

**MEETING DATE:** August 26, 2016

**SUMMARY OF:** NC Coalition on Aging Meeting

**RECORDED BY:** Marty Lamb, Secretary

<b>TO:</b>	<b>D I S T R I B U T I O N</b>	<p>Mary Bethel, President Alan Winstead, Treasurer Sara Jacobson, American Heart Association Leslie Roseboro, Leading Age NC Melinda Munden, NCDOI/SHIIP Jo Paul, NCDOI/SHIIP Linda Shaw, NC PACE Association Pam Palmer, NCPAAA Chip Modlin, Retired Director- Cumberland County DSS Ana Pardo, N.C. Justice Center Margaret Toman, FOR in LTC and Wake County Gold Coalition Craig Burrus, Wake County DHS Les Geller, SAGE Raleigh Cheryl Theriault, Life Links Johanna Silbersack, Nurse Care of NC Ari Medoff, Nurse Care of NC Tracy Colvard, Association for Home and Hospice Care of NC Polly Williams, NC Justice Center Trish Farnham, NC DHHS – Division of Medical Assistance Jamal Jones, NCDHHS – Division of Health Benefits Alan Winstead, Meals on Wheels NC Dick Hatch, Access Dental Care Dee Hatch, Aging Advocate Helen Savage, Center for Responsible Lending Sandy Gregory, NC Assoc. on Aging/NC BAM Nancy Ruffner, NAVIGATE NC Kathie Smith, Association Home &amp; Hospice Care of NC Sandy Pendergraft, Brain Injury Association of NC Margaret Kirkman, NC Adult Foster Care Association</p> <p>On phone: Bill Lamb, Past President Marty Lamb, Secretary Janice Tyler, Orange County Department on Aging Heather McLaughlin, Alliance for Retired Americans Richard Scott, Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging Paola Learoyd, Randolph Cloud and Associates Yolanda Stith, NC Assoc. of LTC Facilities Dave Cottengim, Resources for Seniors Hannah Rossi, NAMI NC Julie Wiggins, High Country AAA representing NC4A Joyce Brigg, Durham Housing Authority</p>
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**OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING :** To hear guest speakers, update, and plan.

**\*\*\*\*PROGRESS AND DECISIONS\*\*\*\***

*What key decisions were made during the meeting?*

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>SHARING</b>
<p>Introductions and Review of Minutes</p>	<p>Mary welcomed the group and identification of persons in attendance and on phone was made. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes.</p>
<p>Finance Update and Membership Renewals</p>	<p>\$10,838 is in the budget. Dues received from several new organizational memberships and individual memberships. Several registrations for annual meeting have been received. We paid \$75 for webmaster for the quarter. There were no questions.</p>
<p>Update from Mary</p>	<p>There are three new Coalition members including NC Bar Association Elder Law and Special Needs Section, N.C. Housing Coalition, and NC Partnership to Prevent Adult Abuse. There are now 42 agency/organization/group members of the Coalition. There are new individual memberships as well. At the last meeting, we discussed the proposed reductions in funding for SHIPP and the Seniors Community Service Employment Program. Communications were sent on this to our Congressional representatives. The U.S. House has put funding for these in their budget recommendation so we will see what happens. Updates for July and August were sent out. Heather Burkhardt could not attend today's meeting and make a report from DAAS. Legislative reports and updates have been sent out. The Dual Eligibles Advisory Committee is continuing to meet and several Coalition members are on this. Mary announced that she has also attended meetings of Care4Carolina and the DOI advisory committees addressing network adequate standards. Mary also spoke at the Lifespan Respite Advisory Committee meeting. DHHS Secretary Rick Brajer will be attending our October meeting and wants to hear what we perceive as needs. The Coalition will be working with Amanda Borer who has been selected as a Health and Aging Policy Fellow.</p>
<p>Report on NC Medicaid Waiver and Advisory Committee on Persons who Have Dual Eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid Services</p>	<p>Speakers for the presentation were introduced. Trish Farnham is Project Manager for Money Follows the Person. Jamal Jones is with the new Division of Health Benefits. Trish began and thanked Mary Bethel for her assistance. Trish explained that she has been working in long term care for over 20 years, but she only knows 3 people here in this room. She gave context for Medicaid reform. A couple of years ago the Governor lead a charge to reform Medicaid. One of driving reasons she sees is that there is a real commitment for helping persons in whole person care. That has stayed consistent, and has kept people excited about what they are doing. The persons who need the most coordination of services sometimes have the least coordinated services. Jamal said he started in health care with Duke Endowment. He believes in whole person care. He thinks capitation has potential. He indicates we have the opportunity of a lifetime. He is married to occupational therapist and hears what she sees as well. Both Trish and Jamal noted that their remarks are just a summary presentation. This is just a start; there'll be many opportunities to talk further. CMS approval is needed for transition. It will take three years to transition and make changes. They'll be working with stakeholders. The waiver process can be tedious. Question was asked about CCNC and its future. Jamal</p>

