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State commends CCAA's plan

Wednesday, May 28, 2008

By Liza Matia *Staff Writer*

The Clearfield County Area Agency on Aging's Four Year Plan draft has qualified as a "Best Practice" model, according to the State Department of Aging.

At yesterday's meeting, CCAA Executive Director John Kordish said the department believed the draft plan could be accepted as presented and submitted as a final version. He said the state would use the CCAA's plan to assist other Agencies on Aging whose plans were incomplete or contained weaknesses.

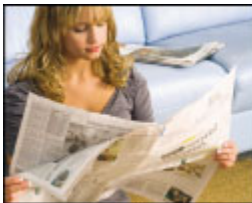
The state department also released its own State Plan on Aging for 2008-12 and will accept comments on its Web site and at three public hearings.

Mr. Kordish plans to attend one of the meetings in Pleasant Gap in June. At yesterday's meeting, he gathered comments from the board of directors to offer as testimony at the hearing.

The suggestions relate to the four goals established by the state: empowering older Pennsylvanians to make informed decisions on their health care and long-term living options; enabling older Pennsylvanians to remain in the setting of their choice to improve their quality of life; empowering them to stay active and healthy; and ensuring that older Pennsylvanians are free from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and abandonment.

The CCAA suggested incorporating the topics of identity theft prevention; non-physical abuse; education and marketing to different segments of the population; providing incentives to purchase long-term care insurance; improving the quality of life; behavioral health issues; and health incentives tied to reduced health costs.

(This article has been condensed to address only the Four Year Plan.)



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