

**PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGING**

# LONG-TERM CARE COUNCIL

EST. 2015

## Meeting Minutes

|                              |  |
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| <b>Meeting:</b>              | Pennsylvania Long-Term Care Council                                      |
| <b>Date:</b>                 | Thursday, February 13, 2020  |
| <b>Start &amp; End Time:</b> | 10:00 a.m. to 2:34 p.m.  |
| <b>Location:</b>             | Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center, Keystone Conference Center |

### Council Members in Attendance

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Insurance Cmmr. Jessica Altman (Designee: Katie Dzurec)*    | Anne Henry - <i>Nonprofit SNFs</i>                           | Vini Portzline - <i>LTSS Consumer</i>  |
| Eric Beittell - <i>LTC Insurance</i>                        | Nancy Hodgson, PhD - <i>Academic Research</i>                | Kenneth Potter, Esq. - <i>PA Bar Association, Elder Law Section</i>          |
| Sen. Michele Brooks (Designee: Janelle Lynch)*              | Holly Lange - <i>Area Agencies on Aging</i>                  | Nicole Pruitt - <i>Adult Day Centers</i>                                     |
| Janice Cameron - <i>PA Council on Aging</i>                 | Sec. of Health Dr. Rachel Levine (Designee: Lori Gutierrez)* | Mike Sokoloski - <i>Homecare</i>   |
| Brig. Gen. Anthony Carrelli (Designee: Darryl Jackson, MD)* | Joyce McClary - <i>LTSS Nurse</i>                            | Sec. of Transp. Leslie Richards (Designee: Danielle Spila)*                  |
| Sen. Maria Collett (Designee: Tom Holroyd)*                 | Diane Menio - <i>Caregiver</i>                               | Sec. of Aging Robert Torres<br><i>Council Chair</i>                          |
| Rep. Gary Day (Designee Shannon Walker also attended)       | Sec. of Human Srvs. Teresa Miller (Designee: Jennifer Hale)* | Kimberly VanHaitsma, PhD - <i>Academic Research</i>                          |
| Rep. Pam DeLissio   | David Nace, MD - <i>LTSS Physician</i>                       | Robin Wiessmann (Designee: Gelene Nason)*                                    |
| Mark Gusek - <i>LTC Managed Care</i>                        | Shane Nugent - <i>For-Profit SNFs</i>                        | Margie Zelenak - <i>Assisted Living Residences &amp; Personal Care Homes</i> |

\*Attended on member's behalf

### Council Members Not in Attendance

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|--|--|
| Lydia Hernandez-Velez - <i>Consumer Advocacy</i>         | Matt Yarnell - <i>Consumer Advocacy</i>  |
| Samella Hudson-Brewton - <i>Senior Community Centers</i> | Heshie Zinman - <i>Consumer Advocacy</i> |
| Robert Marino - <i>Caregiver</i>                         |  |

### PDA Staff in Attendance

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Stephanie Cole, Executive Assistant            | Steve Horner, Deputy Secretary            |
| Maria Dispenziere, Deputy Legislative Director | Karreara Jackson, Legal Intern            |
| Jack Eilber, Deputy Communications Director    | Chuck Quinnan, Council Executive Director |
| Kimberly Glass, Legal Intern                   | Sasha Santana, Executive Secretary        |
| Karen Gray, Communication Director             |   |

### Committee Members & Guests in Attendance

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|--|--|
| Abigail Coleman, PA Department of Human Services (DHS)           | Maria Maletta Hastie, LIFE Geisinger <b>OC</b>                   |
| Art DiLoreto, PA Association of Area Agencies on Aging <b>WC</b> | Ebony Johnson, PA Department of Corrections' William Penn Fellow |
| Jennifer Ebersole, Alzheimer's Association                       | Daniel Kleinmann, PA Health & Wellness <b>OC</b>                 |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Carl Feldman, DHS   | Charles Klinger, DHS  |
| Kathy Gillespie, Clearfield County Area Agency on Aging <b>QC</b> | Janette Krolczyk, PA Department of Military & Veteran Affairs |
| Jennifer Haggerty, PA Homecare Association (PHA) <b>WC</b>        | Miguel Ruiz, Governor's Office of Policy & Planning           |

OC = Outreach Committee; AC = Access Committee; QC = Quality Committee; WC = Workforce Committee

