

Martin J. O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Gloria Lawlah
Secretary



July 16, 2014

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
State House, H-107
Annapolis, MD 21401 - 1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House of Delegates
State House, H-101
Annapolis, MD 21401 - 1991

RE: MSAR Article 6505, HU § 10-310, SB 6/Ch. 3(2), 2007, Annual Report for the Interagency Committee on Aging Services (IAC)

Dear President Miller and Speaker Busch:

Enclosed are the meeting minutes for the Interagency Committee on Aging Services that serves as the Annual Report for 2013.

The IAC met during 2013 and received training on Maryland's single point of entry system for long term care services known as Maryland Access Points. The various representatives from the state agencies and the representatives shared information on their agencies' programs and new initiatives. The members agreed to continue to share agency information and best practices for the coordination of services to older adults and adults with disabilities at the local level.

Please contact Donna DeLeno Neuworth, Legislative Liaison at 410-767-1097 or donna.delenoneuworth@maryland.gov if you would like additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Gloria Lawlah". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Gloria Lawlah
Secretary

Cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services

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INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON AGING SERVICES
Maryland Department of Aging
301 West Preston Street
Baltimore, MD
October 22, 2013

Meeting Minutes

Present:

Kelli Cummings, Maryland Department of Disabilities
Casey Tiefenwerth, Maryland Department of Disabilities
Theresa Dieabanowski, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation;
David Klingler, Maryland Department of Disabilities
Lisa Jordan, Governor's Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Phil Munley, Maryland Department of Veteran Affairs
Dorinda A Adams, Department of Human Resources, Office of Adult Services;
Lee Hammond, Consumer Representative
Shirley Devaris, Maryland Board of Nursing;
Mark Leeds, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Stuart Rosenthal, Maryland Commission on Aging;
Karen Winkowski, Harford County Area Agency on Aging
Stephanie Hull, Deputy Secretary, Maryland Department of Aging
Teja Rau, Maryland Department of Aging
Martha Roach, Maryland Department of Aging
Donna Deleno Neuworth, Maryland Department of Aging
Rosanne Hanratty, ReServe, Maryland Department of Aging

Deputy Stephanie Hull opened the meeting with the request that all attendees provide a brief description and update on the program or group that they represent and its work and challenges, and the attendees' objectives for their participation on the IAC.

The discussion and updates included:

- Identification of the workload and program challenges generated by public questions about the Affordable Care Act generally and open enrollment in Health Insurance Exchanges, specifically.
- Outline of the services and benefit programs available under the auspices of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Explanation of the housing rehabilitation loan programs for veterans, older people and people with disabilities.

- Description of an attendant care program covering among others people at risk of nursing home placement and other older adults.
- Outline of Memoranda of Understanding among State agencies covering peer outreach and support for beneficiaries of Money Follows the Person waivers; technical assistance to enhance “options counseling” and self-directed training for Community First Choice participants.
- Summary of role of regulation for multiple types of medical professions under the Board of Nursing and changes planned in the certification process for nursing assistants as well as the program for certified medical technicians.
- Various partnership programs to enhance communication access for people who are deaf or who have hearing impediments, including residents in long-term care facilities, and participants in various day programs for older adults.
- Initiatives of the State Commission on Aging including the summit between the state commission and local commissions on aging that included presentations and discussion of the concept of Communities for a Lifetime, its implementation in Maryland counties and how local commissions can help initiate and enhance such communities.
- The role of caregiver resource centers and certification funded by a state grant, of master trainers for caregiver resource programs.
- Efforts to “rebalance” the expenditure of Medicaid dollars such that the proportion spent on home-based services increases and that spent on institutional services decreases

Teja Rau of the MDoA gave a detailed presentation on the “Community First Choice” program; options counseling including that for people who would like to transition out of residence in long-term care facilities and initiatives that integrate the efforts of Maryland Access Point (the designation for Aging and Disability Resource Centers in MD), Centers for Independent Living and Area Agencies on Aging—including co-location of staff.

Discussion and Future Plans

A broad-based discussion of common issues and interfaces and specific questions from participants to other participants followed. This led to an expression of interest by participants in the IAC’s becoming more proactive in facilitating information-sharing and integration of sometimes disparate initiatives. This was followed by the suggestion that the group conduct an internal survey on the fruitfulness of the information-sharing that occurred and the direction that this could take in the future.