

**MICHIGAN LONG-TERM CARE SUPPORTS & SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING**

Minutes of Monday, March 30, 2009
Capitol View Building, Lansing, Michigan

I. Organizing Ourselves

A. Roll Call

Members Present:

RoAnne Chaney – Secretary	William Mania	<i>Absent:</i>
Christine Chesny	Yolanda McKinney	<i>Robert Allison</i>
Linda Ewing	Denise Rabidoux	<i>Marsha Moers</i>
Andrew Farmer – Chair	Tom Rau for John Reardon	<i>Rev. Charles Williams III</i>
Connie Fuller	Hollis Turnham – Vice Chair	
William Gutos	Cyndy Viars	
Dohn Hoyle	Toni Wilson	

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Mary Ablan, Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan
Allen Adams for Barbara Anders, Designee for DHS Director
Peggy Brey, Designee for DCH Director & Office of LTC Supports and Services
Sharon Gire, Office of Services to the Aging
Sarah Slocum, State LTC Ombudsman
Absent: DELEG

Office of LTC Supports and Services Presenters & Staff Support:

Jane Alexander	Jane Church
Nora Barkey	Marlene Simon

B. Review and Approval of November 24, 2008 Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Turnham, seconded by Commissioner Hoyle, to approve the November meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed by voice vote.

C. Review of January '09 Retreat and Business Session Notes

Notes from the Commission post-retreat business session were not treated as minutes. Chair Farmer asked for input or omissions. There were no changes.

D. Review and Approval of March Agenda

Chair Farmer announced that agenda item IV.B, Assistive Technology Access was tabled for a later meeting to allow more time to work on the proposal.

Motion by Commissioner Viars, seconded by Commissioner Rabidioux, to accept the agenda with the deletion of item IV.B. Motion passed by voice vote.

E. Chair's Report

Chair Farmer reported that the Commission Workgroups and Project Action Teams have been working together using the logic model tool to lay out concrete terms for implementation and who's responsible for each item. There is still a lot of work that needs to be done.

II. What's Happening

A. Single Point Entry (SPE) Logic Model

Nora Barkey presented on Recommendation #3, Create Single Point of Entry Agencies for Consumers. The data in two of the slides were questioned. Nora will review the FY 2008 and the FY 2009 SPE activity data and send corrected slides. It was also important to note that some clients were referred but could not be transferred out of nursing homes because there is no housing. Peggy Brey will ask Michael Daeschlein and Ellen Speckman-Randall to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss the transition data. Nora also distributed a list of Project Action Team participants and meetings, along with the SPE logic model and the SPE Expansion Timeline. Jane Alexander shared a list of Active Long-Term Care Assessment Forms currently being used by various agencies. Please inform Jane at AlexanderJ@michigan.gov with any other assessment tools being used.

B. Array of Supports & Services Logic Model

Jane Church discussed the logic model for Recommendation #4, Strengthen the Array of Services and Supports (expanding the array of options). The recommendation has five strategies and three benchmarks. The Systems Transformation Grant also includes objectives related to expanding the array of services. The Project Action Team for Recommendation #4 has not been established. Jane asked for the names of Commissioners that were interested in serving on the PAT. The target date for the first meeting is late May. Jane reported on progress that has been made in expanding the array of services. A MI Choice waiver amendment will be submitted to CMS on April 1 for implementation on July 1 that will allow the provision of MI Choice services in licensed AFC and HFA settings. In addition, work is ongoing with the MSHDA to establish affordable assisted living options for low income individuals. Both of these initiatives expand the array of settings where individuals can receive Medicaid-funded long term care supports and services.

III. What Else is Happening

A. Public Comment

Alison Hirschel, an advocate for seniors, Lansing, provided testimony on Executive Order No. 2009-3 that abolishes the Office of Long Term Care Supports and Services. Ms. Hirschel is concerned that disbanding the Office would put us at odds with other states that are moving to centralize their long term care reform efforts, and demonstrate a lack of commitment to real progress in long term care. The following principles were drafted and presented to the Commission regarding the future of the Office, 1) The Office continues to require strong leadership wherever it is ultimately housed; 2) The vast majority of the functions of the Office must continue to be housed together; 3) Consumers continue to require accountability to assure that long-term care reform is moving forward consistent with the recommendations of the Governor's Medicaid Long Term Care Task Force; 4) Consumers and advocates require continued opportunities for input and a consumer should be included in any workgroup established to determine how the responsibilities of the Office will be reassigned or where the Office will be housed. Ms. Hirschel urged the Commission to take an immediate stand regarding the future of the Office to ensure that long term care reform has a strong, effective, and efficient home in DCH.

