

Modernization Steering Committee
March 10, 2010

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Deborah Buffi, Kathryn Tavares, Linda Ward, Elizabeth Earls, Kathleen Gorman, Art Schnure, Gerry Bedrick, George Bowen, Leon Saunders, Kim Merolla-Brito, Judy Taylor, Phil Silva, Stephanie Geller, Diana Beaton, Hector Rivera, Jane Morgan, Joanne McGunagle, Garrick Beil, Harvey Levin, Nancy Pellegrino, Nancy Silva, Craig Stenning, Paula McFarland, Rebecca Kislak, Ana Novais.

Presenting: Deborah Buffi, Stephanie Geller

Deborah Buffi welcomed the group. Gary Alexander and Linda Katz (co-chair) could not attend the meeting. Even though this was the full Modernization meeting, several people also attended the Steering Committee meeting since we had guest speakers.

Stephanie Geller-

Reviewed the presentation from the March 3, 2010 Steering Committee. See meeting minutes on website.

The focus of that meeting was a presentation by Staff from the Center for Budget Policy Priorities (CBPP), Dottie Rosenbaum and Stacey and Blake Shaw from the Change and Innovation Agency. All were familiar with other states efforts on modernization and gave an overview of lessons learned.

CBPP will be coming back to work with the Simplification and Access Workgroup (Children & Families).

Reported on the Workgroups of the Modernization Committee.

- 1) Simplification and Access Workgroup
- 2) Medium and Long Term Planning/ Technology Workgroup
- 3) Information Workgroup

1. Simplification and Access Workgroup

Had 3 meeting to date. Working on verification, policy issues, and simplification. Regarding verification, have looked at programs and what verification is required. Looked across programs.

N. Pellegrino – once scanning processes are in place, things will be different.

A. Schnure- The Data Warehouse is being rolled out. There are potentials down the road.

E. Earls- For providers that serve clients, we could use access to scanned documents too.

N. Pellegrino- If streamlining, its important to simplify first.

G. Bedrick – suggested having 1 or 2 people from the field to come to the workgroup meetings.

2. Medium and Long Term Planning/ Technology Workgroup

Stephanie Geller/ Phil Silva (co-chairs)

Discussed goals, mission of workgroup. Suggested going for quick hits first. Talked about data warehouse, scanning, paperless offices, improving communication between offices.

- a. technology- implement enhancements for EOHHS programs
- b. planning- this is really the Steering Committee's function

This workgroup is dependent on other workgroups.

P.Silva- Quick hits include: sometimes its not always a technology solution, but a people process.

G. Bedrick- it's the people that work for us that make the difference.

C. Stenning- Having one portal- there's a big difference between a benefits program and a service program.

3. Information Workgroup

D. Beaton- reported on this group. There was some discussion on “the front door is important”. We also have providers and other professionals that access our information on line, not just consumers. The main focus of this project is consumer-focused.

D.Buffi- reported that the MHRH Simplification and Access group have not yet met.

L. Katz and E.B. Bryant and G. Alexander will discuss the Long Term Care group.

Part of the work of this Modernization Committee is to report findings to the General Assembly.

Next meetings: April 7, 2010 Steering Committee

June 9, 2010 Full Modernization Committee