

Senior Care Task Force: WGB – Access to Services

Dec 17, 2021
9:00am-10:30am
WebEx

Facilitator:	Kari Bruffett - KHI	Note taker:	KHI
Attendees:	Working Group Members: Sarah Schlitter, JCDS; Senator Kristen O’Shea; Jamie Gideon, Alzheimer’s Association; Annette Graham, Central Plains Area Agency on Aging; Linda MowBray, KHCA; Shawn Sullivan, Midland Care Connection; Staci Carson, JCDS; Heather Brown, JCDS Other Attendees: Jessie Pringle, Office of the Revisor of Statues; Sean Marshall, KLRD KHI Staff: Kari Bruffett, Miranda Steele, Michele Sumpter, Emma Uridge		
Reviewed Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agenda• Google Jamboard<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)		
Agenda:	9:00am – Welcome and Introductions 9:20am – KOMA/KORA (KS Open Meetings/Open Records Act) Jessie Pringle, Office of the Revisor of Statues 9:30am – Brainstorm Vision Statement for Working Group 9:45am – SWOT analysis (Successes, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) for all three topic areas via Google Jamboard 10:15am – Administrative Updates 10:30am – Review schedule for 2022 and adjourn		

Minutes

Agenda item: Introductions / Opening Remarks / Review Agenda / Working Group Process

Discussion:

- Kari Bruffett provided a review of the agenda
 - Ground Rules Reviewed and Adopted
 - Come ready to discuss and compromise.
 - Keep remarks succinct and on topic.
 - Don’t hesitate to ask clarifying questions.
 - Start and end on time.
- Group introductions and List Individual Goals for Working Group
 - Key Themes from Introduction
 - Collaboration and thinking through services we all provide in the changing world
 - We all do well in our silos but how do we do it better together?
 - What can the legislature and state do to make life simpler and easier for services that serve our elderly?
 - Represent voices of those with Alzheimer’s and their caregivers
 - Improve information and access to services for seniors and caregivers
 - Enhance services for community based older adults
 - Focus on clear path to service
 - No wrong door to service
 - Break out of silos to work together
 - “Client needs this” and point them in a clear direction
 - What are our markers along the way for success, process, and improvement?
 - Know where our gaps are, and fill those
 - Identify silos

Agenda item: KOMA/KORA – Jessie Pringle – Office of the Revisor of Statues

Discussion:

- Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) -
 - Committees and sub-committees
 - No more than seven individuals should gather to discuss the business of the gathering body
 - Make reasonable efforts for public to attend meetings
 - When speaking: State name before making remarks
- Kansas Open Records Act (KORA) -
 - Any notes not subject to KORA unless they are presented during the meeting.
 - Violation: Civil fine for \$500+ and possibly complete training on KOMA/KORA.
 - Keep to the set meeting time
 - Questions for potential violations: Reach out to Jessie

Agenda item: Brainstorm Vision Statement for Working Group

Discussion:

- Vision Statement
 - “Establish [and expand] a clear path [with public policy recommendations] for Kansas older adults [and caregivers] to access services.”
- Statement will be finalized at next meeting

Agenda item: SWOT Analysis

Discussion: Group used Jamboard to brainstorm Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats for three topics of study
Provision of care for seniors in Kansas who suffer from Alzheimer’s disease, dementia, or other age-related mental health conditions

- Key Themes
 - What are some strengths?
 - Multiple resources for dementia and Alzheimer’s specific training
 - What are some weaknesses?

- Workforce shortages
- Limited availability of Mental Health professionals
- Limited resources available for caregivers and seniors seeking services
- Where are opportunities?
 - Statewide dementia coordinator
 - Training:
 - Dementia training - initially and annually (requirement)
 - Mental health training
 - Caregiver tax credits
 - Transition planning
 - Rural services
- What barriers do we need to address?
 - Workforce shortage
 - Burnout among caregivers, and staff
 - Aging population - capacity to serve growing population of Kansans needing LTC
 - Lack of healthcare provider specialization in diagnosis

Funding and implementation of the Kansas senior care act, K.S.A. 75-5926 through 75-5936, and amendments

