

**Rhode Island Division of Elderly Affairs
Home & Community Care Advisory Committee
MINUTES
April 28, 2015**

Attendance:

Nicholas Oliver; RIPHC / Committee Chair, Mary Ladd; DEA, Andrew Powers; DOH, Judith Shaw; Alliance BLTC, Dottie Santagata; Cornerstone, Linda A’Vant-Deishinni; Diocese of Providence, Amanda Clark; United Way 211 The POINT, Helen Grimaldi; C&FS, Paula Parker; DEA, Verteal Patterson; AARP , Charles Dress; AARP, Catherine Graziano; AARP / SHL, John O’Hara; AARP / VA, Mike Walker; Leading Age RI, Regina Spirito; Tri-Town CAP, Ken Pariseau; NHPRI

1. The meeting began at 9:00 AM. Introductions followed.
2. The Minutes from the last meeting held on March 24, 2015 were accepted as written; no corrections or additions. Motion to accept; Catherine Graziano, seconded by John O’Hara.
3. **DEA Update – Home & Community Care Programs**
Paula Parker; Assistant Director DEA
 - House Bill 6032 regarding Formula Funding for RI cities/towns based on populations of seniors would supply community service grants to cities/towns to provide services for seniors in their communities. This legislation has been introduced. If passed, cities/towns would have to apply for these grants and if approved, DEA would oversee the grant.
 - Legislation on Personal Care Attendant Registration by establishing a registry for Personal Care Attendants at the recommendation of the AG’s Office with the registry being overseen by DOH.
 - DEA’s State Plan Public Comments Sessions will be held on May 11, 2015 at the Pilgrim Senior Center, May 12, 2015 at the East Providence Senior Center and May 14, 2015 at the Leon Mathieu Senior Center. All sessions will take place from 2:00 to 3:00 PM. The State Plan Goals and Objectives will be distributed for comments. The State Plan must be submitted by June 15, 2015.
4. **Agenda Setting Discussion for Next Meeting**

Discussion on continued concerns/issues with NEMT Transportation. There was a recent “summit” on this topic with attendance from OHHS, Logisticare, the Alliance and the various stakeholders who utilize NEMT for their clients. Various groups (e.g., Dialysis Providers and ADC Service Providers) attended this summit and brought along their concerns and recommendations for resolution. Committee Members report that the summit did not prove to be successful. Chair Nicholas Oliver will reach out to Deb Florio at OHHS and request OHHS attendance at the H&CC Advisory Committee May meeting so that a discussion can take place regarding this issue. Additionally, NEMT meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10:30 AM at the Alliance. April’s meeting has been cancelled; the next meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2015 and is an open meeting.

5. Public Comments and Announcements

- Reported by Committee Chair Nicholas Oliver: Reinventing Medicaid information / reports can be found on website: www.reinventingmedicaid.ri.gov. Goal is to cut Medicaid spending by \$180 million with \$90 million from state general revenue and the other \$90 million from federal matching funds. The final report for FY16 will be submitted to the Governor on April 30, 2015. Moving forward, the Reinventing Medicaid Group will continue to meet to identify longer term areas for Medicaid savings. Some suggestions from this group for savings include electronic visit verification for home care agencies and Acuity based methodology for ADC which would require a level of care. Additionally, issues have been raised on how Reinventing Medicaid will intersect with DOH Rules/Regulation and the CMS Final Community Rule for Settings.
- The CMS Final Community Rule for Settings will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 30, 2015 at HP on Metro Center Blvd. in Warwick. For further information on the Final Rule, click on link: <http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ReferenceCenter/HomeandCommunityBasedServices.aspx>
- Update: Leading Age RI sponsored a bill that would allow Providers to contract directly with Logisticare to obtain a Public Motor Vehicle contract so that they may provide transportation services to their clients. Hearings have taken place and awaiting result.
- The DOH Assisted Living Regulations have been submitted to the Office of Regulatory Reform and are currently under review. There is a July 1, 2015 goal for promulgation of these Regulations.
- The DHS/DEA Budget Hearing is scheduled for May 6, 2015 at 1:00 PM in Room 35 of the State House.
- St. Elizabeth's Community is providing a six week educational session for Caregivers beginning on Tuesday, May 6, 2015. Dottie Santagata will send information to DEA for distribution to the Committee.
- RIPHC is sponsoring the Annual Home Care & Hospice Day event to take place at the State House on May 7, 2015 from 3-4:30.

6. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by John O'Hara and seconded by Dottie Santagata. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Ladd
DEA H&CC Coordinator
April 28, 2015

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, May 26, 2015 / 9:00 to 10:30 AM
Garden Level Conference Room / Hazard Building; 74 West Road,
Cranston, RI