



**Office for
the Aging**

Office of Community Living Feasibility Study

Corinda Crossdale, Director

October 19, 2015

Office of Community Living

- Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2015 (S2007-B/A3007-B) authorizes the New York State Office for the Aging to **study the feasibility** of creating an Office of Community Living.
- The **purpose** of the act is to **seek public input about the creation of an office of community living** with the goal of providing improvements in service delivery and improved program outcomes that would result from the expansion of community living integration services for older adults and persons of all ages with disabilities.

Purpose & Rationale

§ 2. Data and information collection.

- (1) The **director of the state office for the aging**, in **collaboration with other state agencies**, will:
 - consult with stakeholders, providers, individuals and their families to gather data and information on the creation of an office for community living.
 - areas of focus shall include, but not be limited to, furthering the goals of the governor's Olmstead plan, strengthening the No Wrong Door approach to accessing information and services, reinforcing initiatives of the Balancing Incentive Program, creating opportunities to better leverage resources, evaluating methods for service delivery improvements, and analyzing the fiscal impact of creating such an office on services, individuals and providers.
 - The state office for the aging shall also examine recent federal initiatives to create an administration on community living; and examine other states' efforts to expand services supporting community living integration, and local and/or regional coordination efforts within New York.

Purpose & Rationale

- (2) In order to ensure meaningful public input and comment regarding the activities of subdivision one of this section, there shall be a series of public meetings held across the state, organized to ensure that stakeholders in all regions of the state are afforded an opportunity to comment.

§ 3. Reporting. The director of the state office for the aging shall submit to the governor, and to the temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly, a report and recommendations by December 15, 2015, that outlines the results and findings associated with the aforementioned collection of data and solicitation of feedback.

Such report shall include, but not be limited to, the director's assessment, after taking into consideration input from all stakeholders, whether establishment of such an office would be beneficial to the populations served and the state as a whole, the information gathered to make such assessment, an analysis of all information gathered, all alternatives considered, the impact and effect any proposed change may have on existing programs and services, and an assessment of related fiscal impacts on localities, the state and non-governmental entities serving the elderly and disabled communities in each of the respective communities.

§ 2. Data and information collection.

- The state office for the aging shall also examine recent federal initiatives to create an administration on community living; and examine other states' efforts to expand services supporting community living integration, and local and/or regional coordination efforts within New York.

Areas of Focus

1. Furthering the goals of the governor's Olmstead plan,
2. Strengthening the No Wrong Door approach to accessing information and services, reinforcing initiatives of the Balancing Incentive Program,
3. Creating opportunities to better leverage resources,
4. Evaluating methods for service delivery improvements, and
5. Analyzing the fiscal impact of creating such an office on services, individuals and providers.

Olmstead Plan

- Supreme Court decision in accordance with ADA
- People with disabilities have the right to live in the most integrated setting
- New York State has developed a comprehensive Olmstead Implementation Plan that will address integrated housing, employment, transportation, community services and other important issues.

Balancing Incentive Program (BIP)

- Improves access to long term services and supports (LTSS) to a spectrum of people.
- Promotes provider expertise by offering eligible entities the opportunity to create solutions that impact the LTSS delivery systems.
- New York State was approved for the program and awarded \$598.7 million on March 15, 2013.
- Requires 3 structural changes:
 - No Wrong Door/Single Entry Point System
 - Core Standardized Assessment Instruments, and
 - Conflict-free case management

No Wrong Door (NWD)

- The NWD Structural Requirements are:
 - All Individuals receive standardized information and experience the same eligibility process;
 - A coordinated process that guides the individual through the functional and financial eligibility determination process; and
 - Functional and financial assessment data is accessible to NWD staff so that eligibility determination and access to services can occur efficiently.

Timeline

- **May Kick off Webinar**
- **June development and inaugural meeting of advisory committee**
- **July 31- Survey development completed**
- **August 9- Survey distributed**
- **August 31- initial responses were collected**
- **September preliminary Analysis conducted by CADER**
- **September/October: Regional Meetings throughout the state**
- **November completion of data analysis**
- **December: Final report due to Governor**

The Survey

- Launched on August 9th, 2015
- Available online as well as printed
- Accessible in multiple formats (word document for screen readers)

Steering Committee

- 22 members from both Aging & Disability fields
- We have had 4 meetings so far (1 in person, 3 phone)
- Responsibilities:
 - Assist with survey development, identify recipients & distribution lists, participate in committee meetings and regional meetings, review preliminary report

Center for Aging & Disability Education & Research (CADER)

Scott Miyake Geron, Ph.D., MSW &
Bronwyn Keefe, Ph.D., MSW, MPH

“The Center for Aging and Disability Education and Research (CADER) is dedicated to strengthening the workforce that provides health and long-term supports and services to older adults and people with disabilities.”



Center for Aging and Disability
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Boston University School of Social Work



Role on Current Project

- Develop brief state-of-the-state report for the advisory Committee
- Assist with the development of surveys and other data collection procedures
- Conduct 3-5 in-person meetings around the State (they attended 9 meetings)
- Analyze all findings from the project
- Complete final report of all findings.



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Where Are We Now?

- Initial data analysis has begun
- Conducted 9 regional meetings across the state
 - Preliminary survey data was shared where attendees had an opportunity to comment.

Current Results

- Over 1,500 survey responses received.
- First round of preliminary data analysis was presented in all 9 regions of the state.
- Regional Forums have been completed with over 500 attendees responding to the preliminary survey results.

Report to Governor and Legislature

- Outlines the results and findings associated with the collection of data and solicitation of feedback.
- Report will include,
 - the director's assessment whether establishment of such an office would be beneficial to the populations served and the state as a whole,
 - the information gathered to make such assessment,
 - an analysis of all information gathered,
 - all alternatives considered,
 - the impact and effect any proposed change may have on existing programs and services, and
 - an assessment of related fiscal impacts on localities, the state and non-governmental entities serving older adults and persons with disabilities.

Closing

- Questions ?????

Thank you!

<http://www.aging.ny.gov/CommunityLiving/index.cfm>