

LONG TERM CARE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

December 12, 2023
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

LTC Planning Committee Members in Attendance: Melissa Morton, Chair, Office of Policy & Management (OPM); Margy Gerundo-Murkette, Department of Aging and Disability Services (ADS), Kelley Kendall, Department of Developmental Services (DDS); Erin Leavitt-Smith, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS); Commissioner Amy Porter, (ADS); William Seals, Department of Children and Families (DCF); Laura Watson, Department of Housing (DOH); Representative Mitch Bolinsky.

Others Present: Barbara Cass for Kim Hriceniak, Department of Public Health (DPH); Cody Clark, OPM

Excused Absence: Kim Hriceniak, DPH and Michael Santoro, DOH

Absent: Amy Dumont, Department of Social Services, Jessica Rival, Office of Health Strategy, Lisa Rivers, Department of Transportation

Called to order by Melissa Morton at 10:03 a.m.

1. Welcome

Ms. Morton offered words of welcome.

2. Adopt Minutes from September 12, 2023, Meeting

Motion made by Erin Leavitt-Smith to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2023, LTC Planning Committee Meeting. Seconded by Representative Mitch Bolinsky. No discussion. All in favor.

3. Adopt 2024 Meeting Schedule

Motion made by ADS Commissioner Amy Porter to adopt the 2024 LTC Planning Committee meeting schedule. Seconded by Representative Mitch Bolinsky. No discussion. All in favor. The 2024 meeting schedule for the LTC Planning Committee as follows was adopted:

2024 LTC Planning Committee Meeting Schedule

Tues., March 12th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM – Microsoft Teams

Tues., June 11th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Microsoft Teams

Tues., Sept. 10th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Microsoft Teams

Tues., Dec. 10th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Microsoft Teams

4. Presentation – The Age Well Collaborative

Ms. Morton introduced Alyssa Norwood of the Age Well Collaborative and Margy Gerundo-Murkette, of the Department of Aging and Disability Services, to provide a presentation regarding the Connecticut Age Well Collaborative and the status of the potential development of a multi-

sector plan on aging for Connecticut. The full presentation can be found [here](#). Highlights of the presentation included the following:

Connecticut Age Well Collaborative: Alyssa Norwood provided an overview of the history of the Connecticut Age Well Collaborative. The collaborative is housed within Connecticut Community Care. The organization was tasked with leading the livable communities' initiative by the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity in 2022.

Ms. Norwood provided a summary of the Connecticut Healthy Aging Data Report, which was first released in 2021. Connecticut is only one of four states to have such extensive data on healthy aging, which includes nearly 200 indicators for each of Connecticut's municipalities. The full report can be found [here](#).

Ms. Norwood offered the LTC Planning Committee information on several initiatives the Connecticut Age Well Collaborative has launched in response to the organization's Steering Committee Assessment and resulting analysis in 2023. The initiatives include:

- The Community Leaders Fellowship Program: An opportunity for community members who are aging, living with disabilities, or who are acting as a care partner, to provide input and help shape long-term goals of the Collaborative and to help pilot a model for municipal community engagement. To learn more about the initiative, a recording of the informational session on the Community Leaders Fellowship Program can be found [here](#).
- Every Age Every Ability Campaign: A marketing campaign designed to combat ageism and ableism. More information about the campaign can be found [here](#).
- The Age Well Academy: To educate and spark meaningful conversations with community members, partners and stakeholders, the Connecticut Age Well Collaborative has given six public presentations over the last year. They have reached hundreds of attendees and created resource guides on various topics pertaining to the organization's mission. The full upcoming presentation schedule and the published resource guides can be found [here](#).

5. Presentation – Multi-Sector Plan for Aging

Developing a Multi-Sector Plan for Aging and Disability: Margy Gerundo-Murkette of the Department of Aging and Disability Services gave a presentation on Multi-Sector Plans for Aging (MPAs). Ms. Gerundo-Murkette described the plan as a roadmap that helps states transform policy, infrastructure, and service coordination to prepare for a rapidly aging population. Ms. Gerundo-Murkette highlighted that Connecticut was selected to participate in the Center for Healthcare Strategies' Multi-State Learning Collaborative to advance the development of MPAs and learn from other states and partners.

Ms. Gerundo-Murkette noted the broad goals of the Multi-Sector Plan for Aging are as follows: Providing a 10-year framework, transforming infrastructure, building community authority and valuing lived experience, connecting planning efforts across state agencies with an aging and disability lens, improving service coordination, and ensuring ongoing accountability and evaluation. There are 15 states that currently have plans in development and 6 states with executive orders or enabling legislation. She noted that Connecticut is looking to develop a Multisector Plan on Aging Disability in order to take a broader look beyond just the aging population.

Ms. Gerundo-Murkette solicited feedback and questions from LTC Planning Committee members.

Multiple LTC Planning Committee members thanked Ms. Gerundo-Murkette and Ms. Norwood for the excellent presentation, expressed support for the initiatives, and the desire for further collaboration and discussion. Additionally, members asked the presenters clarifying questions regarding funding for these initiatives and successes other states are having in implementing their MPAs.

Ms. Morton thanked the presenters for their excellent presentation, commended the work the Age Well Collaborative is doing on this issue, and thanked Ms. Norwood and Ms. Gerundo-Murkette for involving the state and the LTC Planning Committee in these initiatives. She posed to members if they would like updates on the development of Connecticut MPA and members agreed to make this a standing agenda item.

6. Member Updates & Announcements

Ms. Gerundo-Murkette shared that the Department of Aging and Disability Services has begun the planning activities for the development of the State Plan on Aging. The Department will be seeking input from valued partners in aging services and services for the disability community, caregivers, consumers, and all Connecticut residents. The Department plans to host Community Listening Sessions to present the draft goals. Additional information can be found [here](#). Ms. Gerundo-Murkette also announced the hiring of Meghan Brady as the new Dementia Services Coordinator at the Department of Aging and Disability Services.

7. Long-Term Care Advisory Council Comments

Michael Werner congratulated Commissioner Porter and Margy Gerundo-Murkette from the Department of Aging and Disability Services on the hiring of Meghan Brady as Dementia Services Coordinator. Mr. Werner announced that Ms. Brady will be attending the Long-Term Care Advisory Council meeting on December 13, 2023. Mr. Werner expressed excitement to have Ms. Brady in attendance.

8. Other Business

No additional items were raised by committee members.

9. Adjourn

Motion made by ADS Commissioner Amy Porter to adjourn the meeting. Representative Mitch Bolinsky seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.