Minutes Utah Commission on Aging April 21, 2010 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Commission Member Attendees:

Representing:

Norma Matheson Mark Supiano Paul Fairholm

Michael Deily for David Sundwall

Rob Ence William Cox Gary Kelso

Frances Willby Kent Alderman

Nels Holmgren for Lisa-Michelle Church

Community
Higher Education
Business Community
Utah Department of Health
Advocacy Organizations
Utah Association of Counties

Long-Term Care

Charitable Organizations

Legal Profession

Utah Department of Human Services

Staff:

Maureen Henry Brooke Plumlee Executive Director
Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Norma Matheson.

1. Welcome, Approval of Minutes, and Lunch The minutes from February 16 were approved.

2. Commission Activities Updates

KUER Elder Abuse Series: Feature story from KUER radio played for Commission as meeting began. Tasha Cook from KUER, who produced and reported this story, can get a CD of it to anyone who would like to promote and disseminate this piece, and we will upload it to our web site. It mentioned state budget cuts affecting APS's ability to investigate and address these cases. Maureen mentioned the high quality of the story and recommended that Commission members promote it as much as possible.

End-of-Life Group: Maureen is working on a contract with Peter Taillac, Director of the UDOH Bureau of Emergency Services, on the development of materials supporting the implementation the POLST form. POLST regulations went into effect in March, and now templates for protocols need to be disseminated to various health care facilities. There will also be a need for public education on the POLST. Dr. Taillac has located funding to contract with Maureen to support this effort. EOL has also been working with Health Insight, whose newest contract with Medicare will require it to address end-of-life and care transitions issues; which may result in funding for these efforts. Health Insight has also received a grant to become a regional extension service around health information technology, which may create further opportunities for collaboration.

Michael Foundation Grant: The Commission has a grant to disseminate Advance Care Planning information to ethnic and minority communities. One activity was participation in a Hispanic Health Fair sponsored by the DOH. Michael Styles with the Division of Aging and Adult Services has offered suggestions for using students and minority student groups at the University of Utah to help with this project. Judith Holt from Utah State University will be attending a National Hispanic Aging conference in the fall and will consider how to link what she learns to effective use of the grant funds. The cumulative result will likely be training sessions for Advance Care Planning facilitators.

The Advance Care Planning survey has gotten considerably more response since the last meeting; particularly from the "Estate-Planning" Section of the Utah State Bar, and the responses between attorneys and health care providers are drastically different. A law student who is doing an independent study with Maureen is working on compiling the data for submission to the Utah State Bar Journal, reporting on the findings, and analyzing the data for whether there are ways to improve the system without making legislative changes, or if more legislative changes are needed.

Public Safety: Maureen met with Diana Kirk from Zion's Bank to discuss how they can support the Commission regarding financial exploitation. The bank agreed to integrate stories on financial security and avoiding exploitation into their *Community* magazine as well as webcasts.

Conference: The Commission is co-sponsoring a conference on May 7 with the DOH, DOC, Utah Geriatric Society and HelpWithMyParents.org, "Exploited- Protecting Our Older Citizens from Abuse and Exploitation," which will offer continuing education on how healthcare providers and those who work with older adults can recognize signs of exploitation and abuse, and intervene to provide protection.

3. ADRC

ADRC's finalized logo was presented. The ADRC's reform strategy focuses on individuals living in the community and is directed by a philosophy of self direction and individual control in legislation, policy and practices. The AoA's strategic priorities are to empower older people and their families to make informed decisions about and be able to access existing health and LTC options and to enable seniors at high risk of nursing home placement to remain in their homes for as long as possible if that is their preference, and to empower older adults to stay active and healthy. The long-term objective of the ADRC is to create places where people can go to get everything they need in one place rather than from place-to-place; not necessarily as a 'service provider,' but a 'route-finder' to all the information they need. Technology will aid in one-stop-shopping and 2-1-1 will maintain the statewide database of services and supports. Options counseling training will be done to very specific protocols and the service will be person-centered and self-directed. The goal is to eventually offer options counseling state-wide. LTC options counseling will be up and running by September 30, 2010 at four pilot sites; the 5-year plan is due by March 30, 2011. Statewide information and referral, a discharge planning program, and single-entry point for state and federal benefit programs are also on the agenda. The steering committee is operational, as are sub-committees. Four pilot sites have been chosen: Moab CIL, Mountainlands AAA & CIL (Provo/Orem), Bear River AAA (Logan). A contract is in development with 2-1-1 for call transfers and data management with a comprehensive listing of all providers, including forprofit and non-profit. Now that Utah has an ADRC, it is eligible for additional related grants through the

VA, CMS, AOA, and other federal agencies. The ADRC will ramp up slowly once the pilot sites have begun and the system is operating smoothly; marketing will not occur until the system becomes functional.

4. Strategic Planning

Maureen will work on a formal strategic plan summary for the next meeting. The Commission will continue on a similar course to what it has been on, and will continue to look for funding opportunities in line with the mission of the Commission.

5. Administrative

A Doodle survey will go out for scheduling Commission meetings for the next year. The next meeting will be scheduled for June.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. The date for the next meeting is June 15.