

**Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) and  
State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC) Joint Meeting  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)  
Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Supports  
Hilton Garden Inn, Lansing West, Lansing MI  
Friday, April 15, 2022**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Commission on Services to the Aging was called to order at 9:06 a.m. by Interim Chair, Commissioner Nancy Duncan.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

The Commission on Services to the Aging roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

The State Advisory Council on Aging roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mark Bomberg, William Bupp, Georgia Crawford-Cambell, Nancy Duncan, Walid Gammouh, Marshall Greenhut, Guillermo Lopez, Tene Milton-Ramsey, Michael Pohnl, Shirley Tuggle, and Kristie Zamora

**COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED**

Sue Franklin, Joy Murphy, Bob Schlueter, and Dennis Smith

**SAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Audra Frye, SAC Co-Vice Chair, Marjorie Hobe, SAC Co-Vice Chair, Alan Bond, Dennis Brieske, Beverly Bryan, Adam Burck, Glenn Clemence, Charles Corwin, Danna Downing, Mary Jones, Ruby Kickert, Cynthia LaBelle, Elizabeth Laster-Miles, Kirk Lewis, Kenneth Mahoney, Joe Massey, Ann Randolph, Patricia Rencher, Elizabeth Thompson, Jo Ver Beek, Lori Wells, and Ex-Officio Member, Robyn Ford

**SAC MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Angel, Sandra Falk-Michaels, Priscilla Kimboko, Christopher Lauckner, Gerald McCole, MaryAnne Shannon, Joseph Sowmick, Joseph Sucher, Susan Vick, and Eric Williams

**STAFF PRESENT**

Elizabeth Hertel, Farah Hanley, Kate Massey, Scott Wamsley, Kristina Leonardi, Jen Hunt, Lauren Swanson-Aprill, Roxanne Perry, Amy Hall, and Kelly Cooper

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Interim Commission Chair Duncan requested a motion to approve the CSA agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pohnl and Commissioner Bomberg seconded the motion. The agenda was approved by voice vote with amendments.

### **APPROVAL OF CSA MEETING MINUTES**

Interim Commission Chair Duncan requested a motion to approve the March 18, 2022, CSA meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp and Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by voice vote with amendments.

### **APPROVAL OF SAC MEETING MINUTES**

Interim Commission Chair Duncan requested a motion to approve the March 24, 2022, SAC meeting minutes.

A motion was made by SAC member Marjorie Hobe and SAC member Jo VerBeek seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

### **COMMISSION CHAIR OPENING REMARKS**

Interim Commission Chair Duncan welcomed all to the meeting, especially the SAC members in attendance for the first joint meeting in over two years.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO HASA PROGRAMS, SERVICES, POLICIES, OR ISSUES IMPACTING OLDER AND VULNERABLE ADULTS**

None

### **CSA ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Commissioner Duncan, Advocacy Committee Chair, provided an update on the work of the committee:

- Advocacy Committee members - Commissioners Duncan, Bomberg, Crawford-Cambell, Lopez, and Murphy. Also in attendance at the advocacy meetings are Chair Schlueter and Adam Burck, SAC member liaison. Adam was added to the committee this year to increase communication related to joint advocacy efforts between the CSA and SAC. The intent of the SAC liaison is to strengthen the voice of advocacy and share the positions and issues from the CSA with SAC members as well as to hear about advocacy efforts SAC members feel are important for the CSA to elevate.
- In April 2022, the committee sent the CSA FY23 budget recommendations to Legislators. Specific requests were that the budget include additional funding to support the efforts to address the direct care worker (DCW) shortage - to increase the number of trained, well-paid DCWs to care for our state's most vulnerable adults. Request was to include funding in the budget to support DCW training, credentialing, adequate pay (including an inflationary increase), and flexibility in funding for the area agencies on aging (AAAs) for their DCWs. She asked that all CSA and SAC members share the letter with their communities and local state legislators.
- The committee is also following federal legislation called the Better Care Better Jobs Act, introduced by Congresswoman Dingell from Michigan, which is legislation directed toward strengthening Medicaid in-home services. After CSA approval at the January 2022 meeting, the committee sent a letter in support to the Congressional Delegation. She encouraged CSA and SAC members to share this document in

support of the advocacy efforts.

- The committee is also following up with Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) leadership on the DCW recommendations that the CSA adopted in 2020. The advocacy committee has another meeting with MDHHS in April to discuss. The CSA seeks some flexibilities in federal funding and interpretations related to strengthening the direct care workforce and believes that they can most effectively advocate with the federal government jointly with the department.

