FLHSA’s Sage Commission - Overview

Purpose
The Sage Commission, a complement to the work of the Community Health System 2020 Commission, has been convened by FLHSA to create a strategic vision of person-centered aging services for the year 2020 and beyond. This vision will be detailed in a written plan that addresses the health status and needs of the adult population age 65 and over who reside in the 9-county Finger Lakes region. Special attention will be given to ways to minimize disparities in health status and improve access to appropriate care.

Process
Chaired by Nazareth College President Daan Braveman and Lifespan President and CEO Ann Marie Cook, the Commission is composed of approximately 35 people who reflect the diversity and wisdom of those who use, provide, and pay for older adult and aging services.

Responsibilities
- FLHSA staff will provide ongoing support to the Commission and work groups, as well as provide information, data, and written materials as needed.
- FLHSA’s Board of Directors is responsible for approving the study charter and the Commission composition, and for accepting the final report.
- Work groups will provide expertise on specific subject matter to the Commission members and staff. Among the issues addressed will be: health status goals desired, types of services and workforce required to address projected needs, and the preferred approach for financing the care.
- Having defined the “preferred state”, the Commission will compare the disparities that exist between the current state and the “preferred state”, and develop an action plan for the region to reach the desired goals.
- An outside consultant will provide a model to forecast needs for various elements of the aging service system, under scenarios that maximize consumer choices, quantify work force needs, and forecast costs.

Timeline
FLHSA expects the Sage Commission’s work to be completed in approximately 18 months.