

Modernization Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2010

In Attendance: Gary Alexander, Deborah Buffi, Linda Katz, Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Corrine Calise Russo, Tom Conlon, George Bowen, Tom Marcello, Elizabeth Earls, Art Schnure, Stephanie Geller, Elaina Goldstein, Donna Martin, Paula McFarland, Katheryn Tavares, Nancy Pellegrino, Diana Beaton, Ana Novais, Deborah Castellano, Bert Cooper, Hector Rivera, Ann Martino.

1. Finalizing Subcommittees

Linda Katz reviewed the five subcommittees of the Modernization Group, including the chairs/co-chairs, people on each subcommittee, and descriptions of the goals of the subcommittees. See attached handout.

Discussion:

1. *DHS Simplification/Access Workgroup*

The DHS Simplification/Access Workgroup has met twice since the last Steering Committee meeting. See the handout for a description of the goal for this group.

2. *Medium and Long Term Planning Workgroup*

The Medium and Long Term Planning Workgroup will be the primary technology group. It will look at all the EOHHS programs.

3. *Long Term Care (LTC) Simplification and Access Workgroup*

We want to make sure there is integration with the LTC workgroup of the Global Waiver Taskforce and include/ incorporate the recommendations of the GW Taskforce workgroup. Gary Alexander will talk with Elena Nicoletta to see if she can facilitate this workgroup with Maureen Maigret.

There was some discussion re: silos and looking at the system in terms of people with various disabilities. E.Goldstein- We need to break down barriers especially for people with disabilities.

L.Katz- Its looking within agencies and across agencies.

A.Martino- Are you suggesting it should be a functional breakdown? It depends on what the nature of the services are to decide what agency to go to.

E.Goldstein-We should have an interdisciplinary team. If you have a structure set up this way it may meet the needs.

L.Katz- There's the information out piece....then there's the systems change piece.(E.Goldstein's issue) That's a harder one to get at.

Everyone is interested in breaking down silos. This is process oriented not payment oriented. We hope everyone will look at this as we go forward. There is no disagreement about this. Let's try to identify the things we can do better. We should raise these issues as we go forward.

Linda Katz clarified that the LTC workgroup would include the elderly, people with DD (Developmental Disabilities), as well as other people with disabilities.

4. *Information Workgroup*

The Information Workgroup chairs are not confirmed yet. However, we have Art Schnure and Diana Beaton and also Paula M. and Joanne G. from CAP agencies proposed to co-chair this workgroup.

L.Katz- We want to look at not just what, but how. We can't currently find all the information in one place. Its not just IT its content as well. Also look at other states. Lay out the DoIT work that's going on too.

G.Alexander- Add some of that to the description.

S. Geller- We also need to have a process for getting information up there. So there's IT, content and process for maintaining the websites.

5. MHRH Simplification and Access Workgroup

Gary Alexander suggested having someone from DCYF, maybe Jorge Garcia, also co-chair this group with Jane Morgan and Ann Mulready.

Elizabeth Earls mentioned that regarding access to services in the MHRH Workgroup, we probably need to include the health plans. Gary Alexander said we should send an email and see who the health plans would like to send to this workgroup meeting.

Facilitators at Workgroups

There was discussion about facilitators at the Workgroup meetings. Sarah Griffin has facilitated the DHS Simplification and Access Workgroup and this appeared to work well. Some groups may need a facilitator, while others may not. We can look into this, but we should have a consistency of approach.

Other Comments:

D.Buffi- If we have meaningful Modernization and Steering committee meetings, we'll know where we should connect.

C.C.Russo- if we have a person coming into a system...I should be able to go to a website and ask "I have a child with this, this and this...." The program people should provide the information to the IT people so we can have information available.

A.Martino- Culture change and language is important...if you are trying to get to a consumer-centered approach...language is important.

2. Status of Surveys

LKatz- Are there any other surveys done?

G.Alexander- I will give agency directors 2 more weeks to complete. Email from GA will be going out.

All the completed surveys should go to Sue; Diana and Linda will compile for next Steering Committee meeting.

3. Agenda for March 10 meeting

We can discuss the agenda for the March 10 meeting at the March 3rd Steering Committee meeting. We will have the Workgroups report out at the next Modernization meeting and also have the results of the surveys.

There was some discussion about available resources \$\$ to fund some of these changes. There was discussion about resources from: SNAP administrative money, HIE, and NECSCO.

Action Items:

- Going forward, we suggest that the workgroups should meet monthly. If groups want to meet at EOHHS, they should contact Sue Buontempo at 462-6265 or sbuontempo@dhs.ri.gov. Workgroups should meet once before the next Steering Comm. meeting on March 3rd.
- Should there be someone from DOE at these meetings?
- Gary Alexander will talk with Elena Nicolella to see if she can facilitate this workgroup with Maureen Maigret.
- Gary Alexander said we should send an email and see who the health plans would like to send to this workgroup meeting (MHRH simplification and access workgroup).

Next Meeting

Steering Committee, March 3, 2010, 10:00 am-12 noon, West Wing Conf Rm., LP Building
Modernization Committee (large group), March 10, 2010, 12 noon – 2 pm, Arnold Conf Center

Check the DHS or OHHS websites for meeting schedules and locations.