## **BEHAVIORAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH AND AGING SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (BPHASA) DIRECTOR REPORT**

Senior Deputy Director, Kate Massey, shared the following with the group:

- Part of the reorganization that occurred in March 2022 included Farah Hanley being named as the new Chief Deputy of Health. She introduced Farah, who was in attendance at the meeting, to the CSA and SAC.
- Farah addressed the group and indicated that her new position includes oversight of the BPHASA as well as the State Psychiatric Hospitals Administration, led by Dr. George Mellos. She shared some additional information related to the recent reorganizations within MDHHS. One of the priorities was addressing the workforce shortage issues. She indicated that the department wants to continue to work with the CSA and others to continue to strengthen the direct care workforce. Included in the FY22 supplemental that went out with the FY23 executive recommendation was a proposed \$135 million in direct care workforce training. She also indicated that she was grateful to be able to attend today's meeting and is looking forward to hearing about the work and priorities of the CSA and SAC.
- Kate shared that the Federal Government, Secretary of Health and Human Services, extended the Public Health Emergency (PHE) until July 15, 2022. She explained that the PHE allowed the department to promulgate policies more quickly, using disaster relief authority. These policies were intended to protect the health and safety of beneficiaries and providers as well as maintain access to health services. Examples of some of the policies were expansion of telehealth capabilities and making sure expenses related to COVID-19 were covered as a Medicaid benefit. The department also addressed stability in the health system, adjusted reimbursements to nursing facilities and implementing the \$2.35 premium pay increase for direct care workers (DCWs). The department is also working on making sure that the transition out of the PHE period is as smooth as possible to be sure eligible beneficiaries continue to retain access to necessary services.
- CSA members and SAC co-vice chairs introduced themselves to all.
- Director of MDHHS, Elizabeth Hertel, addressed the group. She gave some updates and background on the recent reorganizations within the department. She also shared some of the current priorities of the department including using the reorganization to leverage funding and expertise to address DCW challenges.

Further discussion ensued with a question-and-answer session.

## **STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING (SAC) UPDATE**

Commissioner Kristie Zamora, SAC Chair, gave the following updates:

- She asked all SAC members to introduce themselves to the group.
- She reminded the CSA that the last in-person meeting the SAC members have

attended was pre-pandemic in October 2019. She commended SAC members for their hard work and diligence during this time, especially on the SAC report.

- She indicated that the SAC met virtually in March 2022 and reviewed the current SAC report and Commissioner Pohnl, incoming SAC Chair, delivered the new SAC report charge that the CSA approved at their March 2022 meeting. She shared that the SAC members are very excited to start the new report and would be breaking away from this meeting to start work in workgroups on the planning stages of the new report.

### **2021-2022 SAC REPORT OVERVIEW**

Audra Frye and Marjorie Hobe, SAC Co-Vice Chairs, and SAC Member Pat Rencher, gave an overview of the 2021-2022 SAC Report “Aging in Place, Aging in Community”. (PowerPoint Presentation attached to these minutes). The full report, in final draft state, will be presented to the CSA for approval at their next meeting.

Commissioner Zamora provided additional information about how the SAC Report Workgroups work on the report, and how the work comes together into a final draft report. Certificates of appreciation were distributed to SAC members in recognition of their dedication and valuable service. A certificate was presented to Lauren Swanson-Aprill in recognition of her unwavering commitment to excellence and dedication to the SAC. Lauren will be transitioning out of her role as the ACLS Bureau SAC Liaison. Jennifer Onwenu will be the new SAC Liaison. Commissioner Duncan presented a certificate of appreciation to Commissioner Zamora in recognition of her dedication, leadership, and valuable service as Chairperson of the SAC from 2017-present. She will transition out of this role as SAC Chair and Commissioner Pohnl will be the new SAC Chair.

### **FINANCIAL UPDATES**

Cindy Masterson, Director of the Operations & Aging Network Support Division, shared updates on the FY2022 federal budget, workforce development grants, nutrition supplemental funding, American Rescue Plan Act funding, and AAA Annual Implementation Plans and Multi-Year Plans for 2023-2025.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### **a. Request for Approval of Program Year 2021-2022 Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Reallocations**

Jen Hunt, Technical Assistance and Quality Improvement Section Manager, provided an overview stating the request is to adjust the two SCSEP grant awards identified below for the period covering July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

|               | <b><u>Current Year<br/>Grant Award</u></b> | <b><u>Grant Award<br/>Increase/Decrease</u></b> | <b><u>Revised Grant<br/>Award Amount</u></b> |
|---------------|--|---|--|
| Region IV     | \$123,863                                  | (\$90,538)                                      | \$ 33,325                                    |
| Region 11     | \$ 66,965                                  | \$10,000  | \$ 76,965                                    |
| <b>Total:</b> | <b>\$190,828</b>                           | <b>(\$80,538)</b>                               | <b>\$100,390</b>                             |

Region IV Area Agency on Aging requests a reduction due to a projection of unspent SCSEP funds by the end of the program year. Region 11 Area Agency on Aging requests additional funds due to increased demand for services to be expended by the end of the program year. The remaining balance of \$80,538 will be held to support any additional requests for increases from the grantees as well as support activities within the ACLS Bureau.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp to approve the request. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote 11-0-0.

