



Eric Holcomb, Governor  
State of Indiana

***Division of Aging***  
MS 21, 402 W. WASHINGTON STREET, P.O. BOX 7083  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46207-7083  
TOLL FREE: 1-888-673-0002  
FAX: 317-232-7867

**Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes  
November 16, 2023  
Indiana Government Center South, Indianapolis, IN  
Wabash Hall Conference Rooms 4 and 5**

Attendees were able to join virtually over Zoom.

The meeting was livestreamed and is available on the FSSA Indiana YouTube channel at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/@FSSAIndianavideos/streams>

Dr. Burke called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. (ET).

Members in attendance: Dr. JoAnn Burke, Becky Anspach, Judith Schoon, Kelli Tungate, Jennifer Lantz, Katie Ehlman, Dan Mustard

Members not in attendance: Margaret Smith, Megan Springer, Robert Bischoff, Deb Lambert, James Goen

There was not a quorum, so the May, July, and September minutes were filed for approval at a future meeting.

Dr. Burke introduced Tauhric Brown, Board Vice-Chair of Community Care Hub Indiana (CCHI). Tauhric was joined by Jim Vandagriff, Debra Nauls-Freeman, and Lisa Schneekloth. Jim is the Executive Director at CCHI and explained the objectives of CCHI. Debra is the Chief Operating Officer at CCHI and explained the administrative and operational infrastructure as well as the service coordination and support products available. A robust question and answer session followed the CCHI presentation.

Andrew Bean, Deputy Director of the Division of Aging, provided an update on the Adult Protective Services (APS) team. APS submitted a comment to the Administration on Community Living (ACL) for the proposed APS rule that came out a few months ago. This was quite an undertaking as this was the first time ACL has done a proposed rule for APS. There was a lot to review and comment on, and Aging's APS team did very well in submitting a meaningful response.



Expedited Waiver Eligibility (EWE) went live on November 14 with permanent authority. All Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) will be able to leverage the EWE authority to get Hoosiers into waiver services more quickly. Andrew reported that it has been a seamless transition from the PHE to the permanent authority, and the Division of Aging (DA) is not experiencing any gaps. Erin Wright, Division of Aging, informed the Commission that some extra funding was obtained through HCBS funds, so the rates for waiver intake and ADRC contracts will be amended to include an increase in rates. Those contracts have not been increased since 2018.

Andrew also mentioned that the DA is working with its partners at eimage who manages CaMSS, the case management system in the DA, to do outreach with the AAAs over the next few months. Discussions will include pain-points they have, issues with CaMSS, and ways in which that relationship can be better facilitated.

The PathWays website is working, and the URL is [www.in.gov/PathWays/](http://www.in.gov/PathWays/). Enrollment begins in February 2024, and the phone number, updates, the timeline, and how PathWays helps Hoosiers are some of the topics mentioned on this website. Also related to PathWays, the waiver amendment is out for public comment for the aged and disabled waiver under age 60 population that will be moving over to the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS). Also, the 1915(c) waiver for the over age 60 population using PathWays is posted for comment. The Q & A that followed centered mainly around changing of services when moving to PathWays. The objective is to have no change or disruption in services during the crossover to PathWays.

Andrew moved on to the Dementia Strategic Plan 2023 that is being drafted and submitted to the legislature on December 1. Shannon Effler, Director of Geriatric Programs, Indiana University School of Medicine, presented an update on Indiana's Dementia Strategic Plan at the last Commission meeting. Aging is reviewing the draft internally to ensure that it aligns with the strategic vision. The Dementia Coordinator will be a position in Aging, and the Dementia Care Specialist will be the position in each AAA. Dr. Burke asked about the funding source. Andrew informed of the Alzheimer's Association advocating for an additional funding string for those positions that came from the last state budget session. There will also be Dementia Coaches at the AAAs, a separate program, whose funding is federal HCBS dollars.

Dr. Burke advised that she is still working the Living Longer, Living Better Collaborative at local levels with politicians on ordinances relating to shared living, particularly accessory dwelling units. Her concern is that local communities are not aware of the impact of the de-institutionalization of the care of vulnerable older people in Indiana. First responders will be helping with things like falls in these single-family homes with intergenerational living. As our older Hoosiers share homes with their younger relatives, the concern is they (communities and first responders) are not prepared. Dr. Burke asked for a FSSA response regarding educating local community officials on PathWays as there really isn't any infrastructure at the local level because of Medicaid and Medicare, and state and federal programs.

Shared Decision-Making report by Judith Schoon was read from the Teams Chat by Erin Wright from Aging due to technical issues. Judith advised that there is a meeting with judges on November 30 to get CASAs into the courts for guardianship.

Deb Lambert was not in attendance so there was no report on Emergency Housing.

Family Caregiving Advisory Committee has a new chairperson in Kelli Tungate.

The Housing Supports committee is headed by Dan Mustard. Housing is still a very big issue in Indiana. He would like to make a presentation in January, so Dr. Burke will speak with Katie Ehlman, the Programs Chair for the Commission on Aging.

Kristen LaEace, CEO, Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging (I4A), began with information regarding the Preliminary Draft (PD) 3449, Commission on Aging and CHOICE Boards. This is a bill that will be proposed by the I4A that addresses the membership of these boards being inclusive of folks that have more expertise or are more representative in particular areas. Examples would be someone with housing expertise, someone receiving services under these programs, or perhaps a caregiver. Representatives of the direct services workforce would also be included. I4A would like to eliminate one of the constraints of the Commission on Aging which is to take away the requirement of one member from each congressional district and retain the requirement that not more than two residents of the same county be appointed as members of the Commission. Feedback was given regarding the language and inclusivity of waiver services recipients.

Kristen made a couple of points about the information in her packet. Federal shutdown is still a looming possibility. USAging has an update of appropriations committee that states there was not an increase in the Older Americans Act. An APS regulations summary from ACL is included in the packet regarding structure and minimum requirements.

Kristen shared I4As priorities for the coming legislative session. Already shared is the intention of helping to shape the Commission on Aging and CHOICE boards to be more responsive to the current issues. Being proposed for legislative study is a look at housing opportunities within Medicaid to assure better health outcomes in the future. CMS recognizes that better health outcomes are directly tied to stability in housing. Another proposed legislative study is looking at community health workers, AAAs, and the aging network in hopes of educating legislators on why it is important to support community health workers. Currently there is reimbursement for these workers, but I4A would like it to be broader.

Dr. Burke adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m. (ET).