Older Adult Services Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

CARE Act/Bridge Model/NH Deflection Pilot Meeting

Date: August 11, 2016 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. (Minutes approved August 25, 2016)

Conference Call Meeting:
Call in# 1-888-494-4032
Access Code: 5245-164-319

IN ATTENDANCE: Committee Members
Carol Aronson – Shawnee Alliance for Seniors
Amy Brown – CRIS Healthy Aging Center
Robyn Golden – Rush University Medical Center
Jan Grimes – Illinois HomeCare and Hospice Council
Sherry Barter Hamlin – River-to-River Residential Corporation
Lori Hendren – AARP
Kay Kibler – Willowbrook Memory Support Houses
Michael Koronkowski – UIC College of Pharmacy
Jon Lavin – AgeOptions
Phyllis Mitzen – Center for Long Term Care Reform
Susan Real – Caregiver – East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Louis Starmann – Citizen member over the age of 60

Ex-officio Committee Members:
Jean Bohnhoff – OASAC Chair & Director, Department on Aging
Kelly Cunningham – Department of Healthcare and Family Services

Department on Aging staff
Alex Burke, John Eckert, Sophia Gonzalez, Jennifer Reif, Matt Ryan

Guests:
Renae Alvarez, Walter Rosenberg

Welcome & Introductions:
John Eckert welcomed everyone to the meeting and called for a motion to call the meeting to order. Mike Koronkowski made a motion and Walter Rosenberg seconded. All members voted in favor. Eckert announced the names of the person on the call.

Approve minutes for June 1st, 2016 Coordination of Care Act/ Bridge model/ NH Deflection Pilot Meeting:
John Eckert asked members for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 1st, 2016 meeting with the correction of adding Walter’s last name to the minutes. Mike Koronkowski made a motion to approve the June 1st, 2016 meeting minutes with the last name addition and Louis Starmann seconded. All members voted in favor.
Discuss CARE Act activities:
John Eckert stated that the meeting had been set up to go over the follow up activities that had been discussed during the last June 1st meeting. Lori Hendren reported that AARP has an upcoming educational activity in October, in which the CARE Act will be discussed. She mentioned that October is Caregiving Month and AARP is also working on posters and cards with information on the CARE Act. Susan Real asked for clarification; is this education targeted for Caregivers or Hospitals? Hendren clarified that the education is targeted for AARP members and that the Hospital Association would be responsible for the education for hospitals. Eckert asked Hendren if she would want to coordinate with some of the trainings that Robyn Golden’s team has developed. Lori agreed. Phyllis Mitzen mentioned the Bridge Program training. Renae Alvarez explained that the Bridge Program trainings are offered on a monthly basis and webinars are made available on bi-monthly basis. Alvarez explained that there are 65 Bridge sites across the nation. Hendren stated that she would be happy to participate in these trainings and provide information about the CARE Act. Mitzen stated that the components of the CARE Act could be incorporated into Illinois Bridge trainings. It was noted that there are two upcoming trainings for Care Coordinators and information about the CARE Act could be shared. On August 18th training will be held in Naperville. Carol Aronson noted that Bill Wheeler will be coordinating the trainings for CCUs and an overview of the CARE Act could be included. Hendren mentioned that she would not be able to join this meeting on this date but would be able to join but can provide information to be presented. Aronson noted that she would coordinate with Wheeler and Hendren. Jan Grimes discussed the Hospital Association website in which they will provide information on Health Care, Caregivers and Care Coordination and inform everyone that they are available to assist.

Discuss Bridge Model activities:
John Eckert stated that one of the immediate goals that had been discussed during the last meeting was to contact the 26 Bride sites and informing them of this workgroups activity. Walter Rosenberg agreed that this contact could be arranged. Rosenberg explained that the Bridge model provides two different types of webinars; one that is closed to the public that is model specific and another that is open to the public in which CEUs are offered and broader topics are discussed. Rosenberg advised that Caregiving and the CARE Act can be added to the second type of webinar that discusses broader topics. Lori Hendren will coordinate with Rosenberg. Eckert noted that another goal was to collaborate with the Illinois Hospital Association; and asked regarding the BlueCross training grants and IHA funding that has been obtained to conduct Bridge Model training in the past. Rosenberg shared that that funding had had been obtained several years ago and that the training had been completed. He mentioned that there had been trainings for two cohorts of 20 hospitals to prevent readmissions. Rosenberg also shared that he still has the contact information and would be able to reach out to the groups. Someone brought up skilled nursing facilities; it was mentioned that many caregivers will not be assisting family members coming from hospitals but from nursing facilities. Carol Aronson stated that there has been an increase of hospital discharges that go through skilled nursing facilities (SNF). Aronson mentioned that hospitals have been the place where Bridge is introduced and permission is obtained to follow the person to the SNF and help ensure that they receive the treatment plan and then work with them to transition them back home. One goal is to reduce the stay at the SNF and becoming involved before they go home.

John Eckert shared that the HHS Transformation Pre-screening subcommittee is working on goals for the next 24 months. They are carefully looking at pre-screens and the fact that many people are going straight into SNFs. The subcommittee is looking at the difficulty of getting a 24 hour notice, the development of policies and change of rules to get into a SNF to assist with deinstitutionalization. There is a need to identify those individuals that are in these facilities for rehab only and getting to them before they lose CCP services. The Department is working with HFS and DHS. Deflection of individuals from SNFs continues to be a difficult task across all state agencies. Louis Starmann stated that 15 days to have a follow up assessment is too long. She stated that the follow up should happen right away. Carol Aronson that for Shawnee the identification begins in the hospital, they send a caseworker to the SNF within 15 days and check in with them during the stay and continue to work with them. Aronson mentioned that today, SNFs have rehab units but 20 years ago people would go home and receive occupational therapy at home. A question was asked as to why the emphasis has gone from receiving therapy in the NF instead of the home. Phyllis Mitzen stated that Medicare Payments might be the reason and finding a new niche to use unoccupied rooms/beds. Eckert shared that HHS Transformation will be holding 2 hearings and information is posted on the website. One hearing will be held at JRTC on Wednesday, August 24th from 2:00-4:30pm and another on Thursday, August 25th from 10:00-2:30pm. Everyone was encouraged to attend and possibly make comments on the expansion of the Bridge Model. He mentioned that the Behavioral Health issues
The meeting was adjourned.

Lori

The group will be looking at what the model looks like, franchising and what about the model. The next meeting will be scheduled for two weeks from today, August 25th from 3:00-4:00pm. The group will be looking at what the model looks like, franchising and what about the model is successful.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.