



requirements with the ASP. One suggestion made is to have the State pick up the patient's share. Deputy Commissioner George will look into this possibility; however, it seems unlikely, particularly since there are many people on CFC who pay a patient share. One other possible challenge for people moving from ASP to CFC is that CFC doesn't allow for spouses to be paid for independent activities like housekeeping, grocery shopping or yard work. Along with working with the participants in the ASP, DAIL staff has entered into a contract with the Area Agencies on Aging to do more direct outreach to ASP participants to help them understand what is happening with their services and what their options are and to examine potential Medicaid eligibility.

The Agency of Human Services (AHS) is working on GF grant reductions. DAIL has fewer grants than it has in the past and most of them are directly funding services. AHS has collected information from all departments and will follow up with the legislature. Deputy Commissioner George stressed that no decisions have been made at this time.

#### Legislation-

A workgroup has been recommended in a bill that is looking at the Certificate of Need (CON) process specifically around transfers of nursing home ownership. House Human Services (HHS) has been working all session on how to improve this process and introduced the bill. It has been determined that these types of CONs are not a good fit with the purpose of the Green Mountain Care Board and that it should not bear the responsibility of overseeing the transfer of nursing home ownership CONs. The proposed work group would recommend a new process and the resources needed to implement it. Currently DAIL's role with regards to nursing homes is to look at the quality of services, not the financial oversight. The group has until October to come up with recommendations and where the resources will come from needed to carry out the recommendations. An interim process will need to be put into place for any CONs before the new process is implemented.

#### Minimum Wage-

Bard Hill, DAIL Policy, Planning and Analysis Unit Director, testified to the House Human Services Committee and shared information on how the proposed \$15 minimum wage increase would impact various service providers and cost to the Medicaid program. It was also noted that some providers, such as nursing homes and home health agencies would have no ability to increase Medicare payments to supplement the wage increase. This would cause services to either be cut or unsustainable over a period of time.

#### Stakeholder Involvement-

Deputy Commissioner George provided a brief update on progress made to involve consumers and other stakeholders in the various health care and payment reform in initiatives DAIL is involved with, particularly with Children Services, Developmental Services and a potential pilot in the St. Johnsbury area focused on CFC Moderate Needs Group (MNG). It was noted that there was a MNG workgroup that met last year and many of the ideas generated from that could be implemented statewide and not just in a pilot area.

#### Upcoming DS Retreat-

There is a retreat planned for May 2. Once that meeting has happened, Commissioner Hutt will report out to the Advisory Board any news.

#### Public Service Recognition (PSR) Week-

PSR is the first week of May and the Governor's award is granted to a select few. DAIL has a group and an individual being recognized at the Governor's luncheon. Commissioner Hutt would like to invite these individuals to the May DAIL Advisory Board meeting for lunch, so they can be introduced to the Board and have an opportunity to share the great things they are doing.

#### **Independent Living Movement**

##### **Sarah Launderville, Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL)**

Sarah Launderville from VCIL gave a presentation on the history of the independent living movement to the advisory board. The Independent Living Movement is about pulling all people together to address the barriers society puts in front of people with any type of disabilities. Sarah went over the timeline of important milestones in the progression of rights for those with disabilities.

Justin Dart was the originator of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) which is a federal law that is being used to design similar laws in other countries. China has used the ADA and tweaked it for their country. China has also created an attendant care program that provides 24-hour care. The people who give this care have a college degree, make approximately \$12.00 per hour and the profession is highly respected in China.

While many strides have been made over the years both legislatively and socially for disability rights, there is still much work to be done.

Sarah was asked what VCIL's opinion was in respect to a new coffee bar business that wants to employ people with disabilities. VCIL does not have an opinion at this time. DAIL has been working with the HowardCenter and Champlain Community Services (CCS) to help them work with this new business so that they have a better idea of what State has put in place and wants for those with disabilities. DAIL's goal is to help this new business understand what supported employment looks like so they can provide that level of support and help people reach their employment goals.

#### **Advisory Board Updates**

##### **Beth Stern-**

Central Vermont Council on Aging is having their annual "Age Out Loud" performance on May 4 at 7:30 at the Barre Opera House.

##### **Delaina Norton-**

The HowardCenter is hosting a seminar on Opiates: Scientific, Political and Social Perspectives on May 22 from 8:30-4:00 at Double Tree in Burlington Vermont.

**Martha Richardson-**

Facts and figures about Alzheimer's and getting ahead of the disease and the cost savings. Here is the link to the document with all of the information: <https://alz.org/facts/>

**Steve Pouliot-**

Assistive Technology Fair for individuals who are blind or visually impaired on Wednesday April 25, 2018 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the VFW – 92 South Main St, White River Junction VT

**Ken Gagne-**

Self-advocacy: a 20th Annual Voices and Choices Conference on May 14 and 15, 2018 at the Double Tree in Burlington, VT

**Meeting was adjourned                      12:00**

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