

**Department for Aging & Independent Living**  
**Quarterly Meeting with Area Agencies on Aging & Independent Living**  
**MINUTES**  
**May 22, 2019**

Commissioner Gadd opened the meeting at 1 p.m. with the introduction of Dr. Betty Shiels Ph.D., of the University of Louisville Kent School of Social Work. She is the Director of the Kentucky Emergency Preparedness for Aging and LTC Program. Dr. Shiels' work is funded through two grants, a federal hospital preparedness grant for the healthcare collation across the state; and a grant with the OIG of Kentucky and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid. She highlighted her work on a 400-page State Emergency Preparedness Manual for all nursing homes in the state. It has been identified by DHHS as the best practice in nursing home emergency preparedness. Data from the Kentucky Hazard Assessment was shared and Kentucky ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in the top ten states of the number of presidential-declared emergencies. Kentucky is one of two non-coastal states of the top 10. These are the top hazards listed in order of ranked risk for severe damage. 1) flooding 2) earthquake 3) KARST/Sinkhole 4) mine/land subsidence (abandoned mines) 5) landslide 6) dam failure 7) forest fires 8) drought 9) extreme temperatures 10) hail storm 11) severe storm 12) severe winter storm 13) tornado. Dr. Shiels asks for a representative from the AAAs to serve on the Emergency Function Preparedness team.

**Introductions**

Commissioner lead introductions as each attendee, in-person introduced themselves. She acknowledged those attending via Zoom Videoconferencing. Every AAA was represented at today's meeting. The Mission Moment for this quarter is the Kentucky SHIP Program partnering with local food banks. Edward discussed the partnership and gave an example of the partnership with Legal Aid of the Bluegrass and local food banks to provide on-site SHIP counseling at their Dare-to-Care sites. Kelli Sheets has also been in discussion with KIPDA and a Dare-to-Care food bank in Shelby County to begin a partnership in the KIPDA region. Edward ended with a story about a 67-year-old lady in Clark County that came to a local food bank and while there took advantage of the SHIP counseling opportunity. She was about to lose her home, didn't have any food and she was the caregiver for her disabled adult child. When she came to the local food bank she was able to get food stamps, find new housing, get on a new part B drug plan, and also qualified for Low Income Subsidy (LIS) and Medicare Savings Program (MSP).

**Old Business**

- a. National Health Care Decision Day, April 16 -- Marnie spoke about those that were able to participate and how the program specifically touched 436 people. They completed applications, received information and help connecting them with an attorney. We will start planning for next year. Any thoughts or suggestions, please see Marnie.
- b. National Volunteer Week, April 7-13 -- Kelli discussed DAIL's acknowledgment of volunteers and the very positive reception of the appreciation certificates. Lisa Dale sent out over 350 certificates for AAA volunteers.
- c. Workforce Pilot -- Buddy talked about partnering with the Education and Workforce Cabinet, Bluegrass Area Development District and ResCare. The state has approved four (4) students for the fall paid internship program. All want more than one experience. Agency providers will provide at least two experiences, much like a student teacher experience. Our goal is to expand with the Geriatric Master's program at KSU in the fall with the intern program.

- d. ADD Board Training -- Buddy said 11 of the 25 board trainings have occurred or are occurring now. It has been relatively smooth with small snags typically in the registration process. Local board members seem every appreciative. Will go through the end of June. Jennifer Williams asked if this will be an annual occurrence. Buddy advised that other training opportunities for elected officials can be used. This particular training will be mainly offered to newly-elected officials. Ann Wildman asked what the reason was for the one-hour live session instead of the on-demand. Buddy advised that the survey responses showed requests for different formats so DAIL tried to provide as many options as possible. Buddy stated that we would do another survey at the end of this segment. He said, if you don't complete the survey you won't get a voice in knowing what happens and the way we are guiding training in the future. The most engaged part of the training is always about "legal updates," what you can and can't do. Buddy appreciates all the participation and test runs. The three entities working together (DAIL, DLG, Workforce and Education) has helped inform decision makers and everything has worked out really well.
- e. Underspent Funds -- Commissioner Gadd talked about underspent funds at the last meeting. She stated that a few AAA's have reached out and asked for additional funds, and one AAA has additional funds that they are willing to share. She reiterated that there should be no funds to give back to the state, if there are unspent funds they need to be shared, emphasizing that we need to SPEND ALL OUR FUNDS. We are all serving the network so let's think more globally and spend it. If you have questions, contact Tiffany Smither.
- f. NASUAD Review -- Commissioner Gadd has a draft proposal for review of where we are and what we can change. We are moving forward. No timeline as of yet.