## Meeting Minutes

| # | Discussion Items  | Summary   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | <b>Welcome</b>  | <p>Secretary of Aging Robert Torres opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests. Council Executive Director Chuck Quinnan went over housekeeping items (e.g., emergency evacuation protocol, Wi-Fi password, etc.) and provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This week, Governor Wolf made appointments to fill both the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) and the long-term services and supports (LTSS) consumer openings on the Long-Term Care Council (LTCC). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dauphin County Commissioner George Hartwick III will represent CCAP, and Voices for Independence CEO Shone Eakin will be the new LTSS consumer representative.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The administration is also finalizing the LTCC's remaining opening for a consumer advocate.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Quinnan also explained that the meeting will be divided into two parts: Regular council business (e.g., housekeeping items and presentations) followed by a Mental Health Roundtable discussion as part of the Governor Wolf's <i>Reach Out PA: Your Mental Health Matters</i> initiative. He noted that Secretary Torres thought having a mental health roundtable discussion with the LTCC and its committee members was a great opportunity to leverage the expertise and diverse perspectives of the members across the long-term care and policy landscape.</p> |
| 2 | <b>Introduction of Members &amp; Guests</b>                               | Members and guests introduced themselves.   |
| 3 | <b>Approval of December 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes</b>                      | A motion was made by Shane Nugent and seconded by Dr. David Nace, and the December 12, 2019 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.  |
| 4 | <b>Expanding Long-Term Care Services to Pennsylvania Veterans Project</b> | <p>Dr. Darryl Jackson, MD, Chief Medical Officer for the Pennsylvania Department of Military &amp; Veterans Affairs (DMVA), provided additional information regarding DMVA's <i>Expanding LTC Services to Pennsylvania Veterans Project</i>, which he discussed at the last meeting. Dr. Jackson's <a href="#">PowerPoint presentation</a> detailed the project approach and the barriers and strategies identified by the project workgroups based on the following topic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)</li> <li>• Long-Term Care Facilities</li> <li>• Homelessness and Hard to Place Individuals</li> <li>• Physical Health</li> <li>• Behavioral Health, Suicide and Drug &amp; Alcohol</li> <li>• Financial and Regulatory Issues</li> </ul>  |

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|   |   | <p>Dr. Jackson reported that the project report has not yet been finalized as it is still going through the review and approval process. After his presentation, a council member shared information on the <a href="#">Network of Care</a>, an online information portal that connects veterans and others to needed resources and supports.</p>  |
| 5 | <p><b>Behavioral Health Coordination in Community HealthChoices</b></p> | <p>Abigail Coleman, Director of Program Analytics for the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL), and Charles Klinger, System Division Director for DHS' Office of Mental Health &amp; Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS), provided a <a href="#">PowerPoint presentation</a> on Community HealthChoices (CHC) behavioral health (BH) data. In addition to discussing joint OLTL and OMHSAS activities, Ms. Coleman and Mr. Klinger provided information during their presentation on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projected number/percentage of CHC participants who would have had a primary BH diagnosis claim in 2017 had CHC been in existence</li> <li>• Percentage of claims for the dual eligible population funded through Medicare or Medicaid</li> <li>• Percentage of enrolled southwest CHC participants who received a Medicaid only BH service in 2018 compared to the percentage of individuals enrolled in a BH Managed Care Organization who received a Medicaid only BH service in the southwest in 2018 (for ages 21 and older) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Medicaid only BH services include mental health crisis intervention, methadone maintenance, mobile mental health, peer support services, and targeted case management services.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The number of southwest CHC participants that received a Medicaid only BH service in 2018 by population group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Population groups include nursing facility ineligible, home and community-based services (HCBS) duals, long-term care (LTC) duals, HCBS non-duals, and LTC non-duals.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The number of southwest CHC participants that received a Medicaid only BH service in 2018 by CHC-MCO</li> <li>• The number of southwest CHC participants that received a Medicaid only BH service by individual service</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Coleman and Mr. Klinger also informed the council that they are working on data analysis to compare pre- and post-CHC BH utilization. The following is additional information/clarification Ms. Coleman and Mr. Klinger provided in response to questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data presented includes BH HealthChoices encounters that are submitted when a service is delivered through a managed care entity and BH fee-for-service claims.</li> <li>• Future data analysis could likely examine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Participant access to BH services (e.g., how long participants wait for services, etc.)</li> <li>○ Identification of trends/correlations for participants by diagnosis to include mixed diagnoses (physical and behavioral health diagnoses) and various secondary diagnoses</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

