

Committee on Direct Care Workforce Issues
WI Council on Long Term Care Reform

Meeting of December 14, 2004 – Minutes

Members present: Lynn Breedlove, Beth Hadley, LaVerne Jaros, Jo Ellen Kilkenny, Tom Moore, Chris Sarbacker

Others present: Susan Duvall (for Amy Ambrose), Leonila Vega (for Robert Kraig), Ruthanne Landsness, Molly Michels, Judy Zitske, Dick Bartelt, Janice Smith, Anne Medeiros and Lorraine Barniskis

Meeting call to order.

Chair Lynn Breedlove called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. He reminded members that time is running short; to accomplish all that we need to do, members will need to get comments to Lorraine between meetings. Comments may be provided via e-mail (lbarniskis@charter.net), postal mail (6328 Buford Drive, Madison, WI 53718) or telephone (608-223-1192).

Discussion of draft committee report sections

The committee spent most of the day discussing three draft sections of the committee report: quality assurance/improvement, worker supports, relationships/culture change. Lorraine will attempt to incorporate the discussion into re-drafts of these sections and send them out for further review. The training section was deferred until the next meeting. Members are asked to send initial comments on this section to Lorraine so that the 1/25 discussion can be focused more closely.

Committee business

- Minutes of the November 16, 2004 meeting were approved by consensus.
- Grant funding is available to support one or more events through which the committee can get wider input on a draft committee report before making it final. Bader Foundation staff should be invited to the central event. We will need clear guidelines for facilitation so that comments are focused. Staff of the Bureau of Long Term Support have volunteered to assist with facilitation and write-ups of these discussions.

We should also begin to collect meeting dates for stakeholder groups and request time to gather feedback through those venues. We should develop a PowerPoint presentation for use at these events.

- February 22, 2005 was confirmed as an additional meeting date for the committee.
- Chuck Wilhelm reported that he had briefed the Select Committee on Healthcare Workforce Development, sponsored by the Department of Workforce Development on the work of this committee. DWD Secretary Roberta Gassman and other members of the Select Committee are very interested, and would like to collaborate with a subset of this committee on issues of mutual interest, especially no lifting and other policies to make direct care work safer and less physically demanding.

Future directions for Community Links projects

Judy Zitske requested committee input on how future solicitations of proposals for Community Links projects. Several ideas were suggested, including:

- Middle management training, including that developed by the WI Council on Developmental Disabilities, Metastar, and WETA.
- Further development of local coalitions around direct care workforce issues.
- Possible support for local registry projects to assist in matching consumers and independent workers.

Members are encouraged to contact Judy to suggest additional ideas. 608-267-9719 or zitskjb@dhfs.state.wi.us.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.