



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

Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2009
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.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
Valerie Weatherly
Kendra Howard
Margie Young
Nida Donar
Rufus Gaston
Jacqueline McCollum, Recorder
Hollis Turnham, By Phone

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Eric Foster, Co-Chair
Louis Green
Leslie Wiggins
Kevin Kelley
Amne Talab
Kendra Howard
Alfonso Bermea, Jr.
Horatio Vargas
Sarah Gleicher

STAFF

Joyce Henderson, Facilitator
Karen Watson
Gale Simmons
Paul Bridgewater

MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED

Agenda for February 4th meeting.
Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2009
Mission Statement – Draft
Michigan House of Representative 2009-2010 Standing Committee Assignments
Response to Community Advocacy Mailing
What do LTCC's do? [handout]
Community-based Groups - Call List of area organizations
LTC Stakeholder Sub-Committee Core Group

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Tom Cervenak welcomed all members and introduced Monique Marks as Co-chair. In addition, Tom asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tom Cervenak asked everyone to take a few minutes to review the meeting minutes. There were no changes or corrections to the meeting minutes. However, Joyce Henderson noted a correction to the meeting agenda under Committee Tasks sub-part A from Discuss *Goals and Objectives* for the Advocacy Network to Discuss *Mission and Vision* for the Advocacy Network. It was moved and seconded to accept the meeting minutes for January 21, 2009. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE TASKS

A. Discussion of the Mission and Vision drafts

Mr. Cervenak directed everyone's attention to the Mission Statement first and read it aloud for discussion. "*To advocate for and promote quality, accessibility and independence of choice in all long term care services delivered in the Detroit area.*" Margie suggested that the word "for" be removed from the Mission Statement. It was further discussed that the phrase "for seniors and adults with disabilities" be added to the Mission Statement. The Mission Statement as it stands, in draft form, is as follows: "**To advocate and promote quality, accessibility and independence of choice in all long term care services delivered in the Detroit area for seniors and adults with disabilities.**"

Mr. Cervenak then directed everyone's attention to the Vision Statement and read it aloud for discussion. "*For all seniors and adults with disabilities living in Detroit and similar urban areas to have access to the full continuum of long term care options and receive quality long term care services in the setting of their choice. For all seniors and adults with disabilities and their family caregivers to receive community based education regarding the multitude of options for care within the long term care continuum. For all seniors and adults with disabilities to maintain a high level of independence and dignity within the continuum of long term care service options.*" Margie suggested that the word "for" be removed from the beginning of each sentence. Upon reading the second sentence of the Vision Statement, Hollis asked everyone to take into consideration what distinguishes us from all other LTC connections and be clear in our explanation. Paul stated that if we feel that this is something that the community needs then we should proceed with it. There may be other organizations doing the same thing but do they have the capacity to carry it out? We are a grassroots initiative. We have to get into the community to help shape, direct and support public policy. Valerie asked when we are talking about community-based are we including hospitals? Monique stated that we should expand the net to include area churches that have more seniors than hospitals. By utilizing the "sick and shut-in" lists from each church, we could extend the net to include a larger population of seniors. In addition, Joyce asked if we should add a *values* phrase within the Vision Statement. Tom agreed that it would be a good idea. The Vision Statement will be revised, distributed and revisited at the next meeting. The Vision Statement as it stands, in draft form, is as follows: "**All seniors and adults with disabilities living in Detroit and other cities; Hamtramck, Harper Woods, Highland Park, and the Grosse Points will have access to the full continuum of long term care options**" 2

and receive quality long term care services in the setting of their choice. All seniors and adults with disabilities and their family caregivers will receive community based education regarding the multitude of options for care within the long term care continuum. All seniors and adults with disabilities will maintain a high level of independence and dignity within the continuum of long term care service options.”

B. Review Current List of State Legislators and Committee Assignments

Kendra Howard suggested that we table discussion regarding the Michigan House of Representative 2009-2010 Standing Committee Assignments document. Ms. Howard noted discrepancies with regards to personnel assignments. She indicated that she will follow-up and report back to the committee. Highlighted areas on list are members who represent pre-dominantly urban areas.

Ms. Turnham stated that the Appropriations Committee member list was just released but she will forward a list of the sub-committee member names in an email to the group.

Discussion for this document will be tabled until the next meeting.

C. Recommendations for Membership in the Full Advocacy Network

Joyce indicated that they have talked generally about who would be eligible to be members. She asked the group to put defining parameters on who they are going to allow to be members of the Advocacy Network as well as setting up structure for membership and voting rights. Paul Bridgewater stressed that he is looking for individuals who have the time and are actively involved in the community. There was a category of members needed that brought together a cross-section of the community. Nida suggests we start inviting people in the community, block club leaders and people in family counseling. Also, with regards to structuring membership make sure a number of openings are reserved for others to join.

D. Review List of Invitees for March 4 Advocacy Network Meeting

Initial meeting for the Advocacy Network is March 4th. Leaders at various organizations, churches, businesses have been invited to talk about the mission and vision they are going to achieve. Eric Foster is responsible for drafting the agenda for this meeting. Tom Cervenak requested that the agenda be made available to everyone on the committee; if possible by the end of the week. Joyce informed everyone to be mindful if there is an organization that is not listed on the list of Community Based Groups and you would like for them to be a part of this, please let her know so she can add them to the list.

The Community-based Group list is divided by zip codes and corresponds closely to legislative districts. Joyce asked that everyone do the following:

- 1) Review the list and identify people they know and are willing to contact; and

- 2) Select, by zip code, groups they are will to contact for participation in the March 4th meeting.

A script will be made available to members prior to calling. In addition, letters will be going out to all organizations informing them by mail about details regarding the meeting but your help is needed to ensure participation by calling and being a voice for this cause. All calls should be completed before the next meeting on February 18th. All those you have contacted will be invited to the information meeting on March 4th at Sacred Heart Seminary from 9:00am to 11:00am.

Further, Joyce stated that Advocacy Training would be scheduled in March, April and the first part of May. Training dates are not set yet. Different types of advocacy training will be provided. People who are referred will come in small groups, they will be grassroots and presented with different scenarios with different modules to complete. They will be presented with an advocacy tool kit that will educate participants on a number of things such as how to write letters to States people, how to conduct a meeting, etc.

Participants for this training will be those who have the time to participate and can make a commitment to this cause. Participants may be caregivers, consumers, service providers and any stakeholder that is interested. The time commitment, initially, may involve formal meetings that will be held on a quarterly basis.

AGENDA BUILDING/NEXT STEPS

In preparation for the next meeting, attendees should be prepared to give update on individuals they've called and responses they received. Tom asked if there are any other items that should be added to the agenda.

The next meeting date is Wednesday, February 18th 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at DAAA, 1333 Brewery Park Blvd, Detroit, MI.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon the conclusion of the meeting, Valerie moved that this meeting be adjourned and Marjorie seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned by Tom Cervenak at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jacqueline McCollum

Moving Towards Enhancing the Quality of Care