

**Department for Aging & Independent Living**  
**Quarterly Meeting with Area Agencies on Aging & Independent Living**  
**MINUTES**  
**August 21, 2019**

Commissioner Gadd opened the meeting at 1 p.m. with the introduction of Bill Cooper, Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts. He presented the Kentucky Medicare Advantage Learning Collaborative Readiness Assessment. This is a partnership with the purpose of the collaboration to prepare us for potential contracts with Advantage Care Plans. We are one of eleven groups chosen, nationally, out of about 110 applications to be part of the collaboration. The benchmarks for the collaboration are 1) Learn the framework to develop value proposition for Medicare plans, 2) learn how to evaluate and prioritize contracting opportunities, 3) increase mileage of Medicare advantage plans, 4) utilize the infer readiness assessment to judge our strengths and weaknesses, 5) identify Medicare Advance partners, 6) develop a customized value proposition. The four chosen plans that we target and anticipate working with are: Anthem, Aetna, Humana, and WellCare. Bill went over the assessment results and detailed Kentucky's readiness. The assessment results handout is attached.

**Introductions**

Commissioner Gadd lead introductions as each attendee introduced themselves, in-person and those attending via Zoom Videoconferencing. All AAAIL were represented except Kentucky River.

**Mission Moment**

The quarterly Mission Moment was the GRADD "One Away" Program which was presented by Jennifer Williams and Jeanette Woodward. Jeannette gave background on the McLean County Senior Center Program and showed a video highlighting interviews and benefits of the program. The National Council on Aging asked them to work on the "One Away" Campaign, which is about getting the Older Americans Act reauthorized. Premise is "everybody is one step away from a financial crisis".

**Old Business**

- a. Hunger Summit -- Marnie talked about the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Hunger Summit coming up October 30<sup>th</sup> in Frankfort at Buck Run, 1950 Leestown Road, the first of what will be an annual event. Emails were sent to everyone with information announcing Kentucky's Hunger Summit. The Cabinet will share via social media. Enid Borden, Founder and CEO National Foundation to End Senior Hunger will be here to kick off the event. Dr. James Ziliak, Founding Director, Center for Poverty Research, University of Kentucky who is the co-author of Ending Senior Hunger Report that's produced every other year will also join us. A great day is planned. Marnie encouraged everyone to register via the DAIL website. There is a registration fee of \$20. This is a day that we can talk about how we can come up with solutions to end senior hunger in Kentucky. GRADD will do a segment on the pilot program they are doing in their region and we will have a panel of speakers from various food banks from across Kentucky. We see this as a day for advocates, professionals, anybody that is passionate about ending senior hunger to come together and talk, brainstorm and come up with solutions. We are seeking sponsorships to help pilot projects that come out of the discussions on October 30<sup>th</sup>. We hope everyone chooses to attend.
- b. Medicaid Rate Study – Commissioner Gadd told the group that recommendations are being introduced to sub-committee in Frankfort today. The recommendations are not public knowledge yet but they are very positive for us. Commissioner Gadd wants to have Medicaid do a Webinar for the AAA's about the rate study and how they arrived at the numbers.

