

## **Maryland Commission on Caregiving**

**March 07, 2024**

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

### **Virtual Meeting Minute**

Commission Member Present: Trina Townsend, Esther Ward, Patricia Morris, Yetunde Olobatuyi, Theresa Robertson, Jennifer Eastman, Shalini Arora, Kathy Wehr, Kate Farinholt, Larry Bram, Terri Johnson

Guests: Theresa Jeter-Cutting, Ruth Kershner, Dorinda Adams, Mark Tesoro, Leslie Smith Ray, Michael Gray

Welcome & Introduction: Kate Farinholt, Commission Co-chair

Review and approval of February's minutes:

Motion to approve February's meeting Minutes: Yes

#### **Welcome and new partners/guests (Commission co-chair Kate):**

Kate announced that we are pleased to welcome two new partners to our team, joining us for the first time this morning. Theresa Jeter-Cutting from Maryland Department of Aging, Interim Caregiver Program Manager and Ruth Kershner from Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Disability Services, Area Agency on Aging.

Theresa/Kate: Theresa and Kate advised members and partners to take note of any past or upcoming meetings, conferences, and training, particularly if they discuss anything related to the commission or caregivers' needs. This information will be included in the annual commission report submitted to the governor. To facilitate this, Theresa will create a spreadsheet for individuals to record their upcoming meetings and topics, including any caregiver-related discussions. Members were reminded that the state fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30, so meetings and events within this timeframe will be included in the report.

#### **Updates on HB 32 and SB 202 Income Tax Caregiver Tax Credit (Dorinda Adams)**

She provided an update on the above bill and thanked those people/organizations who took time out to write letters to support this bill. She reported that a few weeks ago, AARP Maryland sent a letter to the chair of the senate budget and taxation committee senator Guzzone and to the chair of the ways and means committee Atterbeary requesting that the committee consider amending the initial legislation. She also reported that because of a high fiscal note on the

above bill that they have the option when the revenues are down in a calendar year, the comptroller office may choose to not use the tax credit that year.

### **Announcements**

Kathy Wehr: She spoke about some upcoming training/seminars happening in Howard County. More importantly the Alzheimer disease and dementia care seminar. Anyone wanting to know more can reach out to Kathy directly.

Kate Farinholt: Announced that the behavioral health administration is doing a caregiver survey through University of Maryland and she has been asked to participate in assisting with building the survey.

Commission Website (Yetunde): Yetunde shared the commission websites with everyone most especially the new partners that joined the meeting today. She also talked about the frequency of the monthly meeting and time.

Mark Tesoro: Mark talked about some upcoming educational training workshops through the university of Maryland that DOA is working on. (More information about that will be shared with Yetunde and Yetunde to send to everyone, feel free to reach out directly to Mark at [mark.tesoro@maryland.gov](mailto:mark.tesoro@maryland.gov))

**The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 4, 2024, from 10:30am-12 pm.**