

## **Maryland Commission on Caregiving**

**August 3, 2023**

**10:30 AM -12:00 PM**

### **Virtual Meeting**

Commission Members Present: Jennifer, Eastman, Yetunde Olobatuyi, Shalini Arora, Terri Johnson, Larry Bram, Theresa Robertson, Kate Farinholt, Patricia Morris, Mary Anne Kane Breschi, Chalarra Sessoms, Esther Ward, Trina Townsends

Welcome & Introductions- Jennifer Eastman, Commission Chair

Review and approval of August's meeting: Yes

Commission Chair/Co-Chair position: Jennifer Eastman:

Jennifer thanked Theresa Robinson and Kate Farinholt for graciously accepting the role of Chair and Co-Chair to the commission. Members/partners voted and all agreed for this new change. Also, members/partners applauded Theresa and Kate for accepting this role and effective immediately, Jennifer will step down from this position. She provided them with a brief overview of the responsibilities and shared that she would be more than happy to assist them with transitioning smoothly into this role and has graciously agreed to still be available to them should they have any questions. Those in attendance also thanked Jennifer for working diligently with the MCC.

National Family Caregiving Month Planning: Jennifer Eastman

Patricia, Kate, Kathy, Yetunde, Mary Anne, Terri, Chalarra, Jennifer and Theresa have volunteered to serve on a workgroup to plan MCC's activities to commemorate National Family Caregiving Month in November. We need to plan our first meeting within the next few weeks. Jennifer will send a meeting invite out to the above names as soon as possible for the first meeting. If you are interested in participating, be sure to let Jennifer know of your interest.

Commission Annual Report: Yetunde Olobatuyi

Our office of Adult Services (where the Commission falls under) is in the process of compiling the Commission's annual report to the legislature. We are requesting information on any activities, outreach events, presentations, or work that is related to your role or involvement

with the Commission. Additionally, we are requesting quotes or testimonials from family caregivers about their involvement in the Commission, how it impacts them, and even their caregiver experience. We will be prioritizing anything that is submitted by Commission members, but if there are things that caregivers share, feel free to forward as well. We will consider incorporating anything that is received. Please send this information to this email address ([dhs.mcc@maryland.gov](mailto:dhs.mcc@maryland.gov)) no later than Monday, August 14th at 12pm.

#### Caregivers Survey Updates: Jennifer Eastman

We are finalizing a draft of the Commission survey with UMD's School of Social Work. We need to start developing lists and contacts for dissemination. Please refer to the attached spreadsheet for how I'm hoping to organize the information. It asks for the organization's name, contact person, targeted population, whether the organization would be sending a mass email or could include the survey in their newsletter, and what the possible reach of recipients would be. At the very least, we need the organization and a main point of contact so don't feel pressured to add all of the information. This is less time-sensitive, but we want the information in advance of the September meeting. Please send your list by August 31st. Jennifer will send out another reminder.

Jennifer stated she has appreciated working with the commission and serving as Chair for the last 6+ years. She stated she looks forward to a new chapter of leadership and vision! Everyone thanked Jennifer for the passion she showed in this committee and for working tirelessly with the members/partners.

Theresa asked if there was anything to guide her and Kathy in this new role most especially from the Governor's office. Jennifer informed her that either Shalini or Yetunde can follow up with the Governor's office to let them know of their new names and their role in the MCC.

**Our next meeting is Thursday September 7, 2023, from 10:30-12pm virtually.**