

WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL ON AGING

JANUARY 26, 2016 STATE COUNCIL ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:	Barry Lamont, Aruna Bhuta, Carl Bender, Cheryl Townsend Winter, Ava Frisinger, Javier Figueroa, Ron Vivion, Patricia McIntyre. Paul Malinski, Marty Johnston, Peggi Moxley, Phillip Lemley, Suzanne Holmes, Joanne Levine
Members Absent:	Sen .Karen Keiser, Joanne Levine, Rep. Sherry Appleton, Rep. Linda Kochmar, Courtney Jaren, Helen Spencer
Guests:	Walt Bowen, Cathy Knight
ALTSA Staff:	Rosemary Biggins, Bea Rector

ACTION ITEMS LIST		
Meeting Date: January 26, 2016	WHO	DEADLINE/DUE DATE
1. Members schedule appointments to meet with their Legislators on Senior Lobby Day 2/25	All	ASAP
2. Helen Spencer will contact Nancy Hooyman re: Interdisciplinary perspective	Helen	Carry over from Jan meeting
3. Develop draft LTE for Older Americans Act	PA&E Committee	TBD
4. Draft letters to Rep Newhouse, AWC, Sen Keiser	Rosemary	Pending
5. Send Council members Information about the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Innovative Leadership Network (HILN) • LTSS /ALTSA project templates for Global Waiver Transformation projects • Accountable Communities of Health 	Rosemary	Done
6. Resend information on Hawaii LTC Financing Study to new members	Rosemary	Done
7. Post Guardianship PowerPoint	Rosemary	Done
8. Forward information on Elder Justice Center related legislation	Rosemary	Done
9. Contact Massachusetts colleagues about EESI	Joanne	TBD

Welcome, Remarks, and Introductions

Barry Lamont, Chairperson welcomed new member Ava Frisinger who is representing the planning service area of Aging & Disability Services (King County). Ava shared information about her history of involvement in human services. Members introduced themselves to Ava.

Council Business

The agenda was reviewed and approved. Previous meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. Action items were reviewed with number 2 pending.

Barry discussed need for volunteer to work with Cathy Knight on planning for the October joint conference with W4A. Phil Lemley volunteered.

Phil reported on his meeting with Representative Dan Newhouse and indicated Rep. Newhouse is interested in meeting with the Council to discuss federal legislative priorities. A letter will be drafted for Chairperson signature for Phil to use to extend an invite to a meeting

Council members discussed meeting speakers and presentations for 2016 including EMT program previously discuss, inviting Rep. Newhouse, State Senator Karen Keiser, Dave Williams, Association of Cities and Nancy Hooyman to future meetings. Draft letters will be developed for the Chairperson to send speaking invitations.

Partner Updates

W4A Update –Cathy Knight

Cathy reported that 30 legislators/aides showed up at legislative breakfast. They also delivered information packets about shared Age Wave Coalition shared priorities.

The Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging & Disability (JLEC) has added the State Ombuds for the Long Term Care Ombuds Program and Disability Rights Washington to its membership.

Ron Vivion shared that during the legislative breakfast Rep. Tharinger and Sen Bailey also spoke about the work of the JLEC

Cathy provided an update on the status of the Aging Mastery Program Grant from the National Council on Aging (NCOA). They will have 13 sites. Cheryl Townsend Winter is the Council representative for this grant.

NCOA staff is coming to the state for a training about the grant in February. The grant advisory committee is also attending NCOA training.

There is a grant template to follow, that can be adapted at local level. Cathy thanked Phil for bringing in people from the Tri-Cities area to participate.

Cheryl commented that she's pleased with geographic distribution of grant participants across the state.

Washington is one of 3 states with the grant

Cathy MacCaul is in hearings today on the CARE legislation

Elder Economic Security Standard Index data for future is questionable - Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW) the grant host has closed doors- data is still available at the moment but there is an uncertain future

Ron mentioned the LTC financing study as being possible interested in the EESI data

Joanne Levine will get in touch with her contacts in Massachusetts to see if she can find any additional information about the data

Senior Lobby-Walt Bowen

Walt shared there is legislative information available on the Senior Lobby website. Bill information is listed under specific topic areas. The full range of bills are available to comment on.

There are lots of bills on environmental issues and impact on seniors this session .

Javier asked how to track a specific bill. Walt described best way is to go directly to the bill , the page will let you know what committee it's in. He also explained that budget provisos will come up later in session.

Phil commented that what's happening in Flint, Michigan with lead in the water may impact legislation with environmental focus.

