

Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities
Maryland Department of Aging
July 19, 2023 (Virtual Meeting)
12:30 – 2:30 pm

Members Present

Carmel Roques, Secretary, Maryland Department of Aging
Honorable Tiffany Alston
Claudia Balog, 1199 SEIU, United Health Workers East
Alan Breitler
Tammy Bresnahan, AARP
Meg Butler for Justin Ready
Virginia Crespo, United Seniors of Maryland
Stevanne Ellis, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman
Gail Gannon, Frederick County, LTCO
Kathryn Graning, Mid-Atlantic Lifespan
Nancy Grofter for Pamela Beidle
Catherine Hamel, MD Hospital Association
Elena Janetopualus for Stefani O’Dea
Karin Lakin, Maryland Association of Adult Day Services
Honorable Ken Kerr
Hope Morris, Health Facilities Association of Maryland (HFAM)
Heather Reed, Maryland Department of Health
Kirsten Robb-McGrath, Dir., Health and Behavioral Policy, Department of Disabilities
Greg Seseck, Manager of Programs, Human Services
Joanne L. Smikle, Consumer Representative
Karen Sylvester, AAA Director, Prince George’s County
Lorrie Van Akkeren, Voices for Quality Care

Members Absent

Honorable Pamela Beidle
Honorable Lisa Belcastro, House Health and Government Operations Committee
Chris Cherkouras, Executive Director, Talbot Hospice
David McShea, Executive Director, Alzheimer’s Association
Phyllis Meyerson, Maryland Chapter, AARP
Beverly Mylar, Consumer Representative
Dr. Patricia Nay, Office of Health Care Quality
Stefani O’Dea, Behavioral Health Association
Margo Quinlan, MHA of MD
Honorable Justin Ready
Heang Tan, AAA Director, Baltimore City

Staff Present

Lisa O’Connor, Maryland Department of Aging
Alexandra Baldi, Office of Health Care Quality
Carol Fenderson, Deputy Director, State Programs, Office of Health Care Quality
Matt Carpenter for Tyler Babich, Legislative Services

Welcome and Updates

Secretary Carmel Roques

- The purpose of the Committee is to oversee the quality in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.
- Information was sent to the committee members regarding the moving forward coalition.

Presentation - Stacy Howes, MDH

Small Assisted Living Facility (ALF) Committee and Work Group

- Review of HB636
- Characterization and Distribution of Assisted Living Programs
- Review of Analyses/Results
- Draft Recommendations
- Next Steps

Review of Bill HB636

- Required to conduct a study regarding the quality of care provided by certain assisted living programs; and generally relating to a study of assisted living programs.
- Final report due October 1, 2023.
- Focused on analyzing three parts of the bill:
 - Quality of care.
 - Costs.
 - Emergency reporting system.

How the State can help based on analysis

- Offer regulatory guidance.
- Provide specialty training.
- Offer resources for infraction prevention and control.
- Expand reimbursement options.
- Provide no or low cost general health care training for staff.
- Offer employment incentives.
- Increase level of reimbursement.

Draft recommendations

- Immediate Priority
 - Require assisted living programs to maintain a valid email address and internet access for ongoing communication and data exchange.
 - Establish definition for small assisted living programs.
 - Improve interagency data sharing.
 - Facilitate compliance with disclosure and transparency requirements associated with CMS annual survey results.
- Two year priority
 - Data collection and needs assessment for access to Assisted Living Program services
 - Data sources.
 - Appropriate state agency.
 - level of state resources required to maintain the needs assessment process.

- Five year priority
 - Public education and awareness.
 - Technology implementation.

Next steps

- Complete draft final report and distribute for feedback.
- Present recommendations to the September MHCC commission meeting.
- Finalize report and submit to legislature by October 1, 2023.

Approval of Minutes

Virginia Crespo made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 19, 2023 meeting. Minutes were approved.

Updates and Announcements from Committee Members

- Send members an updated list of Committee members, MDOA staff and contact information. after all corrections have been sent to Lisa.
- The moving forward coalition will be discussed with the committee at the next meeting.
- Attention to Maryland having the highest prevalence for Dementia.
- Annual report is due December 1.
- Discussion on culture change in nursing home programs for the next meeting.

Next Meeting

October 11, 2023

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:17 pm.