



Detroit Long Term Care System Change Task Force
Long Term Care Stakeholder Engagement Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2009
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Place: Detroit Area Agency on Aging
Hildred Drew Dale Conference Room, 1st Floor
1333 Brewery Park Blvd
Detroit, MI 48207

MEMBERS PRESENT

Thomas Cervenak, Co-Chair
Monique Marks, Co-Chair
Jackie Raxter
Laura Champagne
Eric Foster
Kendra Howard

STAFF

Joyce Henderson, Facilitator
Rachel McLaury, Recorder
Karen Watson

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Leslie Wiggins
Kevin Kelley
Louis Green
Valerie Weatherly
Alfonso Bermea, Jr
Rufus Gaston
Horatio Vargas
Sarah Gleicher
Sherry McGee
Gale Simmons

MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED

Meeting Minutes— March 18, 2009
Draft LTC Advocacy Network By-Laws
Draft Components and Structure of Detroit Advocacy Network

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Tom Cervenak called the meeting to order and welcomed all subcommittee members.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Cervenak asked all subcommittee members to review the meeting minutes. Laura Champagne made a motion to accept the minutes of March 18, 2009, second by Jackie Raxter. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE TASKS

A. Debriefing of Policy Forum—March 27, 2009

Karen Watson reported out about the recent Policy Forum. At the Policy Forum Paul Bridgewater and Senator Buzz Thomas called the meeting to order with opening remarks explaining how diligent the Long Term Task Force subcommittee members have been working over the last 6 months discussing issues within the long term system, compiling of research and data and making policy recommendations that support system change. Betsy Rust from Plante & Moran presented the 2009 Public Policy Agenda. After the presentation the attendees had round table discussion on how the proposed policy recommendations can be moved forward from concept to reality.

B. Discussed the LTC Summit—May 15, 2008

Ms. Watson explained the goal of the summit is to engage the community advocacy network members and the Detroit delegation. Breakout sessions will be held by Senate districts for members of the Community Advocacy Network and other attendees. During these sessions attendees will strategize next steps in the Long term Care legislative process.

C. Community Advocate Training—April 7, 2009

Joyce Henderson updated the subcommittee members on the current number of members in the community advocacy network. Currently 167 individuals are involved in the network. The goal is to have 250 members join the community advocacy network. The first community advocacy training session part 1 was on Tuesday, April 7, 2009. 27 individuals signed-up for the training session and 9 members attended the training session. Part 2 of the training is scheduled for Friday, April 24, 2009. The next set of training sessions is as follows; part 1 Friday, May 8, 2009 and part 2 Friday, May 29, 2009. There will be additional emails and mailing sent out to the advocacy network to increase participation in the next training session.

D. Continued Review of Network Components

Mr. Cervenak suggested discussing each article and section since the by-laws are an essential aspect of successful network. As the subcommittee members began to work through Article 1 Section 1 there was discussion on where the Community Advocacy Network would be a separate entity or governed by another organization. The organization that is being considered to govern the Community Advocacy Network is Citizens for Better Care. Ms. Champagne and Paul Bridgewater have met and he believes that the Community Advocacy Network should be a function of Citizens for Better Care.

Eric Foster stated that he feels the Community Advocacy Network should be its own entity which will allow the network to evolve and be free to advocate for the issues that the Community Advocacy Network feel are important. Mr. Foster believes if Citizens for Better Care is the governing body their may be conflict of interest and the Community Advocacy Network may not be able to advocate for certain long term care legislation and regulatory changes.

Mr. Cervenak mentioned the network needs to be independent to empower and engage community members in advocating for long term care system change. Mr. Cervenak also mentioned if the network is governed by Citizens for Better Care the network may lose its mission and recommended that a few members from the Stakeholders Engagement Core group be added to the Citizens for Better Care board.

Monique Marks is undecided on who should govern the network but feels if the network is governed by another organization it may lose some energy from its members. Although Ms. Marks mentions that the mission of Citizens for Better Care and the Community Advocacy Network are similar. In a since we can borrow Citizens for Better expertise and experience and they have a presence in the community and have been advocating for changes in the long term care system.

The subcommittee members agreed that Citizens for Better Care and the Community Advocacy Network have identified the problems and issues but need to discuss how to bring all partners together and move forward to improve the quality of care in the long term care system.

Ms. Watson suggested that the co-chairs, Ms. Champagne, and Ms. Henderson meet with Mr. Bridgewater to discuss the how the Community Advocacy Network will be governed.

AGENDA BUILDING/NEXT STEPS

At the next meeting the subcommittee members asked Ms. Henderson to invite Mr. Bridgewater so he can explain his thoughts and ideas on why he believes Citizens for Better Care should govern the Community Advocacy Network. The subcommittee members have asked Ms. Henderson to revise the Network Component and Structure document by clearly defining programming activities. Also at the next we will continue to discuss on the Advocacy Network By-Laws. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 2009 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Detroit Area Agency on Aging in the Hildred Drew Dale Conference Room, 1st Floor.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Rachel McLaury

Moving Towards Enhancing the Quality of Care