- Key Themes
 - What are some strengths?
 - Person-centered services
 - What are some weaknesses?
 - Workforce Shortage
 - Need to expand & allow flexibility in service options
 - Where are opportunities?
 - Increase broadband availability to take advantage of services
 - Outline outcomes desired in the KS Senior Care Act
 - What barriers do we need to address?
 - Supply chain issues
 - Staffing shortages
 - Disparities between rural and urban access to services

Senior daycare resources in the state of Kansas

- Key Themes
 - What are some strengths?
 - Programs assists with caregiver burnout
 - Provides diverse and meaningful activities for seniors
 - What are some weaknesses?
 - Current 1 size fits all model
 - Limited resources and service barriers (e.g., overnight care)
 - Limited availability of day services (rural and urban)
 - Where are opportunities?
 - Flexibility in services
 - Cost sharing and other collaboration among service providers (including possibility for healthcare providers to deliver day services)
 - What barriers do we need to address?
 - Pandemic impacting available services, programs, and staffing
 - Limited access to transportation

Rebalancing of home and community-based services

- Key Themes
 - What are some strengths?
 - More attention to funding and interest in HCBS
 - What are some weaknesses?
 - HCBS lacking in rural communities
 - service gaps during transition into program
 - Limited flexibility of existing services
 - Where are opportunities?
 - PACE providers and model for rural communities
 - What barriers do we need to address?
 - Workforce shortage hindering expansion of HCBS
 - Waiting list to receive services

Agenda item: Administrative Updates and Next Steps

Discussion: Supplemental expert nominations and data requests for January 21, 2022

- Dr. Stephen Benson – Wichita
- Linda Farrar – LICA MedMan, training for CMS Hand in Hand program

- Overview of Alzheimer's State Plan
 - Jamie Gideon – Presentation on Alzheimer's State Plan

SWOT Analysis
Working Group B (WGB) – Access to Services

WGB - Access to Services	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<p>Topic: Provision of care for seniors in Kansas who suffer from Alzheimer’s disease, dementia, or other age-related mental health conditions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have the Alzheimer’s association to provide education, support, and other resources. • National Task Group (NTG) - dementia specific training • Senior Care Act serves age 60 and older- unique to Kansas • Increased funding allocated to the senior care act program by legislators in the 2021 session • Alzheimer’s state task force 2020 Alzheimer’s state plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No flexibility in services available • Lack of caregiver knowledge for both Alzheimer’s and mental health in older adults • Decreased staffing resources • Opportunities for them to be in their home • Caregiver shortages for self-direct care services • Workforce shortages • Limited resources for in-home specialized services for individuals with dementia • The workforce crisis creates a challenge for finding paid caregivers for those that can pay for it. • Provision of care for older adults with dementia is available in facilities in some areas. Limited resources available for community-based care. • Limited availability of mental health professionals with expertise in specialized needs of older adults • Wage disparity between waivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working closer with community mental health centers • Establishing a permanent dementia coordinator position • Requiring dementia training in long-term care (LTC) • Alzheimer’s association in Kansas is visible and active in providing resource information and advocacy • Transition planning from home to more intensive services when needed • Home and community-based services (HCBS) program for age 65 and older • Establish caregiver tax credits • Mental health services not widely available for older adults in rural areas • Require dementia training for caregivers in all settings where people with dementia are served • Requiring dementia specific training for all caregivers; both initially and annually • Lack of adequate training for professionals working with individuals with dementia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caregiver burnout • The Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) is a great resource for this area. However- is more targeted to dual eligible and not more widely available to those only with Medicare coverage. • Workforce shortage • Lack of healthcare providers specializing in these diagnosis • Funding challenges • Increased numbers in the future, are we prepared to handle that with service availability?
<p>Key themes - provision of care for seniors in Kansas who suffer from Alzheimer’s disease, dementia, or other age-related mental health conditions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple resources for dementia and Alzheimer’s specific training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce shortages • Limited availability of mental health professionals • Limited resources available for caregivers and seniors seeking services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide dementia coordinator (are there other states with similar role?) • Caregiver tax credits • Transition planning for rural services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce shortage • Burnout - caregivers, provider staff • Aging population - capacity to serve growing population of Kansans needing LTC • Lack of healthcare provider specialization in diagnosis

