



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Nursing Home Conversion Work Group

Date: August 26, 2008, 1029 S. Fourth Street, Springfield

Attending: Myrtle Klauer (co-chair), Phyllis Mitzen (co-chair, by phone). Kirk Reva (LSN), Wayne Smallwood (AALC), Kevin Taylor (IL Council on LTC), Maria Schmidt (Alzheimer's Association), Nancy Nelson (AARP), Bill Dart (IDPH, by phone), Steve Wolf (Eldercare, by phone), Matt Hartman, (HCC, by phone), Janice Cichowlas (IDOA Staff)

Motion to approve July 29, 2008 minutes: Kevin Taylor moved to approve, second by Myrtle Klauer. Minutes approved.

Review of Documents:

- 1) Maria reviewed the document entitled: "OASAC NH Conversion Work Group – Developing and Partnering with the Community Services Subcommittee – 8/15/08".

Is there a will to pursue the goal to "reduce nursing home beds by converting them to needed accessible and affordable community services that people want and by improving the living environment for residents in nursing homes?"

All the information needs to be pulled together from the various groups such as Alzheimer's groups, the disability groups, etc. Artificial barriers have been identified and should not hold us back. There is a lot of misinformation about what the regulations allow. There is a need to collaborate with the OASAC Finance Workgroup.

Wayne feels the goal is really two goals. Improving the environment includes such things as converting to single bed rooms. There is a way to have the nursing homes as part of the community; integrating the community into the nursing home for services and having the nursing homes offer services to the community.

The goal should read:

"Reduce nursing home beds by converting them to needed and consumer-driven accessible and affordable community services."

Add to the objectives:

"To establish single occupancy nursing home rooms."

ACTION STEP: Maria will update the final document and send it for presentation to OASAC. *The Conversion Committee will review it at its next meeting prior to sending it on to OASAC.*

The committee reviewed the 5 benchmarks as discussed at the Executive Committee on August 25th. Kevin received data from the Health Facilities Planning Board, but has not reviewed the details yet. There was a discussion about using the age of 60 vs. 65 for data information. It may depend on whether we are comparing within the state or comparing with other states.

- 2) Kevin reviewed the document: “Nursing Home Bed Conversion Recommendations.” Kevin will add a statement of how many beds were reduced in MN and why it was successful.

Phyllis raised a question as to whether there was a concern about reducing too many beds so that in the future, we would not have enough beds. No one indicated this concern. Bill Dart stated that the conversion plan will require the buy in of the community.

Kevin explained that in MN you can “lay away” a bed, and then choose to close the bed later. You do not lose the Certificate of Need until the bed is closed. This is not necessarily a recommendation for IL, but rather, what was done in MN.

Kevin believes that the baby boomer generation will not tolerate shared nursing home rooms. The consumers will drive single bed rooms in the future. It was suggested that we may want to look at the statute and determine how to change it. Bill Bell’s recommendations have already addressed this to some extent.

Kevin’s document could follow Maria’s document and Kevin’s would fall under the category of “recommendations.” The recommendation should be stated as follows: “Recommendation: Design and implement a bed buy-back program for facilities converting to single bed rooms or other uses.” In the discussion, #3 from Maria’s document should be eliminated since Kevin’s document covers the same issue. We need to still look at Bill Bell’s document (Health Facilities Planning Board piece) to put all three documents together.

Phyllis mentioned that in NY, their Medicaid State Plan allows for up to 40 days of respite in the nursing home. This is an example of a community service provided by the nursing home.

- 3) Maria discussed the document: “Nursing Home Conversion Committee: CON Subcommittee”. There are two recommendations. The first suggests that facilities and services not currently regulated under the Act shall include, but not be limited to, “supportive living residences, assisted living establishments, supportive living and sheltered care facilities.” The Board’s rules should be amended to include this caveat.

The second recommendation suggests amending 77 IAC 1100.70 and 77 IAC 1100.660 so that data appendices are published annually and will include, but not be limited to, Supportive Residences, Assisted Living establishments, and supportive living (this is the same as Supportive Residences) and sheltered care facilities as determined by the Board. The next meeting should be on September 23rd at IHCA, 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (I called IHCA and booked the room.)

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.