



Aging Texas Well Advisory Committee

November 4, 2015 Meeting Notes

Desired Meeting Outcomes: To update ATWAC members and to receive their advice on work related to their charge under Executive Order RP 42, 2005.

<p>ATWAC Members Present Dr. Michèle J. Saunders, Chair Bruce Bower Lori Henry Carlos Higgins Amanda Fredriksen Mindy Noble Ann Woods Nancy Walker April Young Yvette Lugo (via telephone) Andy Crocker (via telephone) Pearl Merrit (via telephone) Lynda Taylor (via telephone)</p> <p>ATWAC Members Absent Michael Dailey Michael Wilson Cindy Adams Carol Zernial Sara Ramirez Lee Riggs</p>	<p>DADS Staff Michelle Dionne-Vahalik Molly Lester Pat Borgfeldt Sue Fielder Corliss Powell Flora Fearon Holly Riley Ken Bomar Susan Lish Claire Irwin Chelsea Couch Jacqueline Parker-Boyd</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

- **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
 - Dr. Michèle Saunders, DMD, MPH, Chair, welcomed Aging Texas Well Advisory Committee (ATWAC) members
- **Special Topics**
 - I. **DADS Quality Monitoring Program (QMP):** Michelle Dionne-Vahalik, QMP Director, presented on QMP initiatives.
 - i. Dementia Training in nursing facilities/large forums:
 1. The National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCPD) offers trained participants certification as a dementia care practitioner. Training focuses on communication, hands-on skill, and raising awareness and understanding.
 - ii. TRAIN (the reduction of antipsychotics):
 1. Through TRAIN, Texas is making a lot of progress improving care and reducing the use of antipsychotics.
 - iii. Music in Memory:



-
1. Personalized music therapy, offers individualized playlists for participants. Playlists are developed with the support of families, staff, friends and volunteers. This personalized playlist includes songs that could trigger memories.
 2. Program is currently being implemented in 32 Texas facilities. Reports have been very positive.
 3. Received a larger grant for 400 facilities to enter into the program (a third of Texas' long-term care community) that will roll out in January 2016.
 4. Funded by Civil Money Penalties (CMP).
 5. Reached out to HOSA to include volunteer high school students in the program.
 - iv. High School Dementia Curriculum:
 1. Three hour curriculum that will focus on educating students on the value of older adults, dementia and what that looks like, and the need for a skilled workforce.
 - v. Reminiscence Therapy:
 1. Utilizes personalized objects (pictures, songs, tactile objects) to help bring back memories and help them reminisce.
 2. Funded by CMP, part of TRAIN to reduce antipsychotics in 100 nursing homes.
 - vi. Dementia Academy:
 1. Consulting with psychiatrist Dr. Susan Wehry who wrote the OASIS curriculum. OASIS is a hands-on curriculum and will roll out to all long-term care at end of 2016.
 2. Will be altering the curriculum some to meet the unique needs of Texas.
 3. Funded by CMP.
 - vii. Director of Nurses Academy:
 1. A three-day academy to address turn-over rates. The academy will bring director of nurses, assistant director of nurses, and administrators to teach them about long-term care.
 2. Academy will address resources, regulation compliance, Music and Memory, reminiscence therapy, their role in creating the environment, and other relevant information.
 3. Roll out in April and May 2016.
 - viii. Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN) Steering Committee:
 1. To address the turn-over rate of nursing staff. Most go into long-term care after graduating.
 2. Steering committee consists of DADS, Texas Board of Nursing, LVN Educators, and a LVN. Together they built a framework of where they thought curriculum could be enriched, challenge areas when it came to care, and what would be helpful for nurse transitioning into long-term care. Eleven topic areas came about and modules being developed.
- II. **DADS Partnership Outreach and Development Projects:** Ken Bomar, Marketing Director presented on DADS partnership outreach and development.
- i. Role is to develop mutually beneficial partnerships with the corporate sector, faith-based, aging network, communities, media and other partners to expand and enhance DADS resources and programs as well as raise awareness of the challenges of aging and how they can be part of the solution.
 - ii. Age Well Live Well is DADS campaign that encourages individuals and communities to engage in healthy aging. The campaign focuses on health and wellness, volunteer and



community engagement, and resource awareness. Communities are challenged to create collaboratives to address the three focus areas of the campaign. There are currently 10 collaboratives across.

- iii. Our philosophy is to make it a mutually beneficial and complementary partnerships. That all our partner's get a value out of our partnerships.