WGB - Access to Services	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<p>Topic: funding and implementation of the Kansas senior care act, k.s.a. 75-5926 through 75-5936, and amendments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional funding allocated in 2021 • Increase the plan of care caps • Services are person centered • More robust data system for the SCA program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce shortages impact ability to serve older adults • Workforce shortages in rural areas have become increasingly evident and problematic • Pandemic impact - increased isolation and limited services • Increase options for use of technology • Need to expand service options to meet unique needs of older adults - flexibility of services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are desired outcomes of SCA? Do we have measurable outcomes of the program to demonstrate its success? • Broadband, telehealth access virtual visits for clients and caregivers from support services. • Technology opportunities- how can technology be utilized to help support again population • How can people with intellectual and developmental disabilities fit into / receive these available services in addition to HCBS services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disparities between access to care in rural vs. Urban areas • Limited staffing resources • Supply chain issues for food and services
<p>Key themes - Funding and implementation of the Kansas senior care act, k.s.a. 75-5926 through 75-5936, and amendments</p>	<p>(Increased funding)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to expand & allow flexibility in service options • Workforce shortage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase broadband availability to take advantage of services • Outline outcomes desired in the SCA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply chain issues • Staffing shortages • Disparities between rural and urban access to services
<p>Topic: Senior daycare resources in the state of Kansas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide seniors with meaningful activities • Provides structure to their day • It provides respite to caregivers • Often it is an important and critical service to allow the caregiver the ability to continue you on as a caregiver • Provides diverse activities that promote community inclusion and participation • Allow seniors to continue to be a part of their communities • Help with caregiver burnout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low reimbursement rate to providers who serve HCBS clients • Critical gap is overnight service • For caregivers' access to this service is critical to enable them to continue to keep the older adult in the home and community • Extremely limited availability of day services even in urban areas of the state • Currently 1 size fits all models • Not suitable for everyone, especially if this service is provided away from home • Lack of information on this type of service for the caregivers who are in need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage other providers to address transportation challenges • Find ways to engage existing health care providers to offer day services, especially in rural areas, as an add on to what they already do. • Explore cost sharing among organizations to add more services • Increased flexibility in services/programming - continue flexibility that's occurred during pandemic • Increased collaboration among day service providers vs silos • Need for specialized training for staff at adult day care sites to provide appropriate services in the setting • Staffing challenges • Need to expand the availability of day care services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing resources • Pandemic affecting available services and programming • Extremely limited transportation services in both rural and urban areas • Transportation availability

WGB - Access to Services	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Key themes - Senior daycare resources in the state of Kansas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helps mitigate caregiver burnout Provides diverse and meaningful activities for seniors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 size fits all model Limited resources and service barriers (e.g., overnight) Limited availability of day services (rural and urban) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexibility in services Cost sharing and other collaboration among service providers (including possibility for healthcare providers to deliver day services) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pandemic impacting available services, programs, and staffing Limited access to transportation
Topic: Rebalancing of home and community-based services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing interest in home and community-based services during the time of the pandemic. More attention is now being given at federal level to funding needed Change in protected income level has increased access Increased awareness of the waiver program during pandemic Funding for services as the number of waiver participants continues to increase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of available home-based services and providers in rural areas. Workforce shortages are worsening Limited-service flexibility Individuals w/ i/dd are not included in some service delivery options Service gaps between living on their own and then transitioning to more intensive support as they age. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural PACE model Availability of PACE in areas of state currently unserved by pace providers. Access to the same services that non-HCBS people receive. Explore if there really is a need to separate these populations when we are talking about older adults Increase utilization during the pandemic Establish a statewide information and referral system through KDADS The change to the protected income level has resulted in more people being able to access HCBS waiver services The Agency for Community Living (ACL) ADRC transitions program has been successful in helping many on waiver services transition back home-opportunity to make this permanent Administrative case management (ACM) service to assist with the Medicaid application process for Frail Elderly, Physical Disability and Brain Injury waiver applicants Services that can be shared with HCBS and non-HCBS recipients. Is there really a need to separate these populations when we are talking about older adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growing waiting list numbers Staffing for expanded services could be problematic Final settings rule causing assisted living and home plus to leave the HCBS program as providers Provider rate imbalance between waivers Lack of standardized direct support professional as a recognized profession by the department of labor.
Key themes - Rebalancing of home and community-based services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More attention to funding and interest in HCBS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCBS lacking in rural communities Limited flexibility of existing services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PACE providers and model for rural communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce shortage hindering expansion of HCBS