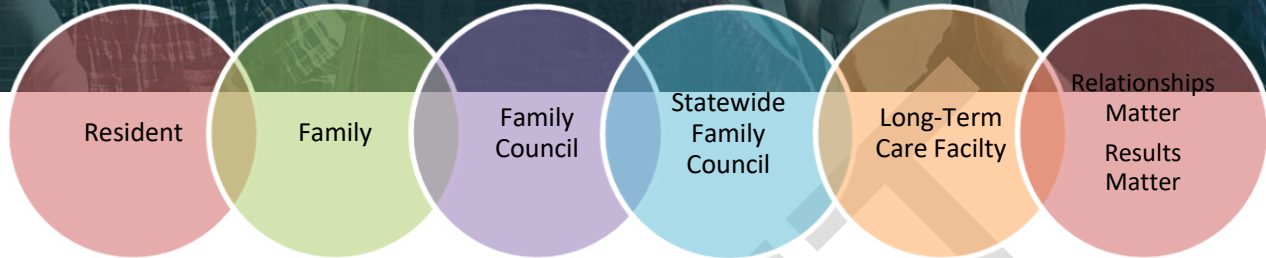


# Connecticut Statewide Family Council



## MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022

A Meeting of the CT State Family Council (CTSFC) was held on February 22, 2022, via Zoom.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm by Co-Chair, Cynthia Hadden

### PRESENT

Cynthia Hadden, Co-Chair, Amy Badini, Co-Chair, Robin DeLieto, Valerie Gilberti, Frederick Kaeser, Jeff McGraw, Eileen Shapiro

Co-Chairs, Cynthia Hadden and Amy Badini opened the meeting welcoming all in attendance and shared their appreciation for their interest in the Connecticut State Family Council (CTSFC). Cynthia stated that the goal of the CTSFC is to assist Local Family Councils (LTFC) in Connecticut by providing guidance, educational opportunities and advocacy assistance.

Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and share their interest in being a member of the CTSFC.

Cynthia shared a Legislative update from the LTC Ombudsman, Mairead Painter. Reviewed MRC's which she explained was a menu for services. Discussion on staffing shortages and how pooling agencies are enticing employees with higher wages which is one of the factors contributing to the shortages.

Eileen, of the Mystic Apple Rehab Family Council said that the group is meeting once a month. There was discussion on having the Regional Ombudsman to sit in on the CTSFC meetings. A message board on the Ombudsman's site would be a good venue for council members to communicate in between meetings and questions can be posted. Monthly meeting will continue for now and once the CTSFC council is more established, it can be moved to quarterly or sooner if there are Legislative to be addressed. Cynthia polled the members present on how the time is working. Fred would like to move it to 7pm. The other members were fine with either 7 or 7:30pm. Next meeting will stay at 7:30pm.

## CONNECTICUT STATEWIDE FAMILY COUNCIL

Amy discussed Centers for Medicare Advocacy (CMA). It is a national organization with a local office in CT. Cinnamon St. John can be contacted at 860-456-7790. There was discussion on staffing ratios and vaccination status per Nursing Home. Visitors are being asked to show their vaccination card. Amy said their Family Council has brochures that are given out to new residents/families. Information is posted on the bulletin board and they wear a Family Council badge.

Fred mentioned that they were given a Bill of Rights but no advocacy groups listed. Cindy said that she has asked her LTCF to add the materials to the admission packet and resend the information again 30 days after admission. Eileen has requested the same at Apple and they have not yet cooperated due to Corporate policy.

The members reviewed:

Bylaws - Fred said our concentration should be more about communication. It was suggested to remove the maximum number of members and to continue to grow the membership.

Vision - group agreed to focus on communication of information.

Goals - Advocating for residents to strive for a higher quality of care.

Cindy said we need a minimum of 5 members. Voting by all qualified members. Qualifications are anyone with a loved one in a facility in CT. Members should be regular in attendance. Amy clarified "loved one" to include family or friend. When voting, it will be a majority of membership present.

It was noted that the CTSFC is also a way to find members that represent residents that are within the same facility. Valerie and Fred both have family members at Lord Chamberlain. Contact information exchanged.

The agenda and minutes will be sent to those who have provided their email and will also be posted on the Long-Term Care Ombudsman website, <https://portal.ct.gov/LTCOP/State-Wide-Family-Council>

If anyone would like to add a topic for the next agenda, please email Co-Chairs at least 7-10 days prior to the next meeting.

Meeting Schedule: The CTSFC will meet monthly at this time. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.

The meeting ended at approximately 8:36 pm.

Robin DeLieto, Recording Secretary