag Morelli discussed briefly how the expansion of Medicare Advantage programs has changed the marketplace and suggested we have a presentation at our next meetings. Ms. Morelli and Mr. Barrett will explore contacting a subject matter expert to provide a presentation.

Votes Taken:

Discussion: Adelita Orefice made a motion for a hybrid meeting for the next meeting which was seconded by Nicholas Mazzotta.

Vote taken: All in favor. July 10, 2024, will be hybrid with a location to be determined.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Adelita Orefice and seconded by Nicholas Mazzotta. Meeting adjourned at 9:58 A.M.