B. Governor's 2010 Executive Budget Proposal and Status of State Budget Appropriations for LTC

Peggy Brey stated that the department's budget officials, Susan Kangas and Mary Jane Russell, will meet with the Commission once the final DCH budget is approved. Peggy reviewed the line items from the 2010 DCH House Appropriations Subcommittee recommendations.

Commissioner Turnham gave an update on a new recommendation in Section 16.F.87, Health Insurance Study for Long-Term Care Direct Care Workers. This section asks that DCH examine all current LTC Medicaid services to identify what is needed to increase reimbursement rates so that LTC employers could offer affordable and adequate health insurance to direct care workers. The program would be modeled after a program in Montana and would be voluntary. The state would define the benefit prices for LTC employers and they would have the opportunity to ask the state for reimbursement for the cost of health insurance for their employees. The boilerplate language states that DCH shall conduct a study and report back to the legislature.

Sharon Gire gave an update on the Office of Services to the Aging budget.

C. Office of Long-Term Care Supports & Services Update

1. OLTCSS Abolition & Departmental Integration Planning

Peggy Brey shared that the department's deputy director, Kurt Krause, is the point person for the Office integration planning. Input or recommendations should be directed to Peggy at BreyP@michigan.gov to forward to Mr. Krause. Director Olszewski will make the final decision. Commissioners suggested the Executive Committee meet with Mr. Krause to discuss the work-to-date and ask to be involved in the integration decision. Commissioner Chesny volunteered to prepare a principles document and will e-mail a draft to members by April 3rd for review. The Executive Committee will finalize.

Motion by Commissioner Hoyle, seconded by Commissioner Turnham, to have the Executive Committee leadership request a meeting with Mr. Krause to discuss the Commission's wish to be involved in the integration decision, and to present the principles document highlighting the accomplishments of the Office and Commission. The motion passed by voice vote.

2. SPE Demonstrations Final Report Status, State Expansion Sequence & Rules Timetable Update

Peggy Brey stated the Office has received the two preliminary SPE evaluation reports; the Health Management Associates cost analysis and the Michigan Public Health Institute performance evaluation. Final reports are due to the legislature by the end of April 2009. The department will promulgate rules no later than 270 days after submitting the final report.

IV. What Needs to Happen

A. Commission Person Centered Planning Workgroup and Project Action Team Recommendation

Commissioner Rabidoux read a letter to David Herbel that summarized what the PCP Workgroup wants to present to Director Olszewski. The workgroup developed a set of core elements and definitions document necessary for implementation across the array of services.

Nora Barkey reviewed the State of Michigan Definition, Core Values/Principles and Essential Elements of Person Centered Planning Process for Long Term Care Supports and Services, Settings and Program document. The definition is from Public Act 634. It was noted that DCH and DHS have already begun to incorporate the definition in their policies. The group felt that it was important to have a common set of values, principles and essential elements, and that it was also crucial to have the commitment from DCH to the process.

Commissioner Hoyle discussed the draft letter to Director Janet Olszewski to gain her support and to ask to meet with her. If approved, the definition, core values, principles and essential elements document will be shared with other departments. The PCP Workgroup is asking the Commission to adopt the letter and the definition, core values/principles and essential elements document.

Motion by Commissioner Chaney, seconded by Commissioner Chesny, to approve the letter to Director Olszewski and the State of Michigan Definition, Core Values/Principles and Essential Elements of Person Centered Planning Process for Long Term Care Supports and Services, Settings and Program document. The motion passed by voice vote.

B. State Revenue Stabilization

Chair Farmer talked about tax expenditures and revenues system, and the House Fiscal Agency summary of the 2009 Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). He would like to invite an official to the May 11 Commission meeting to present on the state budget and implications of a flat tax versus a progressive graduated income tax and revenue solutions. Chair Farmer asked members for comments on developing future advocacy. A suggestion was made to write two letters with one being a specific letter to the Governor that supports her policy of not cutting revenues.

Motion by Commissioner Turnham, seconded by Commissioner Hoyle, to write two letters that would be finalized by the Commission's Executive Committee. The motion passed by voice vote.

C. Workgroups Announcements and Adjournment

Quality Management – next meeting is April 23 at AARP office.

Workforce Development – next meeting is April 8 at 1:30 p.m.

Chronic Care Management – next meeting is April 21.

Finance – next meeting is April 22 at 1:30 at Michigan Home Health Care.

Public Education – next meeting is April 6 at 1:00 p.m.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., in Lansing at the Capitol View Building, 1st Floor Conference Rooms A-C. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.