

**Rhode Island Division of Elderly Affairs
Home & Community Care Advisory Committee
MINUTES
September 27, 2016**

Attendance:

Charles Fogarty; DEA, Paula Parker; DEA, Melody Rodrigues; DEA, Nicholas Oliver; RIPHC, Charles Dress; AARP, Marylou Rhodes; South County Home Health, Linda Avant-Deishinni; Diocese of Providence, Regina Spirito; Tri-Town CAP, Ver teal Patterson; AARP, Dottie Santagata; Cornerstone ADC, Diane Gallagher; Alliance for Better Long Term Care, Katie Enright; RI Attorney General, Kim Capuano; UWRI, George Dubuque; UWRI, Sylvia Bernal; UWRI; Gretchen Bell; NHPRI, Tina Pearl; United Way/THE POINT, Mike Walker; Leading Age, Jim Nyberg; Leading Age, Andrew Powers; DOH

1. The meeting began at 9:05AM.
2. The Minutes from the last meeting held on June 28th, 2016 were approved; motion made by Ver teal Patterson to approve minutes. Passed. A revision to minutes will be made to include committee chairman Nicholas Oliver's attendance for June 28th meeting.

3. **Director Charles Fogarty- DEA
DEA Report**

- The Director provided an update on recent legislative initiatives for HCBS.
- The Director explained that DEA has been operating with a reduction of 4 staff members due to various reasons. One position has been filled and the remaining positions will be filled in the coming months.
- Open Enrollment is approaching and will begin on October 15- December 7th. Appointments may be made by contacting any of the six regional SHIP agencies or THE POINT.
- DEA has met with Secretary Roberts to discuss the growing home care crisis throughout the state. EOHHS has arranged a Home Care Workgroup to discuss options in dealing with growing concerns.
- Director Fogarty distributed an article regarding the demand for home care.
- The Director provided an update on the implementation of a rate increase for Adult Day Care providers which took effect September 1st. The new rate of \$65.00 per day for enhanced ADC services aligns with current Medicaid rates.
 - In addition, the daily co-payment for participants increased from \$11.50 to \$15.00 per day.

4. **Nicholas Oliver- RIPHC
Change in leadership**

- The Chairman announced his resignation from the role of committee chairman due to increasing professional demands.
- He will continue to attend future meetings as an active member of this committee.
- DEA Assistant Director Paula Parker wished to acknowledge the dedication Mr. Oliver has shown and recognized him as a valuable committee member.

- DEA will entertain nominations for both committee chairman and vice chairman. Nominations may be made by emailing Melody Rodrigues at DEA. Melody.Rodrigues@dea.ri.gov.

5. Melody Rodrigues- DEA

Discussion of possible agenda items for the 2016-2017 year-

- A request was made for DEA to provide an HCC utilization report at a future meeting.
- Mr. Oliver made a suggestion that a list be established to identify the number of eligible clients not getting services.
- A discussion occurred regarding the concerns over a recent change in Logisticare's policy and its impact on clients. It was suggested that this committee be utilized to make recommendations on proposed policy changes. Committee members would like to have a round table discussion with Logisticare to discuss recent policy changes.
- A suggestion was made for monthly updates from the Department of Health and the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office.
- A suggestion was made to explore committee vacancies.
- Committee members asked to receive an update on Rebalancing LTC.
- Committee members asked to invite Meghan Connelly to a future meeting to discuss the redesign of the new DEA website.

Public Comments-

- Committee member Dottie Santagata made a comment regarding the co-payment rate increase for ADC participants, stating that this increase has been a challenge for many of her clients.
- Committee member Dottie Santagata announced the national program "Opening Minds through Art" will be available for residents of Newport County beginning on October 5th. For more information please contact Dottie Santagata.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10.04AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melody Rodrigues
DEA H&CC Coordinator
October 4, 2016