
DELAWARE NURSING HOME RESIDENTS QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION
Emily P. Bissell Hospital
3000 Newport Gap Pike
2nd floor conference room
Wilmington, DE 19808
FINAL

Meeting January 13, 2015
Minutes

Commission Member (s) Present: Brian Posey, Chairman; Senator Bethany Hall-Long ; Kyle Hodges; Melissa Heck; Yrene Waldron; Patricia Dailey Lewis, Esquire; Lisa Furber; and Karen Gallagher.

Commission Member (s) Absent: Representative Michael Barbieri; Amy Milligan and Vicki Givens. Lisa Barchi (DAG) was also not in attendance.

Others Present: Margaret Bailey; Tom Murray, DLTCRP; Hooshang Shanehsaz, State Pharmacy Director; Quinesha Harris, DHCI; Beverly Morris, LTCOP and Jill Rogers, DSAAPD.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 9:42 AM by DNHRQAC Chairman, Brian Posey.

2. Approval of the Minutes for the meeting of:

November 21, 2014 meeting minutes were approved without corrections.

3. Discussion of:

Division of Aging (DSAAPD)

Jill Rogers, Division of Aging Director, provided an update to the Commission. Ms. Rogers is a nurse and previously was ED for the Delaware Health Care Commission.

Items that the Division of Aging will be working on FY 15/16:

1. Section Chief for the LTC State facilities (John Schmidt) retired 11/14. Kim Blunt is currently serving as interim Chief for DHCI, EBH and Governor Bacon. Ms. Blunt has experience as NHA in Delaware. The Chief posting appears on Office of Management and Budget's employment webpage.
2. The Division of Aging will be building on providing home and community based services for individuals in LTC facilities.
3. Managed Care Organizational (MCO's) changes occurred January 1, 2015. The two providers currently are Highmark and United Health Care which represent roughly 50% of the Medicaid population in Delaware (each). Individuals affected have been contacted about the provider changes.
4. State Innovation Model (SIM) – Delaware was awarded a grant of 35 million mid-Dec 2014, which will be used to:

- Develop a health care transformation strategy that is multi-payer and multi-stakeholder and focuses on achieving the "Triple Aim"
- Achieve measurable results in three years through practical implementable goals
- Focus on the best interests of all Delawareans and respect the voice of consumers
- Learn and make use of best practice examples from other states and countries where possible.

Several sub-committees were formed to support SIM, which appears under the Delaware Health Care Commission. Information about the State Innovation Model:

<http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dhcc/sim.html>.

Long Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP)

Beverly Morris, LTC Ombudsman in New Castle County, provided an overview to Commission members. Ms. Morris will be retiring January 31, 2015 after providing 32 years of service.

Victor Orija, State Ombudsman, retired earlier in the month and provided 13 years of service.

Long Term Care Ombudsman advocate for residents who live in long-term care facilities as well as those who live in other settings (such as their own homes) and receive home and community-based services. The Ombudsman program investigates and resolves complaints on behalf of these individuals.

LTCOP has five advocates who serve in LTC, AL, Board and Care, Neighborhood Homes, Rest Homes, Group Homes, and Home and Community-Based Services. The office also has a Volunteer Ombudsman's Program – currently 24 volunteers.

The office plans to update their website in the near future to include Residents Rights. LTCOP holds an annual Resident Rights Rally (October) to recognize residents rights state-wide.

QART Report – DLTCRP

Tom Murray, DLTCRP Deputy Director, presented the fourth quarter 2014 QART Report. After reviewing three surveys involving "G" level deficiencies, QART recommended to uphold the four "G" level deficiencies cited by the surveyors. As a result, none of the "G" level deficiency recommendations were downgraded.

4. Old Business/New Business

2014 Annual Report

Commission members voted and approved the DNHRQAC 2014 Annual Report. Copies will be forwarded to legislators, Governor and DHSS Cabinet Secretary.

5. Public Comment

Life Conference

The 2015 Life Conference will be held January 15, 2015 at Dover Downs. The LIFE Conference is a joint effort of many Delaware consumer-focused organizations which addresses the topics of Legislation,

Independence (through Assistive Technology), Family and Education. Over 500 consumers, families and professionals attend the annual conference for educational and networking opportunities.

JFC Public Budget Hearings FY 2016

Ms. Bailey provided Commission members with a copy of the Joint Finance Committee FY 16 Public Budget Hearing Schedule. The Division of Health and Social Services presents February 24-26th at Legislative Hall.

Updates on Facilities in Delaware

Ms. Bailey shared an update regarding a few facilities in Delaware:

- The Summit - Opening June 2015 in NCC. The facility, owned by Vantage Point, plans to have 92 independent living, 41 routine assisted living, and 52 memory care units located in two distinct neighborhoods.
- Ivy Gables – Opened 12/1/14 (no residents at this time) in New Castle County. Owners are George and Tammy Loudon. This is the old Eden Rock in Arden, which became a 55+ community a few years ago. The owners also have a facility in The facility has 24 units.
- Brookdale Senior Living - Acquired Gardens of White Chapel (now Brookdale White Chapel) and Windsor Place (now Brookdale Hockessin).
- Serenity Gardens – This facility originally opened its doors with four beds. The facility is flourishing and has 14 beds!

6. Next meeting will be **Tuesday March 10, 2015 @ 9:30 AM**. This meeting will be held at Emily P. Bissell Hospital 2nd floor conference room 3000 Newport Gap Pike Wilmington, DE 19808.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 AM by Brian Posey.

Attachments: November 21, 2014 meeting minutes draft
FY16 Joint Finance Committee Public Hearing Schedule
DNHRQAC 2015 Meeting Schedule