

# Home Care and Assisted Living Program Advisory Council Minutes

DECEMBER 11, 2023

## Attendees

### Council members:

- Mariclaire England
- Genevieve Gaboriault
- Nancy Haugen
- Jarrod Peterson
- Sue Boyd
- Anna Petersmeyer
- Samiira Isse
- Karen Web
- Michaun Shetler
- Andrea Strobel-Ayres

### Minnesota Department of Health (MDH):

- Daphne Ponds

**Public:** Many attendees via conference call

## Agenda

- Welcome
- Advisory Council Vacancy Update
- Social Connections Grant Recipient Feedback
- MDH Survey Correction Order Data Update
- 2019 Advisory Council Recommendations & Discussion for 2024 Recommendations
- 2024 Advisory Council Meeting Schedule

## Welcome

Daphne Ponds, chair to the Advisory Council, welcomed the Council Members. Council Members were unmuted and encouraged to speak freely while public attendees were muted to reduce distractions but were encouraged to place any comments or questions in the chat feature.

Daphne reviewed the agenda – please see coinciding PowerPoint presentation available on the Home Care and Assisted Living Advisory Council webpage.

## Advisory Council Vacancy Update

Sue Morgan resigned from her Advisory Council position due to her upcoming retirement. Nancy Haugen's term as a Council Member will be ending January 8<sup>th</sup>. Daphne thanked Sue Morgan and Nancy Haugen for their contributions to the Advisory Council.

Jarrold Peterson was reappointed to the Home Care Licensee #2 position beginning in January 2024. Patricia Fitzgibbon is a new appointment to the Public Member #2 position beginning January 2024.

There are still current vacancies for Home Care Licensee #1, Past or current resident of an assisted living and County Health & Human Services or Adult Protection. Daphne let attendees know to encourage anyone who may fit these three current vacancies to apply through the Minnesota Office of the Secretary of State website. As applications come in Daphne reviews them and makes recommendations to the Commissioner for new appointments.

## **Social Connections Grant Recipient Feedback**

Daphne shared the survey feedback from the second round of Social Connection Grant recipients. MDH had a 25% response rate and received responses from 11 out of 44 recipients. Many of these grant funds were used by recipients to purchase post-COVID technology that will help residents have more connection. Daphne shared a list of technologies that were purchased by providers with the social connection grant funds recipients were awarded. Daphne also presented direct survey feedback from providers sharing the experience of their residents resulting from these technology purchases.

Daphne opened the conversation for Advisory Council Members to discuss and comment on what was reported back to MDH on the survey. Jarrold Peterson shared the feedback from providers and residents was fantastic to hear back on, and how each technology purchase has helped residents who were self-isolating during these times. Michaun Shetler noted these technology purchases promoted well-being.

The Advisory Council Members also discussed the feedback regarding residents receiving one-to-one technology training as requested by providers. Ideas included to expand the social connection grant to more than just technology such as program development and social activities that could be enriching and more engaging for residents.

Advisory Council Members also discussed the idea of using the excess funds to make recommendations of improvement in areas of concern and finding ways to stimulate motivation for improved care in areas of concern.

Please see coinciding PowerPoint presentation on slides 6-9.

## **MDH Survey Correction Order Data Update**

Daphne shared the Top 10 correction orders as of fiscal year 2023 for Assisted Living. The top 4 correction orders are new tags for providers since the new 2021 Assisted Living Licensure went into effect. Daphne shares it is anticipated to note more noncompliance regarding these new tags with engineering, kitchen survey, and Appendix Z aspects. Daphne continued to share the remaining Top 10 correction orders. In addition, Daphne shares the Top 10 correction orders as of fiscal year 2024 for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter beginning July through September. The top 5 correction orders for fiscal year 2024 have stayed consistent.

Daphne shared the Top 10 Home Care correction orders as of fiscal year 2023. Since assisted living licensure has grown and has been more of a focus, there has been less home care surveys being conducted which correlates to fewer correction orders issued. In addition, Daphne also shares the Top 10 correction orders as of fiscal year 2024 for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter beginning July through September. The top 10 correction orders for fiscal year 2024 have also stayed consistent with home care surveys.

Daphne opens the conversation to Advisory Council Members for any questions and comments. Council Member, Karen Webb, suggested to help assisted living providers lower the numbers for the top 4 correction

orders issued. Advisory Council members Nancy Haugen and Jarrod Peterson discussed the correction order regarding Tuberculosis (TB) Prevention and Control. Jarrod Peterson shared the differences between TB Prevention and Control from an assisted living standpoint and a home care standpoint. Jarrod also shared anyone who is not born in North America has received the TB vaccination resulting to a false positive causing a delay in the TB Prevention and Control process for providers. In addition, Jarrod shared the paperwork required by providers is what is contributing to the correction orders issued for TB Prevention and Control.

Advisory Council members suggested making a recommendation to address medication correction orders such as helping providers to address specific medication errors. Advisory Council members discussed the legislative law that prohibits foreign born individuals from taking the medication training program. It is being discussed to remove this law to open more opportunity for individuals to aid with staffing issues at health care facilities.

Advisory Council Member, Anna Petersmeyer also mentioned a legislation presented by LeadingAge of Minnesota to review the testing documents for health care staff and offering them in different languages. Assisted Living Providers have also been giving them grant opportunities to send their unlicensed staff to become a CNA and a TMA.

Advisory Council Members continued with a thorough discussion about medications, staff training, and paperwork in assisted living and home care. Council Members discussed how each of these topics affects the well-being and care of residents.

Please see coinciding PowerPoint presentation on slides 11-14.

## **2019 Advisory Council Recommendations & Discussion for 2024 Recommendations**

Advisory Council Members reviewed 2019 Recommendations. Recommendation 1 was concluded by Council Members to be completed. Recommendation 2 was created to provide resources to gain more of an understanding of the new Assisted Living Licensure. Recommendation 3 was created to promote opportunities for a home care career path. MDH had no updates due to the pandemic and ALL implementation.

Recommendation 4 was reviewed, and Advisory Council Members discussed staff training portability specifically to make staff orientation training for home care and assisted living nonspecific to a facility or resident capacity. Information regarding NetStudy 2.0 was brought up by Advisory Council Member regarding a fee that is being charged to affiliate background studies for employees already in the background study system.

Recommendation 5 addressed website updates that provide daily updates that is more consumer friendly. Recommendation 6 was reviewed, and Advisory Council Members discussed the availability of standardized forms will help with having more of a streamline process during survey. Council Members also mentioned there are no evaluations tools for the top 4 correction orders pertaining to physical environment, food code, and appendix Z. The discussion ended with review recommendation 7 and 8 concluding these are still to be worked on.

Advisory Council Members discussed in creating a more collaborative relationship between MDH and providers. For example, using the available funds to help providers access standardized forms relating to the top 4 corrections orders such as asking for feedback from providers and collaborating with agencies that can provide and maintain such forms.

Please see coinciding PowerPoint presentation on slides 15-24.

## Next Meeting

Monday, January 22, 2024, at 1pm.

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