

LCAO Community Services Committee Meeting
February 22, 2018, 10:00am – 11:30am
n4a (1730 Rhode Island Ave. NW, Suite 1200)
Meeting Notes

Attendees: Altarum Institute – Center for Elder Care and Advanced Illness, B’nai B’rith International, Compassion & Choices, Consumer Voice, Easterseals, Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), Meals on Wheels America, Medicare Rights Center, National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA), National Alliance for Caregiving (NAC), National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP), National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs (NASOP), National Council on Aging (NCOA), National Senior Corps Association (NSCA), Services and Advocacy for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Elders (SAGE), and Women’s Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER).

I. FY19 Budget Process

- Provided an overview of the President’s FY19 Budget and what it requests for programs within the purview of the Community Services Committee. Largely, the FY19 Budget mirrors the proposal from last year, including the elimination of key block grants supporting seniors (CDBG, CSBG, SSBG), Senior Corps, LIHEAP, SCSEP, CSFP (senior nutrition program via USDA), several prevention programs, SHIP, among others. Most OAA Title III Programs were level funded (Supportive Services, Nutrition, Caregiver)
- Shared updates regarding the hearings and activities on the Hill
- Discussed ideas surrounding an LCAO response to the Budget and whether our time would be better spent on the Appropriations Process.

II. FY18 and FY19 Appropriations Process

- Discussed that the current CR runs through March 23, and even though the Bipartisan Budget Act is law, Appropriations Committees still do not have their 302(b) allocations
- Shared that the FY19 appropriations deadline for Member requests is March 19
- Decided that we would draft a cover letter and attach programmatic funding priorities in a spreadsheet outlining all of the information Hill staff need to complete their request (e.g. Program Name, Subcommittee, Department/Agency, Account, etc.)
- CS members signed up on google document to cover selected topics for the request template:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17L3VITq_c9JwWPIw42bKtM1aLtlpFhmIO2r3aUFLftA/edit#gid=888051783
- Erika/Autumn will circulate template document for updates—should largely reflect last year’s requests
- Still need sign ups for Alz Disease programs, lifespan respite care, SSA Admin funding if we want to include those requests

- Need to discuss the approval process and submit by Monday, March 12
- Discussed reaching out on Dear Colleague letters—will do, but important to focus on getting Members to include OAA/aging programs in their Member requests
 - Currently House OAA Title III letter is circulating led by Bonamici/Deutch

III. Other Legislative Activity

- Committee Co-Chairs have reached out to all authorizing committee staff to begin dialogue around the OAA Reauthorization Process – current law authorizes programs through September, 30 2019. A couple of responses thus far, however, there hasn't been much thought or attention to the issue. There continues to be an emphasis on the need for education and outreach
 - Have Aging Cmte staff schedule to speak at March 23 meeting, and are working on securing key hill staff for April/May meetings as well.
- A sub-group of committee members agreed to meet to set our own LCAO timeline for seeking ideas and input, that we will bring back to the Committee to discuss and approve and bring forward to the full LCAO
- Discussed H.R. 620, the ADA Education and Reform Act, a bill that passed the House on February 15 and would impose new burdens for people with disabilities. Under H.R. 620, an individual with a disability who seeks to challenge a public accommodation violation would have to wait up to 180 days before being able to file a civil action with the U.S. Department of Justice. This would represent a stark departure from the immediate injunctive relief available under the ADA, a process that no other federally protected class would have to endure
 - The Committee felt that this was an issue in which we should weigh-in to prevent from moving forward in the Senate
 - JFNA offered to draft a letter opposing the bill and urging the Senate to, as well

Next Meeting, News and Updates

- Shared as an FYI: Center for American Progress issued FY19 Budget Fact Sheets, which you can view here: <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/poverty/reports/2018/02/16/446837/fact-sheets-president-trumps-fy-2019-budget-harms-nearly-every-community-across-country/>
- Shared as an FYI: NDD United held a town hall regarding the BBA, and featured guests included, Congressman Charlie Dent (R-PA) and Stan Collender
- SAGE raised that the NSOAAP changes are open again for comment during OMB review and is drafting another letter to send re: exclusion of transgender older adults.
- **Next Meeting: March 23, 2018 at n4a from 10-11:30am (note date change from Thursday to Friday!)**