## Standing Items

- a. Program Updates/Reminders – Edward is applying for a new 5-year SHIP Grant. He finished up the Government Contracts Committee with the Legislators. Amanda gave an update on new nutrition guidelines. Every kitchen must have a supervisor/manager certified with a kitchen manger’s license. Senior Center food handlers are encouraged to have food handler’s licenses. Senior Centers need to contact their local health department for their individual requirements. Also, each senior center needs the clean-up policy (vomit and diarrhea clean-up kit). She will be sending out a template policy that public health sent her after she reviews. Lastly, Amanda stated that toppings that are served with meals (like lettuce, tomatoes and onions) must have temperature taken with a metal probe thermometer. The temperature cannot be taken with an infrared thermometer. If you have any questions, please call Amanda.
- b. NAPIS – Jeanette noted that NAPIS is coming. She sent everyone their items in process for review. She will be doing trainings as in the past. The two on-site trainings will be held at FIVCO and Purchase, most likely the beginning of October. She will do Zoom as well. There are no changes to NAPIS this year.
- c. SAMS – Jeanette brought attention to the recent changes in SAM’s. She recently added care enrollment status to keep better track as we move into the waiting list in SAMs. This is a good way to tell a story. For instance, if someone has to go into a nursing home or passes away this is a compelling way we can tell our story and document it in a data base. Use the enrollment status to your advantage. As a reminder, the first waiting list will be run at the end of September. If you need to get caught up, you have time. We will start running reports in September as needed. Commissioner Gadd emphasized how important that information is with telling the story to the Secretary’s office since they are on-board with clearing our meals wait list. Jeanette also added journal types for data transmission. Everyone is welcome to use those but there is no requirement to. The staging area of SAMS 3 is being updated and tested. Be aware that in some instances the computer clocks being off a little bit can keep you from logging in. Syncing your clock with the server or internet clock will prevent that from happening. She said this update will be smoother.
- d. Contracts – Commissioner Gadd stated that her staff is working on the taxonomy. Kentucky Law and the definition used in the Regulations are different then the definition used by the Feds. Since we can choose which direction, she is going to use the Federal definitions. It will be reviewed after NASUAD comes. Regarding unregistered services, we are not required to report those demographics on the NAPIS, however since data can be very powerful telling the story in getting grants, giving the legislature a picture of what we do and our work we will record those. At the state level the demographics we’ve decided to use are name; above-or-below poverty; race; county; and, age. This is still draft level but we are 99% sure it will be those five.
- e. Grants/National Center on Advancing Person-Centered Practices & Systems (NCAPPS) – Marnie talked about the stakeholders meeting last month. They discussed life force trajectory of goals and how to use that to reach milestones in your life. Taking life goals and life wants and fitting them into a plan of care. We are learning how we can help do that through a technical assistance grant, from which we receive no funding. The next task we’ve been given is to see what the Cabinet is doing. The Department for Behavioral Health, Adult Substance Abuse Branch has implemented their own person-centered planning approach and we will be reviewing that. Medicaid is presenting what they are doing at the HCBS Conference in Baltimore. We are pulling together what all the Cabinet organizations are doing. The Commissioner is doing a presentation at the HCBS Conference next week. The Commissioner received a grant from NCAPPS that has no funding attached but provides technical assistance by looking at our programs. They will make recommendations on how we can do a better job making things “person-centered.” They will be reaching out to Jennifer Williams to get general information from the AAAs as a group. It is a 3-year project that will be re-evaluated every year and provide additional technical support. We have six-month targets. The end of

September is the end of our first six-month period. A question was asked if DAIL was looking at restructuring the plans of care that the AAAs are using now for their services. Marnie said DAIL will look at other agencies and see what Medicaid is doing. The next step is seeing what the Cabinet is doing and then looking at our plan of care and she will report after the HCBS Conference.

### **New Business**

- a. **COAPS** – Michelle Hines gave an overview of the Certified Older Adult Peer Mentorship Program. Several AAA directors attended the ACL Director’s conference in Atlanta. At that meeting Kentucky formed a work group to come up with projects and discussed implementing them. They discussed mental health and aging, listened to a presentation on the Certified Older Adult Peer Mentorship Program and Pennsylvania’s peer mentorship program of older persons working with other older persons. Michelle participated in a group conference call on July 15<sup>th</sup> for this interactive program. The focus was a mentorship involving substance abuse mentoring. Kentucky does not have the certification for the older adult peer mentorship program. Some legislative changes are needed for Kentucky to have the older adult program. Behavioral Health is interested. Medicare will reimburse for the program. The group’s plan is to partner with the peer mentorship program at Behavioral Health and educate them on working with the aging population. Members of the group are: Michelle Hines, Jill Collins, Celeste Collins, Leigh Powell, Commissioner Gadd (Kelli Sheets will serve for the Commissioner), Regina Goodman, Jessica Elkin, Tiffany Smither, Lynn Evans, Barbara Gordon, Gwen Landis and Susan Taylor.
- b. **AmeriCorps** – Kelli gave an update on the Active Choices grant, a telephone-based physical activity program proven to increase physical activity in homebound older adults. The program will begin November 1<sup>st</sup>. The five participating ADDs/regions are: KIPDA (Louisville); Pennyrile (Hopkinsville); Kentucky River (Hazard); Lake Cumberland (Russell Springs); and Bluegrass (Lexington). The AAAILs are providing office space for the AmeriCorps staff and volunteers and some supervision of the 20 full and part-time positions.
- c. **HB 189** – Buddy gave an update on the extension that was given for the submission of 4<sup>th</sup> quarter reports. The extended deadline is August 31<sup>st</sup>. Six have been submitted. This should help everyone with the report that is due at the beginning of December since the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter will be done. We are two years in now and it is preferred that we get them submitted sooner.
- d. **Workforce Pilot** - Buddy updated everyone on the workforce side of our pilot. We have our first person starting at Bluegrass on Monday in Social Work. She is coming from Asbury. One will be working with us from ECU this semester, and we have one from Kentucky State University that interviewed today. Outside the pilot region, Barren River has one to start on Monday, and we have one interviewing with Gateway tomorrow. Amanda and Buddy are working on a nutrition internship program that Bluegrass and KIPDA will start in January. Buddy will reach out to the ADD directors regarding a pilot project to start working with their Workforce Boards to stay in touch with Social work programs in their areas so that we can get students in those areas to be paid as well.
- e. **Alzheimer’s Task Force** - Buddy and Bill both serve on that task force and have attended two meetings with another one next week. The report will come out in October from the Legislature with what they hope to achieve. Right now it is information gathering. If anyone is interested in coming, it is in Frankfort. Buddy will send out the schedule.
- f. **NASUAD Kick-Off** – Commissioner announced that we are officially kicking off NASUAD coming on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. She asked everyone to start making a list of their questions. NASUAD is looking at what DAIL does with Guardianship, Aging, Waivers, and how can we do better in partnership with Medicaid, how we can get Medicaid funding to do what we already do and review best practices for what we can do better.
- g. **Monitoring** – Kelli stated that monitoring will be getting started again. Everyone will get the usual two-day notice. Please remember to put as much information in SAMS as you can so we can cut

