

STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor
Christopher E. Urbina, MD, MPH
Executive Director and Chief Medical Officer

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S. Laboratory Services Division
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530 8100 Lowry Blvd.
Phone (303) 692-2000 Denver, Colorado 80230-6928
Located in Glendale, Colorado (303) 692-3090

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us>



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

Assisted Living Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

May 23, 2013

12:00 – 2:00 PM

Sabin Cleere Room, Building A

Committee Members Present: Shannon Gimbel, Laura Landwirth, Jun Murai, Maggie Sparks

Committee Members Absent: Julie Lee, Iva Prinsen, Linda Sanden

Guests: J. Dedmon, Sara Diaz, Gina DiGiallonardo, Nancy Ferrier, Nicole Kasemir, Wolfram Kasemir, Debra Glade, Marilyn Hammerschmidt, Shelley Hitt, Ruthie Horton, Tammy Littlefield, Mindy Rickard, Peggy Rogers, Pam, Silverberg, Sara Taylor, Heidi Walling, Cathi Waters (Names on this list reflect guests who signed in.)

HFD Staff Present: Jill Lazo, Roberta Lopez, Melanie Roth, Sean Schwartzkopf, Wunpenn Zaborek,

Welcome/Reminders: Melanie Roth welcomed attendees to the meeting at 12:01 PM. The sign-in-sheet was circulated, and she introduced the first speaker.

Transfer of Life Safety Code Oversight from CDPHE to DPS: Life Safety Code Program Manager Rob Sontag said that plans continue to move forward for the July 1, 2013 transfer of the program to the Division of Fire Prevention and Control. Work continues on emergency rules that will need to be in place in time for the transition. He also announced that the program is looking to adopt the 2012 editions of the Code Set from the 2003 code.

New Scabies Guidelines: Nicole Comstock, an epidemiologist with the Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program at CDPHE reviewed new [scabies guidelines](#). An isolated, individual case of scabies infestation is not a public health reportable condition in Colorado; however, an *outbreak* from any source is reportable within 24 hours to your local public health agency or state health department (303-692-2700). For the guideline, a scabies outbreak is defined as *at least two cases (any combination of suspected or confirmed cases) identified in residents, staff, volunteers or visitors during a two week period*. For more information, please contact Nicole Comstock at Nicole.Comstock@state.co.us or 303-692-2676.

Legislative Wrap Up From 2013 Session: Eileen Doherty, executive director of the Colorado Gerontological Society and Senior Answers & Services gave an excellent wrap-up of the legislative initiatives impacting seniors that passed during the legislative session, including: (1) adding an additional \$4 million for Older Coloradans services, such as Meals on Wheels, transportation, and legal services; (2) allowing electronic renewal of Senior Identification Cards for seniors over 65; (3) requiring social workers, physicians, nurses and others to report suspected of elder abuse and providing staffing to investigate reports; (4) making changes to the regulations governing audiology practice in Colorado; (5) eliminating Colorado's contribution to the Low-income Telephone Assistance Program, leaving only the federal contribution; (6) funding adult dental benefits; (7) eliminating the ability of the Colorado Dental Association to take complaints against practicing dentists; (8) allowing notices of senior and veterans property tax exemptions to be sent by email and mail; and, (9) creating a coordinated behavioral health

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crisis response system with 24-hour crisis hotline, walk-in crisis services, crisis stabilization units, mobile crisis services and a public information campaign

Presentation: Elder Abuse Task Force and SB13-111: Peggy Rogers, manager of adult protection and financial assistance at the Colorado Department of Human Services, presented an excellent summary of SB13-111, *Concerning Abuse of At-Risk Adults*, which passed the Colorado legislature and was signed by Governor Hickenlooper on May 15, 2013. It requires social workers, physicians, nurses and others to report suspected elder abuse and provide staffing to investigate reports. Prior to its passage, Colorado was one of just three states that did not require reporting of elder mistreatment. Click [here](#) to see the PowerPoint , which includes more about what the new law entails.

Medicaid Buy-in Program: Martha Beavers, the buy-in policy specialist at the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's (HCPF) Long Term Services and Supports program, discussed Medicaid's buy-in program for working adults with disabilities. The program was developed as a result of the Colorado Health Care Affordability Act, and allows working individuals ages 16-64, whose adjusted individual income is at or below 450% of the Federal Poverty Level, to receive Medicaid benefits by paying a monthly premium on a sliding scale based on their adjusted income. For more information, visit this HCPF website at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpagename=HCPF%2FHCPFLayout&cid=1251588382255&pagename=HCPFWrapper> . For more information, contact Martha.Beavers@state.co.us or 303-866-3998.

Training Update: Melanie Roth reported on the success of the ALR program-sponsored two half-day dementia trainings held around the state during April, and reminded the group about one last opportunity to take this free training on June 5, 2013 in Loveland: The morning program is "*Sexuality and Intimacy in Residents with Dementia*", and the afternoon program is "*Reducing Dementia-Related Behaviors: Non-Pharmacologic Approaches*." The trainer is Amelia Schafer from the Colorado Alzheimer's Association. For more information, contact Melanie at Melanie.Roth@state.co.us or 303-692-2819.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 23, 2013, from 12:00 - 2:00 PM.