

LANCASTER COUNTY OFFICE OF AGING
Advisory Council Minutes
October 3, 2016

Members Present: Joe Burchill, Carl Kanaskie, Mary Keech, Bill Kelley, Tom Kloss*, Vicki Muzyk, Gloria Schleicher and Jon Walker

Staff: Jacqueline Burch, Erica Shimp, Bev Via and Lon Wible

Excused: Emily Booker, Glenn Knight, Jennifer Opinaldo and Bob Sauders

Guests: Commissioner Craig Lehman

(*Associate Member)

Executive Committee member Mary Keech called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM following adjournment of the public hearing on the FY 2016-2017 Aging Services Area Plan Budget. Minutes from the August 2016 meeting were approved.

Chair's Report

- A motion was made by Carl Kanaskie and seconded by Joe Burchill to approve the FY 2016-17 Aging Services Area Plan Budget as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

- APPRISE program coordinator, Bev Via provided information on the upcoming Medicare Annual Enrollment Period which runs from October 15 - December 7, 2016. She and several trained volunteers will be available at numerous sites throughout the County to assist individuals review and compare coverage and cost of plans being offered. More information can be found at www.medicare.gov which includes a tool to find and compare plans.
- An update was provided about the state's selection of three managed care organizations (MCOs) to implement Community Health Choices (CHC) beginning in 2017. AmeriHealth Caritas, Pennsylvania Health and Wellness (Centene), and UPMC are expected to serve more than 420,000 individuals statewide under CHC, coordinating physical health and long-term services and supports for those dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. Several MCOs not selected are appealing the state's decision.
- Rates for area agencies to conduct assessments or level of care determinations (LCD) under contract with the state via 'Aging Well' are still being negotiated, as is finalization of the new LCD tool to be used.
- As discussed previously, a letter of intent has been signed by the County for us to work with Comprehensive Care Connections (C3), a non-profit corporation established to assist area agencies on aging in preparing for and negotiating with MCOs as part of CHC implementation.

- Issues continue across the state with Maximus, the designated independent enrollment broker (IEB) for Waiver services. Since April, nearly 500 referrals were sent to them from Lancaster County with the outcome of many still unconfirmed. The Department of Human Services expects to release a new RFP soon for this important enrollment function.

Regional Council

- Discussion continued about CHC implementation, the role and performance of the IEB, and efforts underway to address the problems particularly for consumers and their families.

Old Business

- Word was received that the SHIP (State Health Insurance Program) – known in PA as APPRISE – will be granted federal funds for another three-year period.
- The All Centers’ Picnic held September 28th was a huge success. Over 400 participants enjoyed music, games, a pinewood derby, antique car show and lunch.

New Business

- Several changes are occurring with the former ‘Prime Time Health’ program, now called ‘Health & Wellness’ by the state. Beginning October 1st all federally funded activities must be evidenced-based, and an advisory council will need to be created. Anyone interested in serving in this capacity should notify Lon Wible.

With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Recorder

Executive Director

For additional information contact Lancaster County Office of Aging at (717) 299-7979, E-mail: aging@co.lancaster.pa.us, or go to www.lancoaging.org.