down our expenses and traveling time. Commissioner stated that NASUAD would look at our monitoring to see if there is a better process. Current year monitoring was brought up and Kelli stated that it has been discussed. The transition to current year will be difficult but DAIL is not at all opposed to it. We are keeping status quo for the moment until NASUAD looks at it.

### **Discussion**

Tiffany Smither thanked everyone for submitting their budget on time. She and the financial staff appreciate it. This is her first budget cycle working with financial liaisons through this process. If you have questions, please reach out to Tiffany. She will be working on the bi-annual budget for the Cabinet. That takes about two months and will be submitted by October 25<sup>th</sup>.

There was a question that came up in the previous meeting about a new needs survey they received from Community Action and there was a consensus of concern whether it answers what is needed from the Older Americans Act and what they are guided to retain in the Older Americans Act, like the top needs. They are accustomed to it being more specific of Aging Services. The AAAs are concerned they are not going to be able to get what they need to build the Area Plan. Marnie explained how the survey data was collected and used. Jennifer mentioned the needs they put into building their Area Plan. For example, the top three identifying needs for services such as meals, transportation, and etc. helps make sure we retain or increase that funding. We definitely want to align the budget process with the Area Plan. Commissioner said she would look at it with NASUAD. She likes getting more data to be able to take to the legislators. Marnie said the information can be broken down by area or group together as statewide. A question was asked regarding this particular needs survey, and if the AAAs have access to all the data to analyze and manipulate, or is there some other entity that does that? Marnie said yes that everyone can run a report specific to the counties in excel and it can be run by age, County, or any criteria. Barbara asked about regions continuing to use their current needs assessment process as well as collectively using this needs assessment across the state. She made the point that KIPDA has spent a lot of time and energy in a very specific model that can enhance itself every year. They do use the age friendly domain as a major aspect of their needs assessment and if they don't continue that all that information and data will be lost and it helps in so many ways to continue to move toward age friendly communities, etc. as well as with a number of other aspects particularly in the healthcare arena. It does cost money to do it. It helps KIPDA's Area Plan significantly as well as writing grants. Barbara asked what DAIL's perspective was as far as KIPDA continuing to do their own need assessment. The Commissioner acknowledged that information. Michelle Hines gave an example of how they have attended Community Action Focus Groups and supported that needs assessment and also did their own that was service directed and then participated with Community Action. BRADD has been doing both. Commissioner acknowledged that the AAA's can do their own she just needs to have a consistent picture so she can use the collective data to go to the legislature, write grants, etc. She encouraged everyone to do both if that is helpful and we will see where we want to go with it eventually.

Barbara asked what the expectation was as it relates to numbers and if there is a certain percentage DAIL expects. Marnie said there has not been an expectation. But encouraged everyone to participate. Barbara pointed out that to get good data based on your population you need a measure and if we are really looking at a uniform, consistent needs assessment across the state, there needs to be some parameters to help you make sure you have reasonable, good information. If we are going to be using this needs assessment for our region we are really going to have to evaluate that and have a strategy on how we're going to roll it out and implement it. It can't just be through senior centers. The Commissioner said at this point she would want everyone to have a good faith effort because this is your information too.

Kelli added a comment about monitoring saying that we have implemented a change this year that should make it easier for the AAAs. During monitoring there is staff at the AAA and Amanda is at the Senior Center. The AAA director feels conflicted on where to go and who to meet with so Amanda will be doing her monitoring at a

different time. Kelli hopes everyone finds that helpful. Sue Greenwell mentioned that she would like to have more notice about monitoring to make sure that her staff is available. Kelli said if you have dates that are not good for monitoring and you can't host us just let her know. She will work around those schedules.

The next meeting will be October 17<sup>th</sup> in Frankfort on zoom. Everyone is welcome to come in person to the CHR building.

The Commissioner adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

DRAFT