

**Rhode Island Division of Elderly Affairs
74 West Road; Cranston, RI 02920
Garden Conference Room
Home & Community Care Advisory Committee
Minutes
May 27, 2014**

Attendance:

Rebecca Martish / Chair; Carelink, Charles Dress; AARP, Catherine Graziano; AARP, Verteal Patterson; AARP, Nicholas Oliver; RI Partnership for Home Care, Diane Gallagher; Alliance for BLTC, Dottie Santagata; Cornerstone Adult Day Services, Mary Ladd; DEA, John O'Hara; AARP, Linda A'Vant-Deishinni; Diocese of Providence, Ken Pariseau; NHPRI

The meeting began at 9:03 AM. Introductions followed.

The April 22, 2014 Minutes were reviewed. No changes, corrections or additions were noted. Minutes accepted.

Update of Climate Change and the Elderly Project

Julia Gold, Program Manager, RI Department of Health

Julia was unable to attend today's meeting. Julia will plan on attending the next H&CC Advisory Committee meeting on June 24th and will at that time, update the Committee on the status of the Program.

Additionally, the next meeting of the Project Committee will be on June 6th from 1 to 3 PM in the Hazard Building / Garden Conference Room.

Review of H&CC Utilization Report

Report provided by Paula Parker / DEA

Committee members requested that future reports include budgeted figures and year to date expenditures. Committee members expressed that having this information included in the report will provide a better picture of the utilization of DEA's home and community based services. Rebecca Martish; Chair will relay this request and will update the Committee Members at next month's meeting.

Legislation Update

Rebecca Martish; Chair

- a. Adult Day and Home Care Rate Increase: H 7732 and S 2583 - Legislative hearing in the House took place on April 22nd; Hearing in the Senate took place on April 30th.
- b. Aging in Community Fund: H 7361 and S 2215 - Hearing held in the House on May 22nd; has not been heard in the Senate as of yet.
- c. Community Senior Services Grant Program: H 7236 and S 2194 - Heard in the House on April 30th; heard in the Senate on May 22nd.
- d. Assisted Living SSI Reimbursement: H 7251 and S 2471 - No hearings have taken place to date.

- e. National Criminal Background Checks: H 7413 and S 2652 - Heard in the House on May 22nd and recommended for passage; heard in the Senate on May 15th and recommended for passage. This bill would require long term care workers to undergo a criminal background check.

Rebecca will continue to update the Committee members on these legislative bills and reports that more information may be known at the June meeting.

Comments/Questions

Discussion on Medicaid expansion. Cost of maintaining state program: Health Source RI and glitches in system, e.g., sending people Medicaid cards who accessed the website but did not officially sign up for a program. Per some committee members, the website also does not have a means test (for assets).

Discussion on LogistiCare/Transportation. Per some committee members, transportation continues to be an issue. Meetings continue to take place in efforts to try and resolve issues surrounding the May 1st start date of the new Transportation broker. It was discussed that in order to effectively provide transportation to recipients of the program, approximately 40 actual transportation companies are needed and presently there are approximately 18 to 23 companies. Rebecca Martish will attempt to offer an update on Transportation at June's meeting.

Discussion on ICI / Managed Care Options (MCO). It was reported that to date, approximately 42% of Medicaid / LTSS clients have opted out of the Managed Care Option (vs. fee for services). This percentage could increase with the next enrollment wave. Unsure exactly why Medicaid recipients / LTSS are opting out of the MCO. It could be a combination of reasons. Exit surveys are not asking callers why they have opted out of the MCO.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 @ 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ladd
DEA / H&CC Coordinator
5/27/14