

MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING
Ramada Lansing Hotel & Conference Center
7501 W. Saginaw Hwy, Lansing, MI
August 20, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kennedy called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Kennedy welcomed the Commissioners and thanked them for participating and for their concern for seniors. The welcome was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The Commission roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Joan Budden, Mary P. Gardner, Rose Gill, Jerutha Kennedy, Kathleen Johnston-Calati, Donald Newport, Anthony Pawelski, Thomas Rau, Amne Talab, Ramesh Verma, Janice Wilson, and James Wright.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Excused)

Owen Bieber, Cheryl Bollinger and Valerie Lafferty.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Un-excused)

None.

OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING (OSA) STAFF PRESENT

Sharon Gire, Peggy Brey, Jane Church, Dan Doezema, Bonnie Graham, Jan Bowlin, Sherri King, Wendi Middleton, Laura McMurtry, Sarah Slocum and Scott Wamsley.

VISITORS/GUEST PRESENT

Laurie Sauer, Director of Region IX AAA/NEMCSA; Greg Piaskowski, Director of Region 10 AAA of Northwest Michigan; Paul Bridgewater, President and CEO of Detroit AAA, and his staff, Tony Geisz, Ann Holmes Davis, Lynne Warren; Bob Brown, Executive Director of The Senior Alliance (TSA) – Region 1-C, and his staff, Jason Maciejewski, Maggie Watson; Drew Orvosh, Executive Director of Region VII, and his staff, Stacy Dudewicz, Annette Jaske, and board member, Jordon Lockmiller; Ginny Wood-Bailey, Executive Director of Region 2 AAA; and Marion Owen, Executive Director of Region 6 Tri-County Office on Aging, and her staff, Jim Allen, Amy Colletti and Sarah Aikman; Angela Willis, Director of Macomb County Dept. of Senior Citizen Services; and Sherry Torres, Allegan County Council on Aging, as an MDSA Representative.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Budden asked to share some information on the newly proposed Blue Cross Blue Shield rate restructuring. Commissioner Verma asked for this item to be placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Wright made the motion to approve the revised agenda. Commissioner Pawelski seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Gardner made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2010 meeting. Commissioner Verma seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

INFORMATION FROM INDIVIDUALS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Verma asked about information sent by Commissioner Budden on the Blue Cross Blue Shield proposed rate restructure. Commissioner Kennedy stated this item would be discussed at the end of the meeting, a conference call would be scheduled, and this issue would be added to the September meeting agenda.

OSA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- ❖ Director Gire reported there had been activity related to the budget and provided a handout detailing the Governor's additional proposed budget recommendations. Congress approved the Federal Medicaid match, an additional extension under the stimulus package. The agreement was that the first two quarters of this fiscal year will be at the same rate that they had matched it, which is a much higher rate for states like ours who had more difficult finances, and in the third quarter they will bring it down from 6.4% of an increase to 3.2%, and the last quarter will be at 1.2%, so we will slowly lose our extended match. There still is a federal match, which Michigan qualifies for and is a huge part of our budget. The Governor recommended a proposed \$300 million in further reductions, which is a lower amount than if FMAP had not been extended, and she proposed sources of revenue, not taxes, which the Legislature must approve.
- ❖ Director Gire briefly touched upon the Health Care Reform, the Elder Justice Act, and the Class Act, and is putting together an overview of the impact on senior citizens for upcoming events she's been invited to attend and present at, which she will send to the Commission upon completion.
- ❖ Director Gire noted that the Donut Hole Part D issue is working. Seniors are getting \$250 checks, but there are still scam artists working against them. She was interviewed on Comcast Newsmakers and the 5 minute piece is airing in Lansing this week and will air in Detroit during the week of August 30th.
- ❖ Director Gire noted that the Governor's office is ready to make a new appointment to the CSA. She thanked Commissioner Gill for continuing to take part in the CSA meetings until the appointment is made.