said that level of care coordination is what we're looking for. He said we're trying to add specialty care on. He sees PACE without walls as a better model to think about. There is carve-out for PACE. Dick Hatch asked if Senator Heiss, chair of the Senate HHS Committee, is on board with the waiver request. Trish said needed legislation has been passed. DHHS is trying to hold everyone to a higher standard. In regard to why the need to reform health care, the response was that we need to move beyond fee for service, beyond patient centered to person centered care. 2 million people and beyond are to be served. Capitation is per member per month payment. It excludes dental and MCO's but there has to be a way to coordinate with MCO's. There will be competition for beneficiaries. We as state will provide information; that is part of the legislation. There will be enrollment brokers. SHIP has helped so much with that. Provider led entity (PLE) is a health plan much like companies such as United Health Care but is owned by a local entity. Ownership structure will be the difference. Whoever can do it, we want them to do it. Mary asked about network adequacy. Jamal said any requirement will be backed by federal government. He said an outside private source is needed to handle the electronics, but it is not yet all figured out. Ana asked about measures to keep from cutting corners. Jamal said that's the hard part. Several other states have gone through this. This process wants to assure much more attention is given to populations for network adequacy to be there. There is information on health care adequacy quality measures. The information needs to be collected in a manner that can be useful. There will be a value based payment. This new structure will help, Jamal shared. We hope to reallocate resources so that caregivers can be better compensated. Attempts are being made. Social determinants drive health care outcomes and are not considered in fee for service.

Trish said the 1115 waiver is what is to be different with the population who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. Guiding principles are consumer choice, and facility based services when necessary...upstream intervention. Jamal gave as example that there is no way now under Medicaid to have homes improved, to provide air conditioners, etc. Question was asked about others who are not Medicaid eligible. Trish explained there are a number of persons who have partial dual eligibility, and we know that is a vulnerable population. Mary said you may need to put money in to avoid persons having to use more Medicaid. Streamlined coordination is needed, shared Trish. Care transitions and early interventions will be a focus. There is a carve-out for persons who have dual eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid. How do we integrate these persons? How do we achieve outcomes we all want? Watch for DEAC (Dual Eligible Advisory Committee) recommendations. Most people who have dual eligibility are not using long term care. 60% use personal care services. They are trying to take people from medical homes and add on social determinants, Jamal said. PCS and CAP-DA are under the capitation, said Trish, and carving out services to persons who have dual eligibility. Mary shared that what drives Medicaid may drive all insurance in this state eventually. Website address will be routed to Mary Bethel. Webinars are online.

Reimbursement rates and wages in home care

A panel of Tracy Colvard, Kathie Smith, Ana Pardo, and Chip Modlin were introduced to talk about reimbursement rates and wages in home care. Tracy with the Association for Home and Hospice Care of NC said you hear about a push for \$15.00 an hour wages for home care workers, but people don't hear that it all falls back to reimbursement rates are not enough for that. The state reimbursement rate is \$13.88 an hour through public funding. He said Dave Richard, the State Medicaid Director, has been on the provider side to work with the legislature and advocates to make things better. \$40 or \$50 million