### Standing Items

- a. Program Updates/Reminders – Serving those under 60 – Kelli spoke about folks under 60 who are family members participating in IIIB services. They are not eligible for services other than meals under IIIC. Don't bill DAIL for folks under 60 participating in IIIB or IIID services.
- b. NAPIS – Jeanette sent everyone their items for review and they are in process.
- c. Contracts – Tiffany talked about the tight contract deadline and of Title III and VII and requested the ADDs to please get in DocuSign and sign them by Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. The deadline to get them to Finance is June 5<sup>th</sup>. All contracts are 2-year except Title III, VII and MIPPA. Anytime there is a modification done, all parties must sign. Commissioner discussed the changes in the "Scope of Work" and briefly went over each new change. DAIL will put together a Provider Guideline and send to all AAAs for this new contract.
- d. Grants/Other Funding
  - i. Nutrition Innovation Grant – Marnie advised if you are going to submit a letter of support, she needs it by tomorrow (Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>)
  - ii. Medicare Advantage Collaborative – Buddy discussed a six-month collaborative partnership with National Council on Aging. Kentucky was lucky enough to have been picked as one of 10 states to participate and receive technical assistance. AAAs, the ADD Association and DAIL are coming together to discuss what we want to enhance and improve. We will go to New Orleans for intense training. The ultimate goal is to get money from Medicare Advantage to do what we already do
  - iii. National Center on Advancing Person-Centered Practices & Systems (NCAPPS) – Marnie said the Commissioner received a grant from NCAPPS. This is a grant that has no funding attached but a group will provide technical assistance by coming and looking at our programs and what we do. They will make recommendations on how we do a better job making things "person-centered." They will be reaching out to Jennifer Williams to get general information from the AAAs as a group. It is a 3-year project that they will re-evaluate every year and provide additional technical support.

## New Business

- a. Senior Hunger Summit – Marnie explained that under the direction of the Commissioner we are focusing on four areas of senior health. One is senior hunger/food insecurity. A group led by Amanda, Lala, Amy, Kelli and Marnie is planning a Senior Hunger Summit in Frankfort on October 30<sup>th</sup>. We will invite community partners, leaders and advocates, as well as organizations and some internationally renowned speakers and presenters to come and talk about what we can do to reduce senior hunger and solve the problem in Kentucky. Mark your calendars! Commissioner noted that in the newest article that came out from Feeding America, Kentucky is the highest for food insecurity for the 50-59 age group.
- b. Medicaid Rate Study – Medicaid is still gathering information, but will hold a series of town hall meetings across the state. Jennifer Dudinskie has sent out the agenda/schedule of all the town halls.
- c. ACL Regions III & IV SUA & AAA Directors' Conference – Commissioner attended and acknowledged that several here today also attended. Everyone learned more about programs others are doing on topics such as mental health and oral health programs. ACL is reorganizing according to regions to help with current inconsistencies in the regions.
- d. Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act - will be reauthorized this year. Commissioner mentioned some possible positive changes that have not been made public yet with Title IIIC funding, that she learned of at her spring meeting.
- e. Legislation – We need to have our Legislative package ready in two weeks, so if anyone has ideas please let her know ASAP. She has a few but welcomes additional ideas and needs to receive them ASAP.
- f. State Plan – We asked for a one-year extension on our 3-year State Plan. With the NASUAD review coming, we would like to incorporate their recommendations. Everyone has attended a lot of meetings and a lot of work has been put into the funding formula.

## Discussion

1. Trainings – Questions have been asked about specific training topics for Family Caregiver, ADRC, etc. Commissioner asked what trainings the AAAs were interested in and what topics everyone would want to cover. It was agreed that ADRC training is good so we are all doing everything consistent across the board, using the same forms, same format and what the expectations are. The same for family caregiver, case management, Title IIIC, and Homecare services. There have been many changes with forms. Buddy suggested that the AAAs could submit a list.
2. Commissioner mentioned that anything anyone wanted to talk to NASUAD about could be mentioned when they meet with the stakeholders. She suggested to everyone to make a list of talking points.
3. Jennifer Williams brought up a couple of things that the AAAs met about and had discussions on earlier that morning. Some of the topics discussed were: Taxonomy, Brain Games, Electronic Verifications with Waiver, ACL meetings (AAAs want a place at the table), and 211 implementation (possibly of DAIL assisting with funding for a database).
4. Commissioner asked the AAAs to select a volunteer to be their representative at the Emergency Preparedness Function. Edward is the representative for FAST (Kentucky Functional Needs Collaborative).

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.