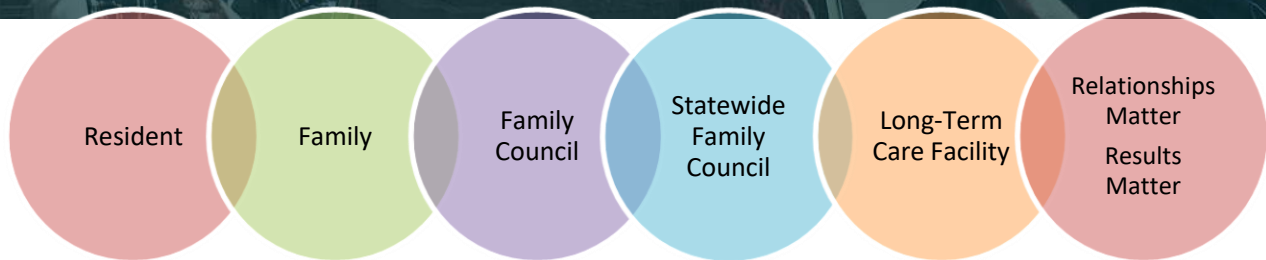


# Connecticut Statewide Family Council



## MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2022

A Meeting of the CT State Family Council (CTSFC) was held on January 24, 2023, via Zoom.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chair, Amy Badini and all in attendance were welcomed

**ROLL CALL:** Amy Badini Chair, Rick (Frederick) Kaeser Vice-Chair, Robin DeLieto Recording Secretary, Liz Stern, Candace Romerez

**Motion to approve Minutes for December 20, 2022 – Rick. Second – Amy. Motion passed by those present.**

### NEW BUSINESS:

#### Introduction of new members:

Sue Hostnik – Social Worker Pendleton Mystic/Mom in Assistive Living, Richard Metayer- Resident-Pendleton Mystic, Kathleen Gerard – Volunteer Resident Advocate Assistive Living, Karen Haabestad – Volunteer Resident Advocate Apple Mystic

#### Officer Elections

Nominations are Amy Badini – Chair, Rick Kaeser – Vice Chair, Robin DeLieto – Secretary. **Motion to approve all nominees for their respective positions. – Liz. Second – Richard. Motion passed.**

#### Nursing Home Group Update

Made up of several groups such as the LTC Ombudsman’s Program, SEIU Healthcare, CT Legal Services, Centers for Medicare Advocacy, Greater Hartford Legal Aid, New Haven Legal Assistance Association,

## CONNECTICUT STATEWIDE FAMILY COUNCIL

and AARP. Each group has their key focus they wish to pursue. However, there are 3 initiatives that are being worked on. They are 1. Obtain 4.1 hours of staffing care per resident, 2. Enforcement provision such as fines for not achieving their minimum hands-on care of 3.0, and Transparency with the expense reporting broken into 5 categories. The Nursing Home Group is meeting with 3 agencies, Dept of Aging, Public Health Dept, and Human Services. We are here to represent the Residents so rather than having a bad story, trying to present a positive approach and be supportive.

### Highlights of Ombudsman's Legislative Agenda

In order to give more teeth in the Bill, they are asking for:

1. Increase Hands-on Care ratio to 4.0 and clarification on matrix to achieve
2. Increase Staffing for Ombudsman's Office
3. Expand Resident Advocacy Program
4. Involuntary transfers
5. Business Insurance

Resident Care Homes – Independent living with skilled and assistive staff. Usually, a place where individual has lived from a young age.

LTC facility – Physical or mental disability.

Assistive Living was expanded to be under the Ombudsman's Office. However, it is unfunded and one reason the Ombudsman's program is asking for increased staffing. Usually AL, has higher income individuals and private pay. Nursing Homes tend to be lower income individuals with Medicaid.

Managed Residential Communities (MRC)

Flyers have been created to be included in Admissions packages explaining Essential Support Person (ESP) - each resident may designate up to 2, Family Councils, and the CT Statewide Family Council. These have been presented to the Ombudsman, Contact has been made with the Nursing Home Association and the flyers shared.

We need to find a champion in Hartford that is willing to take on this cause.

We are working to find what facilities have local Family Councils and where opportunities are. Mairead has said that her RO's cannot take on another task at this time since they are still short staffed. DPH sends out Blast Facts and periodically meet with the 200+ nursing homes. Family Councils may not be vital to DPH and we should probably look elsewhere.

### February Guest Speaker (Medical Director – Advance Directives/Hospice Care)

Several members have inquired with their facilities to see if their Medical Director would be interested in speaking at our next meeting without any success. One is pending an answer but no guarantees. One member will contact a retired doctor that maybe happy to speak. Would like bullets for speaking points to discuss. May have doctor speak at other meetings as well on multiple topics. While this was discussed, the state department of social services hired the consulting agency, Health Equity Solutions (HES) to create measures to assess quality care in LTC facilities. They have asked the CT Statewide Family Council to be a focus group in the development of the measurement tool. Due to the urgency, we will offer our February meeting to HES and move the medical director to our March meeting.

## **Open Forum**

Electronic Monitoring Legislation needed in other states. CT has the Camera Bill. Amazon Show to help residents to stay connected. American Disabilities Act. Although staff continued to turn towards wall, she could hear the verbal abuse.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Creating a logo for the CT Statewide FC off of the Ombudsman's logo. Will run by Mairead for approval. Color should be bright blue.

Adding new docs to website to readily assist. Put together a table of Presenters/Topics from 2022. Strategies to increase number of FC and for the CTSFC to engage with them.

Consumer Voice has 3 generic Bylaws posted. Information on establishing a FC and sample Minutes.

CA Law mandates FC in Nursing Homes & assistive Living. CA Nursing Home Reform.

**Next meeting will be February 28, 2023 at 7pm**

**Motion to Adjourn Amy. Second – Rick. Motion passed.**

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin DeLieto, Recording Secretary