

## GLOBAL WAIVER TASK FORCE MEETING

July 25, 2011

### MEETING MINUTES

**Task Force Members Attending:** Paul Block, Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Cathy Ciano, Mark Heffner, Linda Katz, Kathy McKeon, Ann Mulready, James Nyberg, Judy Sullivan, Dawn Wardyga, Vivian Weisman, Rebecca Kislak (representing Jane Hayward), Bill Flynn (representing Maureen Maignet), Michelle Brophy (representing James Ryczek)

**Staff and Members of the Public Attending:** Kevin Hively, Rebecca Martish, Amy Traver, Aubrey Manning, Deborah Garneau, Lori Quararta, Lynn DelVecchio, Christian Heiss, Mary Slinko, Alan Post, Thomas Marcello, Holly Garvey, Kathleen Langford, Kathleen Samways, Kathy Heron, Lisa Conlon, Stacy Paterno, Alison Buckser, Tara Townsend, Beth Marootian, Kathy Dennard, Ann Marino

**Directors Attending:** Catherine Taylor, DEA Director

**Ann Martino, EOHHS Policy Director,** opened the meeting by welcoming Task Force members and other attendees along with thanking Dawn Wardyga for hosting today's meeting at RIPIN. She announced the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) is receiving applications for the Community Chair position. The Secretary of EOHHS has been reviewing those applications and will be making an announcement shortly.

Relative to the FY' 2012 budget, Ms. Martino commented that OHHS staffs are reviewing the legislation that involves a two-prong strategy that includes Performance Base Budget and along with looking for additional savings. Future discussions concerning the budget would include all stakeholders, providers and members of the community. The Director of the Department of Human Services, Sandra Powell, will review assisted living and will also focus on SSI payments to support the services they provide. Ms. Martino stated that dates and times of those meetings would be announced on the EOHHS website.

Ms. Martino announced that the "Ask Rhody" website is being updated based on the findings from the Real Choices grant. The Brown University Study on the acuity of people in nursing homes and Children and Family Pediatric report would be on the agenda for the next Global Waiver meeting. She also announced Money Follows the Person (MFP) grant has been submitted to CMS. Holly Garvey reported that DHS recently responded to questions sent from CMS relative to this initiative and it is anticipated that final approval of the RI proposal would be communicated by CMS at the end of July. The final report will be posted on the EOHHS website. Ms. Martino also reported that the Healthy Homes project has received positive interaction between BHDDH and Medicaid (Cedarr Family Centers) which has led to a better prospective of positive outcomes. The CMS did request better clarity regarding certain state plan issues.

**Ms. Catherine Taylor, Director of the Department of Elderly Affairs**, stated that her office is committed to SSI Assisted Living and she has been working with Director Powell in including all stakeholders and agencies in moving this process along quickly.

**Mr. Kevin Hively, from Ninigret Partners LLC**, gave the Real Choices Consumer Research report. The report included surveys, interviews, profiles, caregiving assistance data, open-ended comments, budgetary impacts and the information journey. He commented that Lewin Associates are evaluating the outcomes under the Global Waiver and the long-term care settings. They would be reviewing the data driven analysis with the goal of determining how many clients were transitioned and also addressing the needs of long-term care. Some of those questions would include whether these services have assisted in providing better care and if acuity has gone up or down.

**(Presentation Attached)**

Q: (Linda Katz, Poverty Institute) Are you looking at all the Long Term rebalancing efforts?

A: Those efforts were addressed by Mr. Rick Nagle, from Advantage Marketing Information, who gave a detailed data report at the last Global Waiver meeting which is posted on the EOHHS website.

Q: (Kathy McKeon, Diocese of Providence) The survey included mostly landline screening so did you just speak to those that are providing care to adults?

A: This survey included an experimental base that used a product design approach.

Q: (Lisa Conlon, PSN) Is it accurate that only at acute level of care are you allowed to receive respite care?

A: At the “Ask Rhody” website there is a description of programs which is not framed around a need. That website is being retooled to reflect that change.

Q: (Dawn Wardyga, RIPIN) Does this group include all ages? What about Peer support strength around Peer to Peer?

A: There is no single port of entry for any group.

Ms. Martino stated that it is important to recognize the problems at different population ages to learn where to target those services. There is a need to reach out more into the community to inform and have clients realize they are eligible plus there is a need to support policies that will accomplish this goal.

Ms. Vivian Weisman, from Mental Health Association of RI, commented on the need for a quick implementation that would include entry in any door. To accomplish this goal, would there be a need for more testing?

Ms. Katz stated that there are different perspectives to accomplish this goal and that would be looking at the needs, to find out the gaps and decide how those services would be paid. She then commented on the status of Category II and Category III. Ms. Martino

responded that there were no additional changes to Category II. Relative to Category III there were changes specified in Article 16. Elena Nicolella would give a report relative to those changes at the next meeting. If there is a change in the payment methodically rate, the department must file a public notice and rules would be promulgated.

Ms. Beth Marootian, from NHPRI, inquired about a Medical Home concept for adult and about the status of a renewal of the waiver that would be due in approximately eighteen months.

Ms. Marootian inquired about the status of the Dual Eligibles. Ms. Holly Garvey responded that Article 16 did pass during this legislation session. Under Article 16, the Department is directed to submit a report to the General Assembly by December 31, 2011 regarding managed care program options for dually eligible Medicaid and Medicare beneficiaries. The Department is further directed to implement a contractual agreement between the Medicaid agency and a managed care entity to manage primary, acute, and long-term care services. She stated that DHS and partners from sister agencies have been very active reviewing materials, which included recommendations from the Global Waiver Duals Subcommittee Workgroup.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

The next meeting of the Global Waiver Implementation Task will be held on August 22, 2011 at 1 p.m. at RIPIN, 1210 Pontiac Avenue, Cranston, RI