OVERVIEW OF THE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN PROCESS

Presented by Scott Wamsley & Sherri King, OSA Staff

Mr. Wamsley & Ms. King provided a brief overview of the new process OSA is using for the Annual Implementation and Multi-Year Plans. The Annual and Multi-Year Planning System (AMPS) is the new web-based system developed to collect and process information from the AAAs for their plans. The plans were previously created in paper form. AMPS will now allow multiple staff to perform data entries, AAAs to go from one year to the next bringing forward some of the same data, OSA field representatives the

ability to communicate with AAAs in real time by leaving notes in this electronic system, and put out a consistent plan format. It appears Michigan is the only state in the country that uses this type of web-based process, which is also very secure.

A brief discussion followed.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Approval of FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region IX AAA/NEMCSA, Inc.

Dan Doezema, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for the Region IX AAA/NEMCSA, Inc.

Mr. Doezema introduced Laurie Sauer, Director of the Region IX AAA/NEMCSA, which serves Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle and Roscommon Counties.

Mr. Doezema noted Region 9 AAA has met all of their requirements, there were no special conditions, and he highlighted some of their activities. They are providing the Long Term Care Ombudsman directly, which was approved last year as part of the multi-year plan; they have been engaged in building relationships with the disability community in the Planning and Service Area (PSA) in an effort to collaborate and better serve both populations; they continue to work with others on specific funding toward the 211 system; they have been providing elder abuse prevention training, targeting faith-based communities in an effort to raise awareness with families. Ms. Sauer has been very open to taking on new programs, and has been developing the Tailored Caregiver Assessment and Referral program (TCARE), a national evidence-based program out of University of Wisconsin. Region IX AAA has participated in TCARE training for care managers to become certified in this program to work with high risk caregivers, and provide assessments and service strategies likely to help them, with two care managers soon to become certified. Mr. Doezema requested the Commission approve the waiver of minimum percentage required for priority services category.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston-Calati to approve the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region IX AAA/NEMCSA, Inc. as presented. Commissioner Pawelski seconded the motion. The Commission approved with a 12-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed and Commissioner Kennedy stated she was pleased with the new uniform format of the AIPs and the outcomes so far.

Approval of FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for the AAA of Northwest Michigan

Dan Doezema, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for the AAA of Northwest Michigan.

Mr. Doezema introduced Greg Piaskowski, Director of AAA of Northwest Michigan (Region 10), which serves Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee and Wexford Counties. Mr. Piaskowski has been with Region 10 for 32 years and the director since 1992, noting he has 41 more days until retirement, at which time his successor will be Robert Schlueter.

Mr. Doezema noted Region 10 AAA has met all of their requirements, there were no special conditions, and he highlighted some of their activities. They have focused on building relationships with organizations serving the aging and disability communities for a very long time, which will be beneficial as they move forward in the development of an ADRC partnership; the AAA is working with the Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department, who is conducting a fire and fall prevention training. The training is available to the public, but has also been provided to care managers conducting in-home assessments for their clients; the AAA has been a leader in the TCARE program, with two staff who became certified TCARE Care Managers and Certified TCARE Master Trainers. The TCARE program has been incorporated within the structure of the AAA by budgeting a care manager one day a week to provide this service and sustain it. The AAA also plans to implement the Veterans Directed Home and Community-Based Services (VD-HCBS) initiative with the Veteran's Administration.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wright to approve the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for the AAA of Northwest Michigan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Calati. The Commission approved with a 12-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed and best wishes were given to Mr. Piaskowski in his retirement.

Approval of FY 2011 State Allocations for Merit Award Trust Fund Caregiver Respite Programs

Dan Doezema, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the FY 2011 State Allocations for Merit Award Trust Fund Caregiver Respite Programs.

Mr. Doezema provided an overview of the proposed allocations for the Caregiver Respite Programs administered by Home and Community-Based Waiver agents. OSA staff reviewed plans submitted by the non-AAA Medicaid Waiver agents administering the program and found that all satisfy program plan approval criteria.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner to approve the FY 2011 State Allocations for Merit Award Trust Fund Caregiver Respite Programs as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The Commission approved with an 11-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for the Detroit AAA

Jan Bowlin, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for the Detroit AAA.

