



**Membership Meeting**  
**Friday, October 28, 2022**  
**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
**At NCDOI and Via Zoom**

**Attendees:**

Beth Reeves	Arosa Care
Bill Lamb	Friends of Residents in Long Term Care (FOR)
Bob Tomasulo	AARP-NC
Brian Simpson	Social Security Administration
Carol Kelly	NC Guardianship Association
Chris Brandenburg	AARP-NC
Corinna Miller	United Health Care
Crystal Adams	NC Oral Health Collaborative
Cynthia Hancock	UNC Charlotte, Gerontology Program
Daunita Maennle	Cherokee County DSS/Individual Member
Deryl Davis Fulmer	NC Governmental Employees' Association
Dick Chady	NC Continuing Care Residents Association/NC Third Age
Elizabeth Williams	Mountain Care
Ellen Schneider	UNC Center on Aging
Gail Miller	North Carolina Senior Tar Heel Legislator
Gina Upchurch	Senior PharmAssist
Harold Barnette	Institute for Family Caregiving
Heather Burkhardt	NC Coalition on Aging
	NC Association on Aging/Orange County Department on Aging
Janice Tyler	
Janny Mealor	Wake County Division of Human Services
Jay Potter	National Association of Social Workers-NC Chapter
Jeff Horton	NC Senior Living Association
Jillian Hardin	Brunswick Senior Resources
John Gibbons	RHA Health Services
Julia Burrowes	American Society on Aging
Karin McDaniel	Adult Life Programs
	NCDHHS/Division for Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Katie Franklin	
Kay Castillo	National Association of Social Workers-NC Chapter
Kevin Robertson	NC Department of Insurance/Senior Medicare Patrol
Laura Schlabach	NC Department of Justice
Lauren Zingraff	Friends of Residents in Long Term Care (FOR)
Lee Dobson	BAYADA Home Health Care
Les Geller	Carolina Aging Alliance
Linda Kendall Fields	UNC -CH, School of Social Work, Cares

Lisa Hoskins	The Center for Volunteer Caregiving
Martha Fulmer	SEANC
Marty Lamb	Individual member
Mary Bethel	NC Coalition on Aging, Board Chair
Megan Quinones	The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro
Nancy Warren	NC Partnership to End Adult Abuse
Olivia Huang	
Tim O'Connell	NC Governmental Employees' Association
Willetha Barnette	Institute for Family Caregiving

Board Chair **Mary Bethel** opened the meeting at 10:02 a.m. There were nine persons present at NC DOI and 39 online.

As the NC Coalition on Aging's Premium sponsor UnitedHealthCare is able to make remarks to the membership as part of their benefits. **Corinna Miller**, Community Development Director, United Healthcare said they participated in Duke-Margolis report on dual eligible (Medicare and Medicaid). Looking to have an integrated system of dual-eligibles resulting in health equity and improved experiences. They have 75,000 persons of dual special needs in 99 counties and serve 375,000 Medicaid members and 100 counties. Corinna showed a short video about the new benefits for UHC Special Needs Plans.

Details: [North Carolina Medicare-Medicaid Integration: Advancing Whole-Person Care](#), Duke University, Margolis Center for Health Policy

**Linda Kendall Fields** of the UNC School of Social Work reported on "Making Alternatives to Guardianship a Reality in NC." Basic facts:

- There are more than 23,000 adults subject to guardianship in NC.
- In 2019, there were just over 6,000 public guardianships by county departments of social services and contracted corporations. Of those, 64% were for people aged 18-59 with intellectual and other developmental disabilities and/or mental health conditions.

Goals to improve the system:

- Always use the least restrictive options and be based on best practices.
- Offer easily available and accessible information about options and alternatives to guardianship that is communicated to and understood by stakeholders.
- Rest on a process in which all stakeholders are identified and engaged.
- Have built-in accountability for all stages of guardianship and less restrictive alternatives.

Info: <https://rethinkingguardianshipnc.org/> Email: [lkfields@email.unc.edu](mailto:lkfields@email.unc.edu)

Secretary/Treasurer **Dick Chady** presented the minutes from the Annual Meeting on Sept. 23,, 2022. They were accepted without changes.

Dick reported the checking account balance was 114,930.39 on Oct. 27. The report was accepted.

### **Updates from the Executive Director**

Heather reminded persons to submit ideas for legislative agenda to a Google Doc form. [NCCOA 2023 Legislative Agenda Issue Submission Form](#) It will stay open November 4th.

She invited person with an interest in helping NCCOA to shape its agenda to join the new **Policy Committee**

On Nov. 1, she will attend the Geriatric Summit on the direct care workforce in Asheville.

