

Older Hoosiers & Caregiver Advisory Group Meeting Summary

Date: July 30, 2021

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Attendees:

Advisory Group Members:

In-Person: JoAnn Burke, Shawn Fulton, Kristen LaEace, Alex Kiefer, Andy Kirby, Joyce Fillenwarth

Virtual: Dan Mustard, David Miller, Amber O'Haver, Dustin Ziegler, Natalie Sutton, Ellen Burton, Sarah Waddle, Kelli Turngate, Nicole Neulieb

FSSA:

Sarah Renner, Allison Taylor, Darcy Tower, Nonis Spinner, Kim Opsahl, David Simpson, Gena Lewis

Advancing States:

Martha Roherty, Camille Dobson, Elaine Sawyer, Eden Taylor

Indiana Minority Health Coalition (IMHC):

Carl Ellison, Tony Gillespie, Erica Pedroza, Shanta Harris, Troy Julian

Agenda items

- I. Introductions:** Members of the newly formed advisory group were welcomed and given the opportunity to share their name, organization, what their organization does, and their interest in Long Term Services and Supports
- II. Overview of the LTSS Reform Initiative:** Sarah Renner briefed the Advisory Group on Indiana's proposed reform initiative. Ms. Renner highlighted that there is a new "Key Result" in the reform initiative. The new "key result" is Recruitment, retention, and training of workforce objective. Ms. Renner said that the effort will be led by Peggy Welch and that additional details would be forthcoming.
- III. Role of the Advisory Group:** Martha Roherty and Camille Dobson of ADvancing States joined by Carl Ellison of IMHC shared what the role of

the Advisory Group will be over the next three years. Advisory Group members then asked a few clarifying questions including:

a) ***How can we partner with existing organizational plans for events so that we can maximize the number of stakeholders who participate?***

The ADvancing States team shared that the team wants to partner with as many groups as possible and they don't want to duplicate effort.

b) ***How have other states used their Advisory Groups?***

The ADvancing States team shared that the role of the advisory group detailed in the slide deck on page 9 is consistent with the functions of advisory groups in other states. Martha also shared that the Advisory Group could evolve and have other functions over time.

c) ***How can we ensure that no Hoosiers are left out of the discussion based on geography, income, disability, or sexual orientation?***

The ADvancing States team shared that the state has made a strong effort to ensure that the stakeholder engagement effort will be as inclusive as possible. The contract with IMHC is just one example of how the state is committed to reaching out to underserved communities.

IV. Overview of ADvancing States and IMHC: ADvancing States and IMHC provided an overview of what they do and their role in the LTSS reform effort.

V. Overview of Stakeholder Engagement Process: ADvancing States then shared a high-level overview of their stakeholder engagement approach and process. ADvancing States highlighted that their intended audience for the stakeholder events are older Hoosiers and their caregivers but they highlighted that they understood that other Hoosiers and providers will likely attend the sessions. ADvancing States did also highlight that they will be meeting with direct service professionals separately.

a) ***How do we define older adult?***

Older adults are 60 plus.

b) ***Are the sessions intended for Medicaid recipients only?***

The ADvancing States team indicated that the target for the reform initiative was Older Hoosiers and caregivers, however, they indicated that they would encourage all Hoosiers to participate to learn about the reform.

c) **Why is the state saying that more Hoosiers need to leave nursing facilities?**

ADvancing States remarked that there will always be a place for high quality nursing facilities in the continuum of long-term services and supports. However, Indiana has a disproportionately high number of individuals residing in nursing facilities in comparison to other states and older Hoosiers have expressed a clear preference for aging at home.

d) **Will legislators be included in the briefings?**

ADvancing States staff indicated that, if FSSA desires, they will provide the dates and times of the stakeholder session to local policymakers so that they can attend sessions. ADvancing States staff further indicated that they may be asked by FSSA to prepare a special briefing for legislators but at this point they do not have any briefings scheduled.

e) **How can you ensure that consumers feel safe and not worried about having their services cut if they speak out?**

ADvancing States staff shared that there are multiple ways to help individuals feel safe. First, ADvancing States staff will encourage state staff who attend events to observe as an audience member, not a participant. Second, ADvancing States staff will allow for multiple ways to accept feedback; phone; online surveys; emails. Additionally, IMHC is working to ensure that the locations for stakeholder meetings are familiar to audience members and that we have community leaders participating as well.

f) **What will the first round of stakeholder engagement cover?**

The first round of stakeholder engagement is designed to educate consumers about the current system and to look for ways in which the current system is working well and where the system needs to improve. The ADvancing States team stated that the redesign effort needs to make sure that current system is running well before handing it over to managed care organizations.

g) **Who is on the “stakeholder team”?**

ADvancing States shared that they have four staff doing stakeholder meetings while IMHC also has six team members. IMHC also indicated that their local affiliates are available to help.

VI. Locations of the Stakeholder Engagement Activities

ADvancing States shared that the current plan is to go to 11 cities (including the greater area). The cities include Gary, South Bend, Fort Wayne, Lafayette, Muncie, Terre Haute, Bloomington, Indianapolis, Richmond, New Albany, Evansville. The group was asked for their thoughts about those cities and to provide additional ideas.

a) **Will all the sessions be in person, or will there be a hybrid approach?**

Sessions will be hosted both in-person and virtually. Events will be held during the day, and the evenings in places where Older Hoosiers and their caregivers are. Please submit ideas to InformIN@advancingstates.org.

b) **Is it possible for our organization to host an event so that individuals can participate with people that they are comfortable with?**

ADvancing States will create a “train the facilitator” toolkit so that community-based organizations can host stakeholder sessions and submit comments.

c) **How can we get more rural areas covered?**

ADvancing States shared that they would attempt to visit as many places and communities as possible. They will stop at rural locations on the way to sessions in urban locations.

d) **Several other organizations offered ideas for where stakeholders can gather.**

IMHC will be in contact with those groups in the coming weeks.

VII. Next Steps: In the wrap up, ADvancing States shared that they intend to hold another Advisory Group meeting in August to share the materials that they will be taking out on the road and final dates/times of the events. ADvancing States also indicated that they will be holding another meeting in December to go over the results of the first round of stakeholder engagement.

Action Items	Owner(s)	Deadline
Set the date for the August Advisory Group	FSSA	ASAP
Develop the final Stakeholder materials	ADvancing States	August 6, 2021
Create a “train the facilitator” toolkit	ADvancing States	August 18, 2021
Design a statewide logistical plan for stakeholder engagement	IMHC	August (before Advisory Group meeting)
Follow up with specific members of Advisory Group for logistical conversations	ADvancing States IMHC	August