Ms. Bowlin introduced Paul Bridgewater, President and CEO of the Detroit AAA (DAAA), which serves the City of Detroit, Highland Park, Hamtramck, Harper Woods, Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores and Grosse Pointe Woods.

Mr. Bridgewater introduced his staff, Tony Geisz, Ann Holmes Davis and Lynne Warren.

Ms. Bowlin noted there were no special conditions attached to the plan and highlighted some of DAAA's activities. The AAA has one new direct service waiver for the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program; they continue to support the development and of wellness centers throughout the PSA and are offering technical assistance to congregate meal sites so the centers can become self-managed; they are increasing their healthy aging programming through the Stanford's Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (PATH); and they've restructured their I & A department to support person-centered planning and created access and intake procedures to be more customer-oriented. They have an on-going committee to evaluate customer service and restructured their data entry in an effort to gain quality outcomes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wright to approve the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for the Detroit AAA. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Verma. The motion approved with an 11-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for The Senior Alliance – Region 1-C

Jan Bowlin, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for The Senior Alliance (TSA) – Region 1-C.

Ms. Bowlin introduced Bob Brown, Executive Director of TSA, which serves Wayne County, excluding areas served by DAAA.

Mr. Brown introduced his staff, Jason Maciejewski and Maggie Watson.

Ms. Bowlin noted there were no special conditions attached to the plan and highlighted some of TSA's activities. One of TSA's service providers, Wayne County Nutrition, has coordinated with a local restaurant to make a Halal meal available at the request of older adults in the community; the agency has created a networking group of senior centers to share best practices; they've joined with AAA 1-B to collaborate on improving hospital discharge planning; they've worked closely with DTE and Consumers Energy to grow and improve the Gatekeeper program; they have ongoing efforts to increase transportation services for non-emergency medical needs; increased outreach on information and referral efforts; and they continue to work with the local Center for Independent Living to develop an ADRC partnership. Board members are actively engaged in all these activities.

A motion was made by Commissioner Talab to approve the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for The Senior Alliance – Region 1-C as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion approved with an 11-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region VII AAA

Jan Bowlin, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region VII AAA.

Ms. Bowlin introduced Drew Orvosh, Executive Director of Region VII, which serves Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac and Tuscola Counties.

Mr. Orvosh introduced his staff, Stacy Dudewicz, Annette Jaske and a board member, Jordon Lockmiller.

Ms. Bowlin noted there were no special conditions attached to the plan and highlighted some of Region VII's activities. The AAA has increased outreach activities to faith-based organizations, homeless shelters and missions, fraternal and civic organizations, the ARC's, community groups, libraries, minority organizations, substance abuse providers, senior housing/congregate meal sites; they have begun the development of a consumer advocacy group throughout the PSA; they continue to work with local utility companies to expand the Gatekeeper Program; their computer lab has been equipped to better serve the visually impaired through collaboration with the Commission for the Blind; they are partnering to develop an ADRC partnership, Savvy Caregiver program and VD-HCBS initiative; and they continue to hold three yearly Health & Fitness Day Events that encompass their PSA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pawelski to approve the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region VII AAA as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Calati. The motion approved with an 11-0-0 vote.

A brief conversation followed.

Approval of FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region 2 AAA

Sherri King, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region 2 AAA.

Ms. King noted there were no special conditions attached to the plan and highlighted some of Region 2 AAA's activities. The AAA has hired several new staff as they've increased programs including the VD-HCBS initiative, Post Acute Support System (PASS), the Savvy Caregiver Program and Project Connect that works with people who are homeless. Region 2 is also actively working with the Center for Independent Living to develop the local ADRC partnership.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to approve the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region 2 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wright. The motion approved with a 9-0-0 vote.

A brief conversation followed.

