

Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities
Maryland Department of Aging
October 11, 2023 (Virtual Meeting)
12:30 – 2:30 pm

Members Present

Carmel Roques, Secretary, Maryland Department of Aging
Delegate Tiffany Alston
Claudia Balog, 1199 SEIU, United Health Workers East
Senator Pamela Beidle
Alan Breitler
Tammy Bresnahan, AARP
Virginia Crespo, United Seniors of Maryland
Stevanne Ellis, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman
Gail Gannon, Frederick County, LTCO
Kathryn Graning, Mid-Atlantic Lifespan
Catherine Hamel, MD Hospital Association
Marcy Hunter, Exec. Dir., Seabury at Springville Terr.
Stefani O’Dea, Behavioral Health Association
Karin Lakin, Maryland Association of Adult Day Services
Delegate Ken Kerr
Hope Morris, Health Facilities Association of Maryland (HFAM)
Heather Reed, Maryland Department of Health
Greg Seseck, Manager of Programs, Human Services
Joanne L. Smikle, Consumer Representative
Karen Sylvester, AAA Director, Prince George’s County
Beverly Mylar, Consumer Representative
Heang Tan, AAA Director, Baltimore City
Lorrie Van Akkeren, Voices for Quality Care

Members Absent

Chris Cherkouras, Executive Director, Talbot Hospice
David McShea, Executive Director, Alzheimer’s Association
Dr. Patricia Nay, Office of Health Care Quality
Margo Quinlan, MHA of MD
Senator Justin Ready

Staff Present

Lisa O’Connor, Maryland Department of Aging
Tyler Babich, Legislative Services

Welcome and Updates

Secretary Carmel Roques

- The committee needs to be strong voices for quality of care in assisted living facilities.
- Discuss in more detail at our next meeting, legislative bills proposed that MDOA has been discussing.
- Asked the committee to think about how we can best align the work in the state of Maryland with the work that is happening at the Federal level with the moving forward coalition.
 - Priority area the committee would like to select and focus on to align with the Moving Forward Coalition.

Presentation - Susan Ryan, CEO, Center for Innovation The GREEN HOUSE® Project | Pioneer Network Reimagining Aging

- The Center of Innovation was created in 2015. Different Brands that are associated with The Center of Innovation:
 - The Green House Project
 - Pioneer Network
 - Empower-Ed
- The Green House Model (Green House = grows people)
 - Real homes with different shapes/sizes that fit individual needs and are comfortable for each individual.
 - Creating deeper relationships between the elders and staff.
 - Empowering staff.
- <https://thegreenhouseproject.org/>

Assisted Living Regulations and Affordable Assisted Living

- Task force has been asked to make recommendations.
 - Tiffany Alston and Karin Lakin offered to take charge of leading a small group to discuss recommendations.
- Comprehensive and including small assisted living sector; looking at both the small and larger sector around affordability.
- Goal is to have equal quality across all sectors but there is a concern regarding affordability.
- Some small level of funding under the Medicare Waiver; majority of larger assisted living facilities do not participate in the Medicare Waiver which raises concern around compliance and stability.
- Need more information/data on the different assisted living facilities to better understand what is needed to help and create better environments.
- Discussed regulations regarding 45 day notice of moving residents from closing facilities and how this impacts older adults.

Approval of Minutes

The July 19, 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

Next Meeting

November 14, 2023

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm