

Committee on Comprehensive System Change
Council on Long Term Care Reform
Meeting of February 10, 2006

Minutes

Members present: Gerry Born, Lynn Breedlove, Paul Cook, Carol Eschner, Rich Kammerud, George Potaracke, John Sauer, Tim Sheehan

Members absent: Tom Frazier and Craig Thompson

Others present: Judith Frye, Lorraine Barniskis, Chuck Wilhelm, Jennifer Gillespie, Kathleen Luedtke, Sue Schroeder, Mark Stein, Bill Jensen, Gail Propsom, Theresa Sanders, Michael Blumenfeld, David Sievert, Mary Brintnall-Peterson, and Tom Moore

Chair George Potaracke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Updates and discussion – current LTC reform efforts

Judith Frye distributed copies of Secretary Nelson’s PowerPoint presentation to the Assembly Committee on Medicaid Reform on February 8, 2006, along with a narrative explaining the Department’s cost estimate for implementing Family Care statewide. She also distributed a map developed by The Management Group showing groupings of counties that have responded to the LTC Reform RFI. All but nine counties are involved in an RFI response. DHFS expects to be able to provide planning grants to all areas indicated on the map. Four planning grants have been made to date, and others are expected to be made by the end of February. Counties are actively involved in all of the funded consortia. Almost all consortia plan to serve the three current Family Care target groups and are considering adding other adults with mental illness in the future. Several consortia are planning to get to a fully integrated benefit as soon as possible, while others are planning for the current Family Care benefit at this stage. Discussion including the following points:

- Nursing homes are wary about becoming more dependent on public funding.
- Advocates and consumers need to be involved in regional planning. This is already happening in several regions. Advocates need to educate consumers so that they can be good planning participants. DHFS is planning to provide technical assistance to planning groups, perhaps through forums and/or web casting. An early effort might be on how to assure meaningful consumer input into planning activities. The CMO contract will be specific about requirements for consumer involvement in oversight and management.
- The structures for planning within consortia are still loose. Conversation among all stakeholders is helpful at this point.

Judith walked through the cost estimate, stressing that it assumes statewide implementation of the Family Care benefit, now, with an entitlement. (See PowerPoint slides – available at <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/LTCare/rfi/> – and “Statewide Cost of Family Care” handout.) The bottom line is that statewide implementation is approximately budget neutral, counting current county funds in the system.

Status report on CSC grant activities

Kathleen Luedtke introduced Mary Brintnall-Peterson of UW-Extension, which is funded by the CSC grant over the next 18 months to strengthen the voice of the consumer in LTC services and

reform efforts, and the effectiveness of local LTC planning effort and advisory and governing bodies. The project will provide educational support for strategic planning, organizational development, group facilitation, conflict resolution and team building. Mary is the lead contact at UW-Extension; Pat Malone will also devote half her time to the project. Pat has worked with the Trempealeau County LTC Council in the past and is currently working with the La Crosse County Council. Other Extension staff will be called upon as their locations and skills are appropriate and requested. Mary distributed a number of handouts describing UW-Extension and the project, several success stories of other projects, and her business card. Anyone interested in receiving help from this project is invited to contact one of the following:

- Mary Brintnall-Peterson, UW-Extension
608-262-8083
mary.brintnall-peterson@uwex.edu
- Sharon Ryan, DHFS
608-216-0365
RyanSA@dhfs.state.wi.us
- Charles Jones, DHFS
608-266-0991
JONESCM@dhfs.state.wi.us

Nursing home access issues

Kathleen Luedtke and Sue Schroeder distributed and discussed a summary of the DHFS workplan for addressing nursing home access issues. The goal is to project the need for nursing homes and map out a strategy for the State's purchasing of this service over one-year, five-year and fifteen-year time spans. The CSC Committee is the advisory group for these efforts. The paper outlines the factors to be included in the analysis, the assumptions, and the timeline for various activities.

Discussion included the following points:

- People with multiple unstable conditions needing longer-term care should be added to the client groups listed in the paper as assumed to need nursing home care.
- There is also a need to think about what kinds of nursing homes are desired (newer types of long-term care facilities vs. hospital step-down institutions)
- DHFS and the Committee are urged to consult with actual staff of nursing homes about the people they currently serve. John Sauer agreed to put together a panel of nursing home representatives to discuss this at the Committee's next meeting.
- Although the main focus of the DHFS effort is on public-pay clients, there is also a need to take into account the needs and preferences of private-pay clients.
- The potential direct care workforce should be added as a factor in the analysis.
- Political climate (e.g., attitudes of elected officials) should be added as a factor.

The DHFS team will present its initial report to the Committee at its April 7th meeting. After this discussion, the final report will be presented at the June 9th meeting.

Comments from the public

There were no public comments.

Committee business

- John Sauer's suggested additions to the minutes of the December 2, 2005 meeting were added without objection and the minutes approved unanimously as amended.
- John announced a WAHSA public policy seminar on February 22-23, which will include segments on LTC reform and acuity based rates.

Status report on implementation of ADA Title II recommendations

George Potaracke provided background on the development of the ADA Title II recommendations by an advisory committee under the auspices of the previous LTC Council. Reports were issued in two phases, in January 2002 and January 2003. Paul Cook noted that the Council's New Freedom Committee, which Paul chaired, monitored implementation of the recommendations. Gail Propsom distributed an updated summary of the current status of recommendation implementation, which she and Paul walked through. Observations about the report and related topics included:

- There are several effective models of consumer advocacy. Fuller discussion is needed about models for the reformed LTC system.
- More discussion is needed about how young adults transition from the children's system to the adult LTC system.
- Although one class action suit is still pending, the vast majority of Olmstead complaints to the federal Office of Civil Rights have been resolved.
- Overall, DHFS is more attuned to the intent and requirements of the ADA and considerable progress has been made.
- Progress should be communicated to all the people who worked on the committees that developed these recommendations.

Updates from DHFS

Chuck Wilhelm distributed and walked through a handout providing statistics about progress in the Community Relocation Initiative. This report will be updated quarterly. He noted that there are inconsistencies among funding programs in the way data are reported. The number of relocations is on target with budget assumptions.

He also reported that the ICF-MR Restructuring Initiative is ahead of schedule. Just over 1400 people resided in ICFs-MR at the beginning of the biennium; it is now anticipated that about 475 people will reside in these institutions by the end of the biennium. Estimated care plan costs are running a little higher than anticipated, but actual expenditures are running below care plan estimates.

Judith Frye noted that SB312 has passed the Senate and is likely to pass the Assembly. This bill authorizes DHFS to use up to 150 CIP II slots for people at imminent risk of entering a nursing home. She also reported that DHFS is completing the design of the process for using the functional screen for personal care prior authorization. Implementation is expected by the end of April.

Future agenda items

- Next meeting scheduled for April 14, 2006. Suggested items for future agendas (cumulative list):
 - Continued discussion of nursing home access issues. John Sauer agreed to arrange a panel to present the industry's perspective on these issues at the April meeting.
 - Updates on nursing home quality and acuity-based rates (as timing is appropriate)
 - Update from Lynn Breedlove on distribution of the consumer rights brochure developed by the Committee.

- Discussion of what insurance regulations will impact LTC reform efforts
- Overview of federal requirements and needed waivers to proceed with reform (after it is more clear what regional consortia want to do)
- Discussion on assisted living – impact of managed care, appropriate roles, quality assurance systems (including CMO contracts). Later in the year, after nursing home access issues are concluded.
- Update on efforts to develop affordable assisted living and housing.
- Planning for consumer advocacy in the new system.
- Further discussion on implications of shifting Chapter 51 and 55 responsibilities from counties to the state.
- Additional discussion on how Medicaid LTC reform will interface with Medicare managed care, including how to avoid Medicaid investments in reform resulting only in savings to Medicare and cost-shifting from SNPs to Medicaid. Related interface issues from provider perspectives (address concerns expressed by WPSA). Relationships between SNPs and counties for people receiving services from both.
- Overviews of various risk-based payment systems and trends toward individually based rates
- Updates on ICF-MR Restructuring Initiative, Community Relocation Initiative and the CSC project.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:00 PM.