- **Department of Aging and Disability Services Reports**

- I. State LTC Ombudsman Unit: Pat Borgfeldt, Ombudsman Developer
 - i. State Ombudsman advocates for residents and represents their interest in relation to health, safety, welfare, rights in systems advocacy.
 - ii. Patty Ducayet, State Long-term Care Ombudsman Manager, participated in some system advocacy.
 - iii. Summer 2015, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services proposed a reform in nursing home requirements and opened it up for comments.
 - 1. Patty provided comment on nursing home discharge provisions including a proposed requirement to justify the reasons for discharge in the facilities attempts to meet residents needs, as well as notifying the Ombudsman of each discharge. This fits with the recommendation that Patty designated at the statelevel to reduce unnecessary discharges and for the state to impose higher penalties to enforce that act.
 - 2. Patty also commented for a change of language from "admission and transfer rights" to "transition of care". Our department felt that losing the word "rights" implies that this is not their home. Many times state laws support the resident rights and if that aspect leaves the language we are worried those won't be represented in state laws in the future.
 - iv. Opportunity to make comments on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act of 2014 proposed revision discharge plan requirement that hospitals including long-term care hospitals, in-patient rehabilitation facilities and home health agencies must meet to participate in Medicare and Medicaid. It is trying to modernize some of the discharge procedures.
- II. Access and Intake Division:
 - i. Community Access and Grants Unit: Janene Roch, Grants Coordinator
 - 1. Our philosophy is to make it a mutually beneficial and complementary partnerships.
 - ii. Area Agencies on Aging: Sue Fielder, Director
 - 1. Contract with Texas A&M University to study Texercise Select to have it meet the new evidence-based criteria taking effect October 2016 is moving forward.
 - 2. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services opening Improving Medicare Post-Acute Care Transformation (IMPACT) Act of 2014 for comments. Advises when planning transitions providers consult with Aging and Disability Resource Centers, Area Agencies on Aging, Centers for Independent Living, or SAMSHA Treatment Locator.
 - 3. Area agencies on aging can now enter into contracts with Managed Care Organizations

- **Program Initiatives**

- I. Volunteer and Community Engagement: Holly Riley, Manager
 - i. Senate Interim Charge on Heathy Aging: Molly Lester, DADS Government Relations,
 - 1. October 2015, Lieutenant Governor Patrick released the interim charges for senate



-
- committees. Senate Health and Human Services Committee issued 9 charges to consider through the interim leading up to the 85th session. One is the Healthy Aging charge which has two parts.
- a. First part, which is the wording DADS submitted, is to study and make recommendations on innovative methods and best practices.
 - b. Second part, examine and recommend ways to improve quality oversight in long-term care facilities.
2. The committee will have to decide how to take up each of these charges. They spend some time studying these healthy aging ideas. Quite often they will hold a hearing and we may be asked to present as well as other stakeholders. Then they will incorporate any recommendations into their report to Lieutenant Governor Patrick most likely next fall.
 3. In response to Bruce Bower's question about the House of Representatives interim charges, Molly informed that they were just released and read an interim charge for the House Committee of Human Services that states, "*Study the ten year anticipated growth, the geographic distribution, and the projected economic impact of aging Texans. Review state services and programs available to seniors, including independent living services, and determine the capacity and effectiveness of the programs. Determine if Texas is prepared for the increased demands of aging Texans.*"
- ii. ATWAC Rule: Corky Powell, Center for Policy and Innovation and Flora Fearon, DADS legal
1. Discussed the revision to the rules for the five remaining committees with HHSC after the legislative session.
 2. The rule is required under state law. Senate Bill 200 was passed which required Executive Commissioner to establish and retain advisory committees and to set in rules specific items such as: list of tasks, leadership composition, reporting requirements, and abolishment date.
 3. Item D says a quarterly report is provided. The extended minute notes that ATWAC has for each meeting can be provided as the quarterly report to satisfy that requirement.
 4. Dr. Saunders: Is this rule is temporary until such time that consolidation occurs? Flora: it is permanent until such time these rules are required to be changed.
 5. Corky: HHSC transformation office published a complete list of all the committees (including the ones that will go away, be absorbed into an existing committee, etc.) The five committees that are staying are included in this rule to create consistent wording across the board. This rule also allows for unique language for committees where applicable.
 6. Molly: The Legislature abolished several committees that were under statute and law but allowed the executive commissioner the ability to recreate them in rule. Because ATWAC was created by executive order it was not abolished because executive orders remain in place unless another governor amends or repeals it.
 7. Carlos: It's important to say even though ATWAC isn't subject to the Open Meetings Act people can still attend the meetings.
 8. April: What do you see moving forward in regards to the recommendations put forth by this group? Right now the strategic plan is the current process for recommendations. Corky: Suggest that the recommendations word as "committee will



make periodic recommendations” in the rule. Flora: The rule is to capture the spirit of the committee.

9. 89.4 A – Committee adopts by reference Executive Order RP42 (2005) created the Aging Texas Well Advisory Committee (ATWAC) and established its purposes and responsibilities. ATWAC advises and makes recommendations to DADS on the implementation of the Aging Texas Well initiative. The committee adopts by reference Executive Order RP42 (2005) to be implemented in accordance with committee by-laws.
 10. The mechanism for sending reports has not been set-up. Does not have to be the meeting minutes.
 11. 89.4 D – Submits periodic reports to the Commissioner or designee.
- iii. ATWAC By-Laws:
 1. Dr. Saunders asks Bruce, Carlos and Amanda to serve on the By-Laws sub-committee and send recommendations for the ATWAC Rule. Others are invited to participate. Bruce: agreed to chair the sub-committee.
 - iv. Strategic Planning Subcommittee:
 1. Dr. Saunders asked committee members to start thinking about who they would like to chair the Strategic Planning Subcommittee while reviewing the by-laws.

▪ **Roundtable:** ATWAC Member Updates

▪ **Wrap-up and Next Steps:**

- I. Dr. Saunders put forth the motion to approve meeting notes from August 5.

2016 ATWAC Meeting Dates: February 3, 2016, May 4, 2016, August 3, 2016 & November 2, 2016