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|   |                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subsequent analysis will capture BH data for both southeast and southwest CHC participants and can be broken down by demographics and diagnosis codes, etc.</li> <li>• BH services include mental health and substance use disorder services.</li> <li>• Individuals receiving behavioral health services typically have a behavioral health diagnosis as a primary diagnosis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Behavioral Health diagnoses are defined through the ‘F’ series of International Classification of Diseases (ICD)-10 codes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• DHS submits mental health data annually to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that is reported by SAMHSA through the National Measures Outcomes reports and is available online to the public. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The 2018 Pennsylvania National Outcome Measures Report can be viewed at <a href="https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/cbhsq-reports/Pennsylvania-2018.pdf">https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/cbhsq-reports/Pennsylvania-2018.pdf</a>.</li> <li>○ This data set permits benchmarking of mental health services data with other states.</li> <li>○ Data provided includes BH HealthChoices encounters, county mental health office encounters, and fee-for-service claims.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• For the five Medicaid only BH services discussed today, the data captures a person who received at least one interaction with that service.</li> <li>• If a person had multiple encounters with one of the five Medicaid only BH services, it is counted once in order to have an unduplicated count of individuals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For example, a person who received mental health crisis intervention services multiple times in 2018 is only counted once for mental health crisis intervention.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| 6 | <b>Commonwealth Updates</b> | <p><b>PA Department of Aging (PDA)</b> – Secretary Torres provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Governor’s proposed FY 2020-2021 State Budget includes an additional \$8.1 million to address the increased demand for OPTIONS in-home services and supports. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It is estimated that this new funding will help support approximately 1,700 individuals who need services.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A few weeks ago, PDA staff met with the long-term care provider associations and the House Aging and Older Adult Services Committee staff to discuss the needed reforms to the Older Adult Protective Services Act (OAPSA). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ I was informed that it was a productive discussion, so the hope is that we can get this done before the end of the legislative session.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Older Americans Act still waits reauthorization by Congress, and we are continuing to closely monitor its status.</li> <li>• As noted at the previous meeting, PDA must submit an updated State Plan on Aging to the federal government by July 1 of this year.</li> </ul>  |

- I recently issued a program directive to the Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) as each of the AAAs must develop their own individual area plans.
- PDA shared its state plan goals with the AAAs as we are trying to align our efforts.
  - At the local level, the AAAs are required to hold a public listening session once they have their draft plans developed.
  - PDA is planning on holding at least five public listening sessions around May in partnership with the Pennsylvania Council on Aging's five regional councils.
    - ❖ During those sessions, we will present our draft state plan; explain our goals, objectives, and metrics; and solicit public input.
    - ❖ My goal is to provide this council with a presentation on the state plan this spring so that we can solicit your feedback as well.
- On January 29, PDA's Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (ADRSD) Task Force met for the first of four meetings this year.
  - They discussed priorities and will be working on organizing the annual summit for November.
  - The ADRD Task Force chose Jennifer Holcomb, Director of Memory Support at Cross Keys Village in New Oxford, as the new chair.

**Department of Human Services (DHS)** – Jennifer Hale, Director of the Bureau of Policy and Regulatory Management for DHS' Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL), provided the following updates regarding Community HealthChoices' (CHC) Phase III implementation, the 2021 CHC 1915(c) Waiver amendment, and the Governor's proposed FY 2020-2021 State Budget:

**CHC Phase III Implementation**

- The third and final phase for CHC was implemented on January 1, 2020 in the northeast, northwest, and Lehigh/Capital regions.
- OLTL's priorities through the last phase of implementation remain ensuring that there are no interruptions in participant services and no interruptions in provider payments.
  - We are monitoring the activity closely through launch indicators and ongoing monitoring reports.
    - Throughout the month of January, OLTL held daily huddles with all three CHC Managed Care Organizations and no major issues were identified.
- 144,860 individuals transitioned to CHC during the final phase, with approximately 42% having actively selected their managed care plan.
  - The breakdown for each region is as follows:
    - 41% of the 49,537 individuals from the northeast actively selected their plan.

- 50% of the 27,798 enrolled in the northwest actively selected their plan.
- 40% of the 67,525 enrolled in the Lehigh/Capital region actively selected their plan.

- The distribution of participants among the three managed care organizations is as follows:
  - 37% of participants are enrolled in AmeriHealth Caritas.
  - 36% of participants are enrolled in UPMC.
  - 27% of participants are enrolled in PA Health and Wellness.