Approval of FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region 6 Tri-County Office on Aging

Sherri King, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region 6 Tri-County Office on Aging (TCoA).

Ms. King introduced Marion Owen, Executive Director of TCoA, which serves Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties.

Ms. Owen introduced her staff, Jim Allen, Amy Colletti and Sarah Aikman.

Ms. King noted there were no special conditions attached to the plan and highlighted some of TCoA's activities. They have created a system that offers assistance to their clients to move within the MiChoice Waiver, Care Management and Case Coordination programs to improve access to services in a person-centered manner; they are involved with other community partnerships, including "The Power of the We," the Tri-County Long Term Collaborative, the Ingham County Health Department and MSU Extension; and they are working with members of the Board and their Advisory Council to address GLBT issues in future AIPs. Upcoming projects include Health Coaching for Project Choice clients, establishing Independent Living Consultation as an access service, the hiring of a housing specialist, expansion of the Savvy Caregiver and the PATH Matter of Balance and Enhanced Fitness programs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wright to approve the FY 2011 Annual Implementation Plan for Region 6 TCoA as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Calati. The motion approved with a 10-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of Michigan's Older Adults: On the PATH to Better Health Grant

Sherri King, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of Michigan's Older Adults: On the PATH to Better Health Grant.

Ms. King provided a handout of grants OSA has received for evidence-based disease prevention programs. Ms. King noted that OSA received a grant from 2007-10 where we had a carry over, then a sustainability grant for \$125,000, and then a \$1.1 million grant for the ARRA PATH money. Ms. King noted that MSU Geriatric Education Center and College of Human Medicine are working on evaluation with the 2007-10 grant, and the College of Human Medicine is helping OSA develop a campaign to take to medical care providers to show the importance of the PATH program. The MSU Med School is revising their curriculum and asked OSA for input as to what we thought was important to older adults. OSA is also providing some training for the new and existing doctors and students so they'll be able to understand the benefits of the self-management programs. Ms. King noted that the fiscal agent to carry out the coordination of efforts and handle the trainings will be the Region 2 AAA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wright to approve the Michigan's Older Adults: On the PATH to Better Health Grant as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Calati. The motion approved with a 10-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of Distribution of American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) Nutrition Funding

Sherri King, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the Distribution of American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) Nutrition Funding.

Ms. King noted that two years ago, OSA was awarded \$3.3 million in ARRA funding for home delivered and congregate meals, which was administered to the AAAs and OSA kept a small amount for administrative costs. Approval is requested to allocate \$48,000 in funds projected to be un-expended to twelve AAAs requesting additional funds. These funds will not be allocated by formula, but distributed evenly between the AAAs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner to approve the Distribution of ARRA Nutrition Funding as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pawelski. The motion approved with a 10-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of the Re-Allocation of FY 2010 State Funds for the Foster Grandparent Program

Bonnie Graham, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the FY 2010 State Funds for the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP).

Ms. Graham stated that OSA was notified by Catholic Charities of West Michigan of a \$31,866 under-expenditure of state funds allocated to the FGP in FY 2010. The under-expenditure exists due to an adjustment in the federal grant year by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Catholic Charities of West Michigan requested that OSA de-obligate the funds to benefit other programs in the state. OSA provided the opportunity to all FGP projects to request additional funding and four responded: Isabella County Commission on Aging (Isabella, Gratiot and Clare FGP), Family Services Agency (Genesee and Lapeer FGP), Eight-CAP, Inc. (Montcalm, Ionia and Mecosta FGP), and Region IV AAA (Berrien, Cass and VanBuren FGP).

Ms. Graham indicated she would need two motions: 1) To reduce the grant award to Catholic Charities of West Michigan; and 2) To allocate the de-obligated funding to the four FGP agencies for volunteer stipends and transportation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to reduce the FGP funds administered by Catholic Charities of West Michigan by \$31,866 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Calati. The motion approved with a 10-0-0 vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston-Calati to distribute the \$31,866 to the four organizations as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rau. The motion was approved with a 10-0-0 vote.

