

**Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) Meeting
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Supports (ACLS Bureau)**

**Howell Senior Center, 1661 N. Latson Road, Howell, MI
Friday, July 19, 2024**

APPROVED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting of the Commission on Services to the Aging was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commission Chair Bob Schlueter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commission roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Bob Schlueter, Mark Bomberg, Jimmy Bruce, Nancy Duncan, Walid Gammouh, Guillermo Lopez, Tene Milton-Ramsey, Joy Murphy, Mike Pohnl, Shirley Tuggle, and Kristie Zamora

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED

William Bupp, Jennifer Lepard, Arjan Kallou, and Dennis Smith.

STAFF PRESENT

Katie Alexander, Kelly Cooper, Nick Drzal, Cindy Masterson, and Scott Wamsley

WELCOME

Stephanie Hall, Research and Advocacy Manager for AgeWays Nonprofit Senior Services, welcomed the commission and gave an overview of programs.

Renee Baumgart, Senior Coordinator for Howell Senior Center, welcomed the commission and gave an overview of programs.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Schlueter requested a motion to approve the CSA meeting agenda. Motion was made by Commissioner Tuggle and Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion; motion was approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF CSA MEETING MINUTES

Chair Schlueter requested a motion to approve the June 21, 2024, CSA meeting minutes. Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan and Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion; minutes were approved by voice vote.

COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT

Commission Chair Schlueter reported the following:

- Thanked Renee Baumgart from the Howell Senior Center for hosting the meeting and public hearing and making the commission feel welcome.
- Thanked Commissioner Duncan for her leadership of the CSA Advocacy Committee in staying on top of current issues impacting older adults. Thanked Commissioner Zamora for her help at the recent SAC meeting. He also thanked Commissioner Bomberg for leading the efforts of the CSA Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) Committee to analyze the current funding formula and make any recommendations for changes. He also thanked Commissioner Tuggle for stepping in to lead the State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC)
- Reminded commissioners that the next SAC meeting is on August 15, 2024, in the Capitol Commons Center in Lansing. This is the day before the CSA meeting at the same location, and he strongly encouraged commissioners to attend the SAC meeting to show support and see the work they do.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO THE STATE PLAN ON AGING OR ACLS BUREAU PROGRAMS, SERVICES, POLICIES, OR ISSUES IMPACTING OLDER AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

None.

CSA ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Duncan, CSA Advocacy Committee Chair, provided the following:

- Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 state budget has passed the legislature and was passed to the governor on July 15; she will have 14 days to sign the budget. At this time, there is no expectation that she will veto any of the senior items the CSA has been watching. She noted that Cindy Masterson would be giving details later on the agenda related to specific items in the legislatively passed FY 2025 budget. Once the budget is signed, the advocacy committee will send letters thanking the governor and key legislative leaders for the budget items that were included for seniors.
- The advocacy committee continues to work on the upcoming National Family Caregiver Month (November). They will be asking the governor to issue a proclamation making November Michigan Family Caregiver Month as well. They have been reaching out to other senior advocate groups to work together to strengthen the outreach and make it more meaningful. They are hoping to partner with AARP, the Area Agency on Aging Association (4AM), and MDHHS. The intent is to focus on awareness and education related to support services available to family caregivers.
- The committee is working on letters to Michigan Congressional Delegation and the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee related to the motion that passed at the last CSA meeting for swift passage of the Older Americans Act (OAA) Reauthorization, due by September 30, 2024. They will also be asking for more flexibility in senior nutrition funding options.

- Thanked members of the Advocacy Committee, Commissioners Bomberg, Lopez, Murphy, and Tuggle. She noted that Commissioner Tuggle will now be representing the SAC on the committee. She also thanked SAC members Adam Burck and Jo Ver Beek for attending the meetings to coordinate advocacy efforts and strengthen collaboration between the CSA and SAC. There is now an opening to add another CSA member to the committee, and anyone interested should contact Commissioner Duncan.

CSA LONG TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN (LTCO) COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Bomberg, CSA LTCO Committee Chair, provided the following:

- The committee has been meeting for several months and have looked at various possibilities for what the LTCO funding formula would look like depending on if the FY 2025 budget included the proposed \$3 million increase. One thing to note is that the funding formula has not been updated since the 1980s, so revising the formula with updated data, not including any possible new funding, could have an adverse impact on several of the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs).
- At the last meeting, they discussed that the \$3 million increase would not likely be enough to secure 30 new ombudsmen because of administrative costs and AAAs who have currently been supplementing the program with their own funding could likely utilize the new funding and redirect the money they've been using for LTCO program to other services for seniors.
- The Older Michiganians Act (OMA) does not require some of the factors that are in the current formula, such as the square mileage or base factors. They have been analyzing whether to keep those factors or not.
- There is currently no legal requirement for LTCO to visit adult foster care homes or homes for the aged, although the OAA does allow LTCO to visit those facilities and prohibits them from denying access to LTCO. The OMA also does not require LTCO to visit these facilities.
- The committee hopes to have recommendations finalized for the full commission's consideration for approval by the August 2024 meeting.

STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC) REPORT

Commissioner Zamora provided the following updates on virtual SAC meeting held on July 18, 2024:

- Marjorie Hobe, Co-Vice Chair, chaired the meeting.
- The purpose of the virtual meeting was to move some items forward that they have been working on:
 - SAC vision, mission, and core values.
 - Proposed changes to the SAC By-Laws – after much discussion, the proposed changes were revised and have been submitted to the CSA SAC By-Law Committee for review and finalization before presenting to the full CSA for consideration for approval.
 - SAC research topics – Susan Cleghorn is leading the research group shared a report with the CSA related to possible research report topics by region.

ACLS BUREAU DIRECTOR REPORT

Scott Wamsley, Director, provided the following updates:

- Thanked Renee Baumgart from the Howell Senior Center for hosting the meeting and public hearing. He also thanked Stephanie Hall from AgeWays Nonprofit Senior Services for attending and giving a presentation for their AAA.
- Noted that the governor issued a press release related to reducing the size of some of the Executive Office Boards, Commissions, and Councils. At this time, these efforts do not affect the CSA. He also noted that we have been working with the appointment's office so they understand the importance of timely appointments and reappointments to the CSA as some commissioner terms are expiring on July 28 and we will need a quorum to approve AAA AIPs in August.
- There have been concerns raised with the current year FY 2024 budget and reduction in federal funding awards, specifically in caregiver resources and nutrition funding. The ACLS Bureau had a meeting with the Administration for Community Living (ACL) related to the reductions to express the concerns.
- The FY 2025 budget includes funding for PACE expansion as well as \$5M appropriated for MI Choice Waiver Program for structured family caregiving. Details on the FY 2025 budget related to aging network will be shared later in the meeting by Cindy Masterson.
- There have been some conversations occurring regarding SB790 which would develop a Home Help council and registry.
- Work continues on Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs) with staff reviewing and finalizing them for the August CSA meeting.
- Work also continues on the HCBS ARPA Plan. There will be an update for the CSA likely in October. The bureau is moving forward with both the independent options counseling work and the long-term care awareness campaign. The bureau also recently issued \$25 of HCBS ARPA funds to IMPART Alliance/MSU for direct care worker mini grants. Approval has not yet been received by CMS for some of the ARPA projects, including the caregiver resource center proposal and the asset limit increase for Medicaid eligibility.
- Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) implementation for the Home Help program agency providers began recently. MI Choice Waiver agents will be implementing EVV in September 2024.
- Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Highly Integrated Dual Special Needs Program was released. The Area Agency on Aging Association and AAA Directors have been working closely with the health plans to be sure that they are an option for the long-term care supports and services portion of this service delivery program.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Cindy Masterson, Director of the Operations & Aging Network Support (OANS) Division, provided information related to ACLS Bureau financial and budget updates. She gave specifics related to Senate Bill 747 Boilerplate information as it pertains to aging services to include Sections 201, 1402, 1404, 1417, and 1421.

BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Senior Volunteer Program Match Waiver

Nick Drzal, Manager of the Health Promotion and Active Aging (HPAA) Section, provided an overview stating the request is for CSA approval for the match waiver request submitted by the Family Services Agency Foster Grandparent Program (FGP). The Family Services Agency FGP has a revised grant award amount of \$119,737 and match requirement of \$13,304. The program will only secure \$5,059 in match this FY, resulting in a match shortfall of \$8,245.

The program has requested a match waiver for FY 2024 in the amount of \$8,245 as they work to secure new, local partnerships that will help them meet their match requirement next FY. They are also actively recruiting new program participants and volunteer stations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bruce to approve the request and Commissioner Gammouh seconded the motion. Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 11-0-0.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Presentation

Katie Alexander, SHIP/MIPPA Grants Manager, provided information on MIPPA (presentation attached to minutes).

b. Senior Volunteer Program Presentation

Nick Drzal HPAA Section Manager; and Trista Johnson, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Director and Carmela LaCommare, Director of the Senior Companion Program, from Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, provided information to the CSA about their programs (presentation attached to minutes).

c. Annual Implementation Plans (AIP) Overview

Cindy Masterson, OANS Division Director, gave an overview of the Annual Implementation Plans that will be presented to the CSA for approval for Michigan's 16 Area Agencies on Aging at the August and September CSA meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Commission on Services to the Aging meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday, August 16, 2024, at the Capitol Commons Center, 400 S. Pine Street, Lansing, MI.

ADJOURN

Chair Schlueter adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m. Working lunch followed adjournment. Public Hearing began at 1:00 p.m.