**b. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 USDA Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Funding – Second Allocation**

Kristina Leonardi, Director of the Aging and Community Services Division, provided an overview stating the request is to accept funding for the second USDA SFMNP FY 2022 award in the amounts described below:

| <u>Allocation<br/>or Source</u> | <u>Food<br/>Purchase<br/>(coupons)</u> | <u>Administration<br/>(limited to 10%)</u> | <u>Unredeemed<br/>Coupon<br/>Funds/Local<br/>Funds</u> | <u>Total</u>     | <u>Participants<br/>to be Served</u> |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1                               | \$320,154                              | \$35,573                                   | \$67,122   | \$422,849        | 15,491                               |
| 2                               | \$64,306                               | \$7,145                                    | 0  | \$71,451         | 2,572                                |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                   | <b>\$384,460</b>                       | <b>\$42,718</b>                            | <b>\$67,122</b>  | <b>\$494,300</b> | <b>18,063</b>                        |

Benefits have been increased this year from \$20 to \$25 per participant, with individual coupon values increasing from \$2 to \$5 each. This second allocation will allow for the issuance of benefits to an additional 2,572 participants. The second round of coupon book allocations will be made available to all lead agencies with priority given to those in counties with high poverty rates and high populations of older adults living in poverty.

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

**c. Request for Approval of SAC Appointments and Reappointments**

Commissioner Kristie Zamora indicated that the CSA/SAC Applicant Review/Bylaws Committee, comprised of herself and Commissioners Bob Schlueter, CSA Chair; Georgia Crawford-Cambell, and Mike Pohnl, met virtually on April 1, 2022, to review submitted SAC applications.

Based upon this review process, the committee recommends the following seven outstanding individuals for appointment to the SAC to serve a three-year term for the dates noted.

| <b>Name</b>          | <b>City / AAA Region</b> | <b>Term</b>          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Alan D. Bond         | Detroit / 1-A            | 5/1/2022 – 4/30/2025 |
| Susan M. Cleghorn    | Spring Lake / 14         | 5/1/2022 – 4/30/2025 |
| Mary K. Jones        | Grand Blanc / 5          | 5/1/2022 – 4/30/2025 |
| Michael J. Logan     | Okemos / 6               | 5/1/2022 – 4/30/2025 |
| Gerald A. McCole     | Channing / 11            | 5/1/2022 – 4/30/2025 |
| Margaret M. O'Malley | Adrian / 2               | 5/1/2022 – 4/30/2025 |
| Susan J. Vick        | St. Helen / 10           | 5/1/2022 – 4/30/2025 |

A motion was made by Commissioner Gammouh to approve the request. Commissioner Greenhut seconded the motion. Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by voice vote.

**d. Request for Approval of a Change to the 2022 CSA Meeting Schedule**

Interim CSA Chair, Commissioner Duncan, indicated a request was made for a change to the 2022 CSA Meeting Schedule for the August meeting from August 19 to August 26, 2022.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lopez to approve the request. Commissioner Tuggle seconded the motion. Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by voice vote.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**a. Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Presentation**

Roxanne Perry, PACE Section Manager, gave a presentation about the PACE program (PowerPoint presentation attached to these minutes).

**b. Tri-County Office on Aging (TCOA) Overview**

Marion Owen, Executive Director of TCOA wanted to let the CSA know that they would receive a very thorough overview of programming at TCOA during the August and September 2022 meetings when their Annual Implementation Plan was presented for approval. She wanted to commend the staff at the ACLS Bureau for being so supportive of the TCOA and other AAAs during the pandemic in helping to find solutions for providing services. The challenges faced also provided for new and innovative partnerships with other agencies such as local health departments and emergency response systems. She indicated that the staff at all of the AAAs really worked together to share ideas and ways to handle challenges and it has created strengthened relationships. She was also very thankful to all the volunteers who stepped up during the pandemic and put in countless hours to help with pandemic response.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Commission on Services to the Aging meeting is scheduled for 9:00 am on Friday, May 20, 2022, in Newberry, MI. A public hearing will follow beginning at 1:00 pm.

The next State Advisory Council on Aging Meeting is scheduled for 9:30 am on Thursday, May 26, 2022, in Lansing, MI.

**Please note, these meeting are open to the public and anyone wishing to attend may do so. Those needing technical assistance should contact Kelly Cooper at [cooperk6@michigan.gov](mailto:cooperk6@michigan.gov) at leave five business days prior to the meeting date.**

## **ADJOURN**

Interim Commission Chair Duncan adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

Public Hearing followed at 1:00 p.m.