Wildfire concerns continue to be a significant issue as relates to figuring out funding

Walt reported on legislation proposed that's focused on guardianship

Guardianship is on JLEC's agenda

The Group Health & Kaiser Permanente merger was discussed

Council Legislative Committee Update-Ron Vivion

Ron updated members on changes to legislative priorities that were made after the November meeting.

Ron discussed representing council to the Age Wave Coalition and welcomed others to call in to meetings if they are interested. The meetings are set for Wednesdays at noon during session

Ron reviewed two bills currently in the House

1499 – Would do the following:

- Makes it is a Criminal Mistreatment offense when a person, with criminal negligence (instead of recklessly) withholds the basic necessities of life from the child or dependent person.
- Creates the crime of Theft from a Vulnerable Adult in the first and second degree.
- Adds the crimes of Criminal Mistreatment and Theft from a Vulnerable Adult to the list of crimes against persons.
- Makes the statute of limitations for the crime of Theft from a Vulnerable Adult six years.
- Creates multidisciplinary personnel teams to consult with one another and share records that are relevant to the prevention or treatment of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults.

1839

- would expand the Office of Public Guardianship (OPG) to establish and administer supported decision-making assistance programs in concert with public guardianship programs

Ron encouraged members to access the Senior Lobby and WA Legislative site for the legislative resources available

Currently Joanne is focused on transportation issues, Ron on veteran issues and Barry the judiciary issues

Kinship Caregiver Program- Hilarie Hauptman

Hilarie began her presentation with a KOMO News story on Kinship Caregiving that aired several years ago and featured former Council member Diane Snell. The feature provided a description of the program and the organizing efforts at the local level that brought the program to state level

Kinship Care often comes as a surprise to both the child and the relative caregiver. When parents are unable or unwilling to care for their children, placing with a relative caregiver can have some

advantages. Kinship Care reduces the trauma children experience when placed with strangers. It enhances children's sense of identity and self-esteem, continues the connections children have to their siblings and other relatives, and strengthens the family's ability to give children the support they need.

Currently the program is available in 30 of 39 counties

In WA State, an estimated 53,000 children are being raised by grandparents and other relatives.

- For every **one** (3,971) child who is raised by a relative and is involved with the formal child welfare system (in out-of-home care and receiving case management) there are **12** (49,029) children living "informally" with a relative.
- ALTSA and the Economic Services Administration focus primarily on the children and their relatives who are not involved with the child welfare (Children's Administration) system, while CA focuses primarily on the children placed with their relatives through the child welfare system, due to child abuse or neglect.
- ALTSA, CA, and ESA have collaborated on supporting kinship care families since early 2000s on a variety of initiatives including two legislative reports (2002), the Kinship Care Oversight Committee (since 2003 with CA as the lead agency) and other statewide activities.

Hilarie discussed the activities of current Kinship programs throughout the state and also shared examples of relatives who become caregivers in emergency circumstances and the help they receive from the program.

She also shared information about the Voices of Children contest and Trudi Inslee's involvement. The winner is honored at the Governor's mansion and receives other prizes. More information may be found here: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/kinship-care/whats-new>

There is now a national score card for 'State of Grandparents Taking on Parental Role for Grandchildren and our state currently ranks 5th

WA State's kinship care efforts were profiled in a publication released May 2015: *Support Matters: Lessons from the Field on Services for Adoptive, Foster, and Kinship Care Families*, developed by AdoptUSKids. See pages 198-200 at <http://www.nrcdr.org/develop-and-support-families/support-matters>

ALTSA has a webpage on the Kinship Caregiver that includes a handbook. The webpage is located here: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/home-and-community-services-kinship-care/kinship-care>

Note: post meeting- on February 16th WA State's Kinship Navigators were highlighted in a national story 'More Grandparents Taking on Parental Role for Grandchildren:
<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/grandparents-taking-parental-role-grandkids-36965897>

Legislative Committee Update cont. & Health Innovations Leadership Update- Ron Vivion

Ron discussed adding the restoration of Medicaid funded hearing and vision supports to Council legislative priorities

Next Wednesday Ron is meeting with Senator Murray and has also scheduled a meeting with Rep. DelBene to discuss the Council's federal legislative priorities

Ron asked members to contact their legislators and set up meetings in advance of Senior Lobby day. He will be asking members to confirm meetings at the next Council meeting

Health Innovations Leadership Network (HILN) meeting

Ron provided a brief overview of the project, main objectives and role of the HILN. Additional information may be located here: <http://www.hca.wa.gov/hw/Pages/hiln.aspx>

He also touched on the federal demonstration project focused on improving health care and also integrating behavioral and physical healthcare. More information may be found here: http://www.hca.wa.gov/hw/Pages/communities_of_health.aspx

Ron used example of dental care, currently there are 13,000 people going to emergency room for dental care, there are additional fee for service issues & the need for a different approach

Joanne expressed concern about the geographic overlay of Accountable Communities of Health (ACA) and Area Agencies on Aging, as well as lack of service access issues.