Because of the light attendance for in-person meetings and difficulty presenting a hybrid, we will **convert to primarily online members' meetings in 2023.**

The only in-person gatherings will be for Older Americans Month in May and the Annual Meeting in September.

**Diversity Moment: Deryl Davis-Fulmer**, Co-Chair of the **Health Equity Workforce**, reminded us that the program for November 4 (Native Americans Heritage Month) will be on the Lumbee Tribe in Robeson County.

### **Legislative Updates from Mary Bethel**

- NC appears increasingly likely to approve Medicaid expansion. For details of the recent meeting by the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee On Health And Human Services- [October 11, 2022 Handouts](#)
- Joint Legislative Oversight Committee On Medicaid And NC Health Choice- [October 11, 2022 Handouts](#)

**Kay Castillo** of NASW, **Chris Brandenburg** of AARP N, **Bill Lamb** of Friends of Residents said each group is developing its legislative agendas.

**Gail Miller** of Alamance County said the Senior Tar Heel Legislature has five priorities:

- Allocate \$8 million for Adult Protective Services.
- Appropriate \$5,000 for administrative costs at each of 169 senior centers.
- Provide \$8 million in Home and Community Based Services Block Grant to cut down the waiting list of 10,000 persons for services such as Meals on Wheels and transportation.
- Provide \$1.5 million to add staffing to the regional ombudsman program. Although we have 33 positions, we should have 45.
- Enact a staffing/patient requirement for Certified Nurses Aides in long-term care. There is one for nurses, but the CNAs provide the direct care.

**Jeff Horton** said they NC Senior Living Assn. wants to maintain the increases Special Assistance/ Medicaid rates that the NCGA approved in 2021. At this point the higher rates related to COVID are only approved through the end of this year. They want to go off and face

an 18 percent cut when the temporary payments stop. And finally they are working to make SA rates comparable the actual costs to provide room and board and other services.

**Nancy Warren** said the Partnership to Address Adult Abuse doesn't its own agenda, but they will be submitting proposals that mirror those of the Senior Tar Heel Legislature, for example.

**Mary Bethel:** The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging will be making recommendations to Gov. Cooper by the end of the year.

**Crystal Adams** of NC Oral Health Collaborative: They are watching Medicare possibly expanding dental services that relate to other procedures.

For details:

- **NC Senior Tar Heel Legislature-** [Legislative Priorities](#)
- **North Carolina Retired Governmental Employees' Association:** [NC 2023 Proposed Legislative Goals](#)
- **NASW-NC-** [Legislative Agenda Survey](#)
- **Cares** is the new North Carolina Affiliate for the [Southeast ADA Center](#) (SEADA). Click on this [form link](#) to be added to the distribution list to receive a monthly email containing curated information and training opportunities from the SEADA center.

### Sharing by Coalition Members

**Brian Simpson** of AARP NC summarized the 8.7 percent Social Security Cost-of-Living increase set for January 2023. It averages about \$140-month for each recipient. Heather sent out a face sheet with details.

**Daunita Maennle** said the Cherokee County DSS is planning the annual activities to honor family caregivers.

**Ellen Schneider** reported that 130 persons attended UNC's recent conference re brain health that focused on a new area of risk reduction.

**Chris Brandenburg** of AARP NC reported on the very successful "Age My Way" conference, which included a talk by **Gov. Roy Cooper**. They aim to have the governor declare NC an Age-Friendly state.

**Janice Tyler:** The NC Association on Aging plans a conference at Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church in Charlotte from March 13-15, 2023. The theme is "Coming Together with Passion and Purpose." Her agency honored 37 direct care workers at its seventh annual such event. Finally, the Daily Tar Heel featured the agency's SHIP program.

**Carol Kelly:** The NC Guardianship Association will hold its Fall Forum on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Learn more at <https://www.nc-guardian.org/>

**Kevin Robinson:** The Partnership to Address Adult Abuse will discuss the Risks of Social Isolation at its Zoom meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. [REGISTER HERE](#)

**Jeff Horton:** The NC Assisted Living Assn. is determining how the Social Security COLA impacts eligibility for State-County Special Assistance for Medicaid. The current rates are \$1,228 for SA and \$1,560 for Memory Care. Theoretically those would go up 8.7 percent. They are seeking confirmation from NC DHHS. It still doesn't equal what it costs to provide those services is \$1,829/month for regular SA and almost \$2,700/month for Memory Care.

**Next NCCOA meeting: 10 am – 12 p.m. December, 2 at the NC Department of Insurance in Raleigh and online.** Dr. Michael Kline, the NC state demographer, will discuss population trends..

Mary adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

**Dick Chady**

Secretary/Treasurer

Nov. 7, 2022