

Advisory Council on Aging

The Advisory Council on Aging meeting was held via Microsoft Teams and in person on Tuesday October 8, 2024.

Members Present: Cheryl Anagnopoulos, James Severson, Gale Walker, Erik Gaikowski, Tammy Hatting, Cody Seehafer, Brett Hoffman and Michele Juffer.

Members Absent: Brett Hoffman, Jenna Douglas

Guidehouse: Rina Griffin and Laura Rapoport

Public Participants: Mackenzie Huber (SD Searchlight), Thomas Elness (Alzheimer's Association SD Chapter)

Welcome (Heather Krzmarzick)

Heather welcomed the group and turned over to Chairman Anagnopoulos. Chairman Cheryl Anagnopoulos called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM CST.

Approval of Agenda (Cheryl Anagnopoulos)

Tammy made a motion to approve the agenda, Michele seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes (Cheryl Anagnopoulos)

Meeting Minutes from the April 2024 meeting were attached to the invite for members to review. Motion for approval by Cody, seconded by Gale. Motion passed.

Long Term Services and Supports Updates:

Heather discussed updates for the Division of Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) as follows:

CMS HCBS Settings Onsite review and follow up

Back in May 2024, CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) conducted an onsite visit to review the implementation of the HCBS (Home and Community Based Services) Settings Final Rule. This is for Assisted Livings, Community Living Homes, and Adult Day settings within LTSS. CMS was complementary of South Dakota settings. CMS' systemic findings after a review of 2 assisted livings and 1 community living home were:

- limited integration to the community - South Dakota notes that all of its Assisted Living Facilities are integrated, with the majority of residents not receiving Medicaid HCBS. People receiving HCBS have full access to the activities and programming, alongside residents who do not receive Medicaid HCBS.
- Setting selection includes an option for a non-disability specific setting – essentially more options, including an apartment, with a focus on integration into the community. SD does not consider our settings to be a disability setting. LTSS uses Charting the Lifecourse for person-centered planning and will begin using the Integrated Support Star to assist with this remediation.
- Lease/Residency Agreements – There were no due process or appeal rights in many of the

leases/residency agreements to protect from evictions according to landlord/tenant law or comparable protections on evictions and appeals. But the eviction protections for tenants in South Dakota are statutory and apply to everyone, regardless of disability. SDCL Title 43 outlines requirements for leases in a variety of situations. Because these rights are codified for all tenants in South Dakota, individuals with disabilities are protected, regardless of whether their lease specifies these protections.

- Modifications to conditions of HCBS Settings rule – ensuring provider documentation for appropriate instances to approve a modification to one or more of the HCBS Settings rules; essentially a provider cannot give blanket restrictions (i.e. access a kitchen, have a lock on their door, choice of roommate, etc.)

Proposed response is due to CMS this week with a remediation plan. For each of the above, our response includes providing education to providers and LTSS, resolving individual settings findings, seeking evidence of compliance (policies, etc.) from all settings, review of evidence, and ongoing monitoring over the course of one year.

HOPE Waiver Amendment

HOPE Waiver Administrative Rules were heard at the July 2024 Interim Rules Committee. Updates to the HOPE Waiver amendment align with the effective date of the Administrative Rules of October 1, 2024.

Technology Equipment Grants

SB 80 - This bill appropriated \$2M to DHS for Technology equipment grants for state licensed Medicaid providers primarily serving older adults. LTSS awarded all of the funds and most of the contracts have been signed.

Alzheimer's Disease Program Initiative grant (ADPI)

LTSS applied for the Alzheimer's Disease Program Initiative grant (ADPI) earlier this year as we discussed in April. The application addressed two objectives:

- The sustainability of dementia-capable services for people with dementia and their family caregivers (utilizing Dakota at Home).
- Ensure access to comprehensive, sustainable services that are dementia-capable and provide innovative services to the population with dementia and their caregivers.

In September, DHS was awarded the grant. LTSS is meeting with ACL (Administration on Community Living) as it is a cooperative grant so the planning phase is at least the first six months, up to one year, before starting in Aberdeen as the first pilot community. Next, after applying lessons learned and approval from ACL, we would pilot in Belle Fourche. Avenues to build this collaboration include:

- Dementia Dialogues – nationally recognized evidence based training

- Memory Cafes – safe and welcoming place for those living with dementia and their caregivers to socialize or be together to enjoy activities
- Trualta (online caregiver education and wellness platform, including support groups)
- Caregiver classes
- Education and collaboration within pilot community
- Finding ways to align and partner with the BOLD (Building Our Largest Dementia) Infrastructure Grant

Council Input, Ideas or Questions

State Plan on Aging Listening Session led by DHS vendor, Guidehouse.

Heather started the session with information on the Older Americans Act programs. The current state plan on aging spans 2021-2025. An RFP was released to complete the next plan effective October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2029 and the state awarded a contract to Guidehouse. The plan is required by ACL (Administration for Community Living), so it is focused on the Older Americans Act related to assisting older adults, their families and caregivers. It involves a needs assessment survey of stakeholders, a strategic blueprint for coordination efforts to meet the needs of older adults.

There are many new requirements and considerations for the State Plan on Aging, with the updated OAA regulation. There will need to be a focus on determining the “greatest social and economic need” as this is a requirement. Additionally, LTSS will be looking at the needs of formal and informal caregivers. Heather introduced Rina and Laura from Guidehouse to facilitate the discussion.

Questions for discussion were asked and members offered their insight. Information will be included with the listening session feedback.

Public Comment

No comments from the public.

Next Meeting

April 8th from 1-3pm. Please let us know if there are any agenda items to add for next meeting.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Tammy. Second by Erik. All in favor to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM