



Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging

Long-Term Services and Support Committee
Meeting Minutes – March 24, 2019

Participants: Gabriel Kaplan (Co-Chair), Christian Itin, John Emerson, Sarah Elliot, Karin Stewart, Kristine Burrows, Karin Stewart, Sarah Elliot, John Emerson, and Jarett Hughes

Key Notes and Takeaways:

- Sarah Elliot provided an overview of efforts related to the Complex Service Solutions Council (CSSC). The CSSC is not currently meeting.
 - o The focus of this work group was to evaluate federal and state regulations that may address the growing number of issues surrounding the complex needs of individuals in assisted living and skilled nursing settings with behavioral and physical health needs. Long term care residences responsible for care provision of these individuals often have to discharge these individuals back to their families or to Emergency Department and hospital settings.
 - It became clear to the group that an alternative 3 or modified, care setting was needed to safely house and care for this complex individuals
 - o A primary focus was on individuals with dementia and behavioral health diagnoses.
- Concurrent to the CSSC work efforts, was work on [HB19-1160](#) which aims at launching a pilot program to establish a new licensed facility model to provide a variety of services to individuals with dual diagnoses – physical and behavioral health – in a more cost-efficient setting that supports independence and community transitions. The pilot is overseen by the Health Facilities and Emergency Medical Services Division at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE);
- Union Printers, which provided assisted living and skilled nursing levels of care in Colorado Springs, was selected to implement and evaluate the pilot program. However, on February 11 Union Printers was shut down by CDPHE.
- Next steps for the pilot program are uncertain.

Action Items:

- Christian Itin will follow-up with contacts regarding the Washington State Long-Term Care Trust Act
- John Emerson will share information gathered from COVID-19 meeting related to opportunities for telemedicine, chronic condition management, and other forms of digital support given the current events.
- Jarett Hughes will continue to try and connect with Randy Kuykendall and/or Colin Laughlin for information regarding current status of pilot program.
- Committee supports drafting a memo to the Behavioral Health Task Force although the exact contents of the letter are a bit unclear. With that said, reference to HB19-1160 and the need to move the Mental Health Pilot Program forward will be included, along



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with the importance of looking at higher levels of institutional care versus a sole focus on community-based care.

- Jarett Hughes to follow-up with Meghan Kluth on Colorado Respite Task Force recommendation progress.
- Jarett Hughes will invite Area Agency on Aging directors to participate in April meeting to share what they are seeing in their communities as a result of COVID-19