
Long-Term Care Planning Committee

September 15, 2015

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: David Guttchen, Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Beth Leslie (OPA); Sherry Marconi, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS); Margy Gerundo-Murkette, State Department on Aging (SDA); Donna Ortelle, Department of Public Health (DPH); Amy Porter, Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS); Robert Smith, Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

Others Present: Deborah Mignault, Commission on Aging (COA); Melissa Morton, (OPM)

Review and Approval of Minutes

David Guttchen called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

D. Guttchen requested a motion to accept the minutes of the June 9, 2015 Planning Committee meeting. A motion was presented by Commissioner Amy Porter, seconded by Donna Ortelle and passed unanimously by the Committee members.

Updates and Announcements

2016 Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Plan Update: D. Guttchen discussed the development of the next three-year Plan. He thanked Committee members who have already submitted recommendations for the new plan and reminded those who have not provided input to do so by the end of September. D. Guttchen also thanked Julie Evans-Starr and Deborah Mignault for soliciting recommendations from the LTC Advisory Council. He reported that feedback has been received from a few Advisory Council members and requested that J. Evans-Starr and D. Mignault send another request for recommendations to the Advisory Committee as their members represent a wide range of LTSS providers and stakeholders and much of the plan is developed based upon their input. D. Guttchen also reminded Committee members that the main criteria for plan recommendations is that they can be completed in three (3) years and either do not require funding or already have funding secured.

Melissa Morton reminded the Committee that September 25, 2015 is the deadline for State agencies to submit the following three (3) documents required for the LTSS plan: 1) An updated agency description; 2) updated chart of programs; and 3) updated chart of program expenditures. M. Morton stated that the same programs should be reflected on both the chart of programs and the chart of expenditures.

D. Guttchen thanked everyone for their assistance and cooperation and reminded the Committee that the LTSS plan is widely used and referenced.

Long-Term Services and Supports Rebalancing Initiative Update by DSS staff: Dawn Lambert, Kari Filek and a team of DSS staff members provided a status report on the various rebalancing initiatives being implemented by DSS including:

- Community First Choice (CFC)
- Testing Experience and Functional Tools grant (TEFT)
- Balancing Incentive Program (BIP)
- Right-Sizing and Rebalancing: Nursing Home Diversification
- Presumptive Eligibility
- Fast Track Pilot Program
- Money Follows the Person (MFP)

See attached presentation slides for a complete summary of the DSS presentation –

http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/hhs/ltc_planning_committee/money_follows_the_personsept2015.pdf

Long-Term Care Advisory Council Comments

Deborah Mignault provided an update on the LTC Advisory Council. She stated that the next meeting is September 21, 2015 at 1:00 at the LOB. She reported that Dawn Lambert presented an overview of the MFP sustainability plan at the June meeting. She also mentioned that Advisory Committee members expressed great interest in and concern regarding the pending implementation of the Fair Standards Labor Act (FLSA) Homecare Rule. D. Mignault said that at the time of the June meeting, implementation of the new FLSA Homecare Rule had been stayed awaiting a decision by the appellate court. Recently, the appellate court ruled to uphold the FLSA Rule and implementation is expected in the fall. She expects this to be a major topic with Advisory Committee members.

D. Mignault also mentioned that a letter was sent to the Appropriations and Health and Human Services Committees requesting that DSS take another look at the Rate Study Report. Advisory Committee members were disappointed in the report and did not feel that it yielded the information members were seeking. As a result of that letter, Representative Abercrombie and Senator Moore formed a workgroup that will meet approximately three or four times to address Medicaid homecare rate structures.

D. Mignault said that the Advisory Committee Chair will be happy to remind Advisory Council members to submit recommendations for the LTSS plan by the end of the month.

Other Business

No other business was raised.

Meeting Schedule for 2015

Tues., December 8th -- 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM -- Room 1A - LOB

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 AM.