Phil shared that he's involved in meeting about ACA in his area.

Council Focus Areas

Guardianship

Peggi Moxley reported on the WINGS grant- She is on committee to get information and training about guardianship out to people

There is a WINGs conference being planned and scheduled for March 17th in Seattle.

CFCO

Aruna reported on assistive technology aspect and the development of CFC handbook.

Elder Justice

HB 1499, and legislation for Elder Justice Centers was discussed.

ALZHEIMER'S state plan

Cheryl shared that an event with Governor Inslee is being scheduled to publicly announce the plan. A legislative resolution is also being planned

Barry informed members that since CFCO is now fully operational it will no longer be a focus area.

Barry also informed members that he will serve on the legislative committee

ALTSA Update- Bea Rector

Bea provided an update on the following:

1115 waiver

In partnership with the Health Care Authority- have been meeting with CMS over the past few months to discuss policy. As an outcome we will not be delinking nursing facility equivalence eligibility.

ALTSA has submitted the following transformation projects templates related to the Global Transformation Waiver

- Care Transitions Intervention Model for Persons with Chronic Health Conditions
- Chronic Disease Self-Education Program
- Increase Dementia Capability of Providers
- Increase Health Outcomes Leveraging the LTC Worker
- Peer and Family Peer Support
- Value Based Purchasing in Home and Community Services
- LTC Workforce Development

We'll send additional information and webpage links about the projects and appreciate Council member take a look at the projects that are beneficial to community based long term supports and services and submit comments.

HCA has received 177 projects applications

Bea & members discussed 1915(c) and 1915(k) Medicaid Waiver eligibility and nursing facility level of care. A 1915(i) requires less than nursing facility level of care

Nursing Home Payment System

There was a legislative directive to simplify the payment structure so group has been working on this and now there is proposed legislation to implement.

There has also been a mechanism in place to pay lower rate for aspects of care for lower acuity residents, however this has not been fully implemented

With the new approach, the lower acuity 'penalty' would be fully implemented so bills are being developed to address. AL TSA is not in favor of saying all lower acuity must leave because for some individuals a nursing facility is an appropriate setting

Overtime (OT) *(as pertains to recent NLB ruling)*

DSHS is moving to weekly care plans from monthly plan

This is being done because with monthly care plan total hours worked could be paid in one week resulting in an overtime price tag of 350 million.

The intent of implementation of weekly care plan is to minimize exposure to overtime and part of doing due diligence

Members asked questions about implementation of OT as well as weekly care plans

The Governor's budget is based on paying up to 45 hours without additional authorization required

Marty expressed concerned about impact on direct services and if can we look at ways that IT can increase efficiencies.

Members and AL TSA staff also discussed the following: prior authorization for OT, direct services impact, IT efficiencies, payment methods and use of technology, accountability mechanisms for ensuring hours worked, client needs relative to weekly vs. monthly, what is involved in collective bargaining agreement and the Provider One system.

The final outcome will be determined via the CBA process, legislation, budget and administrative policy decisions. The state is facing increasing numbers needing to be served and imperative to serve as many people as possible, so trying to ensure balanced approach to OT.

Health Homes

ALTSA received CMS report estimating the state would receive 10 million in cost savings (Medicare)---there is the potential the amount could be less if there is significant increase in Medicaid spending.

Care coordinating entities for Health Homes include some of the AAA's.

Long Term Services and Supports Financing Study

This study is required as an outcome of recent legislation. Review of proposals is complete with a successful bidder identified.

State Alzheimer's Plan

The plan has been delivered to the Legislature and will be posted this week.

Policy Alternatives for Compensation of Legally Responsible Individuals- Alan Gossett

Alan presented a very detailed PowerPoint and covered key aspects and impacts and also distributed a handout outlining the issue. Because of the level of detail involved, please reference the PowerPoint presentation and handout distributed at the meeting.

New Business

Please see action items

Meeting Adjourned at 2:45 PM