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Subject: Dorn VA Issue

Scott, you may be aware that Lt. Gov. Bryant has responsibility for the Office on Aging here in SC, and we have an impending issue involving our senior veterans. We'd appreciate any help from Senator Graham's office.

Our concern is with the upcoming termination of the Self Directed Care program at the Dorn VA Clinic that serves the Midlands. We're putting together a letter from the LG to the delegation, but here, for now, are some of the particulars. This program is discretionary to the Dorn VA, but as we oversee the Office on Aging, we are closely involved with the program and its constituents.

- The program allows Veterans to hire someone to help them with daily activities so they can remain at home.
- It is administered through Dorn and we partner to handle administrative duties of program.
- Dorn sent letters to Veterans notifying them that program would cease the end of November. They did not notify us.
- We are receiving calls and emails from Veterans and family members saying they are cutting services and are unresponsive.
- There are some issues with program. But we should fix those issues and either reinstate program or discuss a "phase out".
- The Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging (LGOA) has a MOA with the VA that requires the VA to provide written notification to the LGOA when the program is going to be terminated.
- The LGOA has MOAs with three Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) that administer the program and those also require written notification by the LGOA to the AAAs to terminate the program.
- The LGOA has insufficient/conflicting information to provide notice to the AAAs.
- Further, in a worst case scenario, if the LGOA does not provide notice the AAA and the funds are cut by the VA on November 30th, then the LGOA could be on the hook for over 30 days worth of program funding that comes directly from the Older Americans Act.

We'd appreciate any help that y'all could provide at the federal level, if nothing more, to at least delay this decision until the legalities are sorted through.

Thanks

Danny