2021 CHC 1915(c) Waiver Amendment

- OLTL has reviewed the recommended changes and additions put forth by the Long-Term Care Council last fall to the CHC 1915(c) Waiver and is considering incorporating several of them into the 2021 waiver amendment, including, among other things, adding a “chore service” definition and expanding the definition of personal assistance services to include transportation as a reimbursable service.
  - A few of the recommendations require some additional research and communication with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and a budgetary review, but we are wrapping up those activities and hope to have a public notice issued in early March which will initiate the official public comment.
  - OLTL did have a conversation with CMS regarding the council’s recommendation to cover grocery delivery fees, and although it does not appear to be directly reimbursable under Medicaid, we are examining programs in other states that cover this type of activity.
  - We are also continuing to explore the council’s recommendation of adding assisted living services to the waiver.

Governor’s FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget

- The Governor’s proposed FY 2020-2021 State Budget includes \$1.2 million for the Direct Care Worker (DCW) Training Proposal initiative that will be developed to improve in-home care quality and support retention of the participant-directed direct care workforce.
- Although the training is still in the beginning stages of development, the vision is in line with the council’s direct care worker blueprint and will follow a multi-step integrated approach drawing on best practices.

Ms. Hale provided the following information/clarification in response to questions:

CHC Phase III Implementation

- Active plan selection was slightly higher in Phase III than with the southwest (Phase I) and southeast (Phase II) rollouts.

- This is likely due to enhanced education and outreach efforts, particularly the engagement of the service coordination entities.

2021 CHC 1915(c) Waiver Amendment

- The addition of transportation to the definition of personal assistance services would include mileage (provided the participant’s vehicle is not used) or time spent assisting a participant utilize public transportation, etc.
- DHS will include language in its waiver amendment based on the council’s recommendation of aligning the definition of home-delivered meals to the definition that is utilized by the Department of Aging and federal Administration for Community Living.
- We are still in the process of reviewing the council’s recommendation of adding “affordable housing service coordination” to the waiver.
- The Direct Care Worker (DCW) Training Proposal initiative is focused on the participant-directed model, but OLTL is having discussions as to how this could translate to the agency model as well.
  - The training will include a portable credential and career pathways.

Governor’s FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget

- The Governor’s proposed FY 2020-2021 State Budget also includes a \$1.4 million investment in the Ventilator Dependent Resident Grant Program.
  - The grant program is available to long-term care nursing facilities that support individuals receiving ventilator care, and this initiative will expand access to the grant program through changes in two areas:
    - Evaluating and providing greater flexibility in the number of hours that the resident must need full ventilator support or pressure support in order to be eligible
    - Expanding the supplies and services that are eligible for payment under the grant program to include additional items and potentially lift the caps in place on supplies that are currently covered
  - This funding is in addition to the supplemental funding that has been in the Fiscal Code.

PA Department of Health (DOH) – DOH Executive Policy Specialist Lori Gutierrez provided the following updates:

- The Governor’s proposed FY 2020-2021 State Budget requests approximately \$23.4 million in funding for DOH’s Bureau of Quality Assurance (QA).
  - QA is responsible for ensuring the delivery of quality healthcare in most inpatient and outpatient settings and facilities, as well as reviewing/approving building, engineering, and construction plans for health care facilities.

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|    |                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There have been some delays, but DOH continues to work on updating the long-term care (nursing home) facility licensure regulations and will present them to its Long-Term Care Workgroup once completed.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pennsylvania Council on Aging (PCoA)</u></b> – Janice Cameron, who represents the PCoA on the Long-Term Care Council, provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The PCoA remains focused on addressing social isolation of older adults and expects to have a report completed by the end of the year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For those unfamiliar with social isolation, studies have found that being social isolated contributes significantly to both mental and physical health issues. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It has been reported that being socially isolated has the same effect on a person’s health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>PA Department of Military &amp; Veterans Affairs (DMVA)</u></b> – DMVA Chief Medical Officer Dr. Darryl Jackson informed the council that the Southeastern Veterans’ Center in Spring City plans to open the department’s first adult day program in 2021.</p> |
| 7  | <b>Open Session</b>             | There were no public comments during the open session portion of the meeting.   |
| 8  | <b>Lunch</b>                    |   |
| 9  | <b>Mental Health Roundtable</b> | Secretary Torres moderated a roundtable discussion as part of Governor Wolf’s <i>Reach Out PA: Your Mental Health Matters</i> initiative. Participants included Long-Term Care Council and committee members and guests. View the <a href="#">LTCC Mental Health Roundtable Notes</a> for a summary of the discussion, including identified challenges and recommendations.   |
| 10 | <b>Adjournment</b>              | The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.  |