Older Adult Services Advisory Committee

Nursing Home Conversion Work Group

Date: November 25, 2008, Services Network, 2 Lawrence Square, Springfield
Attending: Phyllis Mitzen; co-chair, Myrtle Klauer; co-chair, Bill Bell (DPH), Bill Dart (HFS), John Eckert; (IDoA), Matt Hartman, Scott Musser, Sally Petrone, Renne Razo, Lester Robertson, Jason Speaks, Kevin Taylor, and Steve Wolf (phone). Guest: Jean Summerfield, Dept. of Healthcare and Family Services (phone)

The meeting was called to order By co-chairs Phyllis Mitzen and Myrtle Klauer. Introductions were made.

Minutes Approval: A motion was made by Mitzen to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2008, meeting; seconded by Petrone. There being no additions or corrections the minutes were approved as submitted.

Presentation:
Eckert introduced Summerfield who is the project manager of the State’s Money Follows the Person (MFP) demonstration project for the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (IDHFS). She indicated that the project is a federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) demonstration initiative developed from efforts identified in the Deficit Reduction Act with incentives for states to rebalance long-term care. Stated MFP is not a grant but will provide an enhanced federal Medicaid match for reimbursement for the State for new services provided under the project. MFP partners include IDHFS, Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA) and three divisions at Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) — Divisions of Rehabilitation Services, Mental Health, and Developmental Disabilities. Submitted Operational Protocols to CMS for approval; provides benchmarks including the number for nursing home transitions, targeted outreach activities, development of a waiver for adults with serious mental illness [sic], new quality assurance measures and creation of a housing database. Discussed implementation issues and training for transition coordinators. Eckert discussed IDoA’s role as it will offer regular Community Care Program (CCP) services in addition to three additional services: one-time costs, assistive technology and environmental modifications. Targeted outreach will be done on people identified from the Nursing Home Minimum Data Set. Names will be checked with the Office of Elder Rights to see if there were previous Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation (ANE) issues or Long-Term Care Ombudsman concerns. A discussion followed.

OASA Section 25.Goals for 2009:
Discussed Section 25(15) regarding Nursing Home Medicaid cost containment and need to increase Medicare utilization to reduce financial burden on the State. Robertson raised concern
that hospitals are not keeping a Nursing Home Medicaid resident to meet the 3-day qualifying stay requirement which has an adverse effect on nursing home payments. Also noted that much of what is contained in 25(15) cannot be changed.

ACTION: Discussed that sub-group be formed to formalize what can be accomplished by the workgroup on Section 25(16), (18) and Section 20(d), (g), and (h); in addition to reviewing the Health Facilities Planning Board data and make recommendations regarding reduction in nursing home beds. Taylor, Bell, Mitzen, Robertson agreed to work on this.

Develop Pilot for single-room Occupancy:
Discussed need for pilot by regions of the State, including need for a bed “buy-back” program that would show cost neutrality and require an IDHFS rate methodology shift. Taylor noted a successful pilot would require an appropriation and change in statute. Pilot would look at converting a percentage of nursing home unused beds to single-occupancy. Need to gage level of interest by nursing home by showing pilot responsibilities, and be able to address issue of “grandfathering” pilot sites should the program cease. Will utilize old draft workgroup administrative rules and application.

ACTION: Taylor, Musser, Dart, Hartman, Robertson agreed to work on this.

Health Facilities Planning Board reform:

ACTION: Bell agreed to discuss reform changes at next workgroup meeting.

Respite and Nursing Home Utilization:

ACTION: Petrone, Razo and Eckert agreed to research respite utilization with the Area Agencies on Aging and Case Coordination Units as well as discuss how this issue is being address with the OASAC Services and Workforce workgroups and other best practice States.

Meeting Schedule:
Next meeting scheduled for February 24, 2009, 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (if necessary) at the Springfield offices of the Illinois Health Care Association, 1029 S. Fourth Street.