would be needed to increase rates. Kathie Smith, also with the Association for Home and Hospice Care, shared that for Medicaid PCS, for example, they have to follow 44 page coverage document , include an RN for assessment, do supervision by RN, special training for staff if cognitive disorder with attestation, QI program attestation, follow staff training requirements, plus wages to the caregiver, infection control, and HIPPA. Ana Pardo with the NC Justice Center’s Caregiver Initiative indicated that she would like to see increased reimbursement rate. Bill Lamb added that issues apply in community based settings but same issues apply in assisted living as well. Ana noted home care is the fastest growing industry in the state. Seniors often want to stay in their homes. We have a low wage work force taking care of our seniors. Median rate is \$9.00 an hour, and it’s critical work. The Justice Center is advocating for higher reimbursement rate to avoid a crisis. Chip Modlin, aging advocate and retired Director of Cumberland Co. DSS, added maybe we should become Gray Panthers. Long term care is becoming unsustainable. If we say we want good home care as best option, we should back that up. There are 40,000 home care workers. We need to expand Medicaid. Chip continues saying he is 80, and his health could change very quickly and he could need home care. We need to disrupt the process. We need to respect the aging. We need to change the conversation, he advocates. We’re paying caregivers 2/3rds of what they need to live.

Janice Tyler (on the phone) added that with their providers they are paying a living wage which is \$13.18 an hour in Orange County. \$21.00 is paid to the agency. Ari Medoff with Nurse Care of NC said he thought advocating for \$17.00 an hour would not do it. He thinks moving to daily or monthly rate would be a good move. He said he thought a change in structure is needed. Ana said that we can invest in our people or cut taxes. We are 4<sup>th</sup> from the bottom with our reimbursement rate right now she shared. Jamal said he did not think that major changes of fee for service will be taking place right now. Alan Winstead said that Medicaid reimbursement rates for home delivered meals is much lower in our state than in others.

Ana shared that new film “Care” is powerful and there will be premiere showing at Unitarian Fellowship Church in Raleigh on at 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 8. Everyone was invited to attend this.

Annual Meeting Plans Update

Mary announced that the Pioneer Award will be given to Dot Crawford, 98 years old, who has be a long-time aging advocate in N.C. Dick Hatch made a motion to recognize her with this Award, which was seconded, and accepted by acclamation.

Dr. Robert Friedland from Georgetown University, nationally known speaker, will be the keynote speaker at the meeting.

Nominations

The Nominating Committee report was presented by Bill Lamb. He indicated that Alan Winstead has agreed to serve another term as treasurer and Janice Tyler is the nominee for Vice-President.

Establishing Legislative Agenda for next meeting

Mary announced that if there are items members want to have considered for the Coalition’s legislative agenda, please submit the proposal and rationale to her by September 30. The Executive Committee is recommending that these will be discussed at the October meeting and then voted on at the December meeting. She asked if there was agreement on this process. There was no negative response.

Announcements	Organizational announcements: SHIP staff reported that open enrollment is about to start. Humana is dropping out of the state employee retiree market. There will be significant changes in the state 70-30 plan. The Governor has proclaimed September as PACE month in N.C. Friends of Residents in Long Term Care will have a fund raiser on Oct. 22 at the Advocates for Justice Building off Wade Avenue. Julie Wiggins mentioned that her Area Agency on Aging in Boone and the Area Agency on Aging in the Charlotte area have big conferences also going on September 23. Sara Jacobson with the American Heart Association who was in attendance noted the Care4Carolina initiative. Helen Savage representing the Center for Responsible Lending referenced that comments on pay day lending rules are due. Ari Merdoff with Nurse Care of NC shared that recommendation has been made to the NC Division of Health Services Regulation to increase scope of practice for nurses' aides but it may take time to be considered by the Medical Care Commission. Ana Pardo noted that Grandparents' Day is coming up. Alan Winstead announced that MOW America has a new media campaign that will be airing soon.

### HANDOUTS

Agenda and treasurer report

Who	Assignments	WHEN
Mary	Send out updates and coordinate in looking towards our Coalition annual meeting on September 23	Soon
Allen	Keep financial records	Soon
Bill	Will follow up on nominations further	Soon
Marty	Will route draft minutes to Mary	Soon

### \*\*\*\*NEXT MEETING\*\*\*\*

Day / Date / Time	WHAT	Where
Tues., Sept. 23, 2016 11:30 a.m.	Annual meeting	NCSU University Club