Approval of the Grant Award to Michigan Disability Rights Coalition for State Profile Tool

Jane Church, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of the Grant Award to Michigan Disability Rights Coalition (MDRC) for State Profile Tool.

Ms. Church, OSA staff, noted that the contract with MDRC is used to coordinate grant activities, support consumer involvement, and provide training opportunities to meet grant objectives. OSA's request is to amend its current contract with MDRC to increase the funding amount by \$54,500. The State Profile Tool project is designed to develop a profile of Michigan's publicly funded long term care system and assist the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services in developing national benchmarks that measure states' progress towards achieving a balanced, person-centered long term care system.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner to approve the Grant Award to Michigan Disability Rights Coalition (MDRC) for the State Profile Tool as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion was approved with a 9-0-1 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of the State Advisory Council on Aging 2010-2011 Charge

Commissioner Pawelski provided the Commissioners with four issues of importance to older adults to determine the Commission's 2010-2011 charge to the State Advisory Council on Aging 2010-2011 charge. Each Commissioner was asked to rank their top three issues. The decision will be finalized by Sally Steiner, OSA staff, based on the Commission's selections, and brought to the September Commission meeting for final approval.

Approval of Additional Ombudsman Funds for Region 3-A

Sarah Slocum, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of additional Ombudsman funds for Region 3-A for fiscal year 2011.

Ms. Slocum noted that over these past two and one half years, the State Ombudsman has provided funding through OSA to hire John Weir, one of their most experienced Ombudsman, as a mentor for newly hired Ombudsman throughout the state. The funding goes to AAA Region 3-A as the fiduciary, where Mr. Weir has served as the local LTC Ombudsman for many years. The grant supports Mr. Weir's salary, fringe benefits and travel.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner to approve the Additional Ombudsman Funds for Region 3-A as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion was approved with a 9-0-1 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

INFORMATION AND COMMENT

Commission Participation in ADRC Designation Process

Presented by Bonnie Graham, OSA staff.

Ms. Graham noted that several months back, we received notification that OSA received the 2009 ADRC grant and a brief overview was provided to the Commission, related to OSA working with local communities, both the aging network and agencies representing the disability community, to form an Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). Since that time, OSA put an application process out and communities are working diligently to form those partnerships. OSA is at the point to start receiving applications and convening a process where Director Gire will designate a local partnership as an emerging ADRC. There is a multi-tiered approach where OSA staff will be involved in reviewing the applications and the ADRC Steering Committee will also have a roll in this process. Ms. Graham noted that OSA would like to have the Commission on Services to the Aging and the Long Term Care Supports and Services Advisory Council work together to be a part of this review prior to Director Gire's final decision. Ms. Graham asked for 3 Commissioner to volunteer to designate and review the applications for the emerging ADRC partnership.

A brief discussion followed.

Commissioners Johnston-Calati, Gardner and Kennedy volunteered to be on this review committee.

Newly Proposed Blue Cross Blue Shield Rate Restructuring

Commissioner Budden raised the issue of needing a discussion on the newly proposed Blue Cross/Blue Shield rate restructuring.

Chairperson Kennedy requested a special meeting of the Commission be convened via phone conference call and noted that additional information would be forthcoming.

A brief discussion followed.

Other

Commissioner Wright commented that Calhoun County passed their millage for ten years. He noted Director Gire came and provided comments at a three-county tour to advocate on behalf of passing of the millage.

Director Gire announced that she will send a special report entitled, "Statewide Voters Overwhelmingly Pass Tax Levies." It's an article that provides information on all millages across the state and documents that every single senior millage passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Commission on Services to the Aging will be held at 10:00 a.m. on September 17, 2010, at the Ramada Lansing Hotel & Conference Center, located at 7501 W. Saginaw Hwy. in Lansing.

The next meeting of the State Advisory Council has not yet been determined.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Pawelski. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Verma. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote. Commissioner Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 2:05 P.M.