

**Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs
Home & Community Care Advisory Committee
Minutes
March 22, 2011**

Attendance:

Mary Ladd; DEA, Diane Gallagher; Alliance, John O'Hara; SHL, Charles Dress; SHL, Kathy McKeon; Diocese of Providence, Carol Rosol; Diocese of Providence, Terry Slane; ACMS, Michelle Szylin; DHS, Dottie Santagata; Cornerstone, Verteal Patterson; AARP, Paula Dunne; WB CAP, Catherine Graziano; SHL, Catherine Taylor; Director DEA, Donna McGowan; Alzheimer's Association, Kathleen Kelly / Chair; RIALA

The meeting began at 9:15 AM. Introductions followed.

Director Catherine Taylor:

Director Catherine Taylor spoke to the committee on her recent appointment as DEA Director and her vision for the H&CC Advisory Committee. Director Taylor reported on DEA's budget to date and reported that there is budget level funding for all services with the exception of RIPAE. DEA is presently working on RIPAE / "The New Generation" with the goal being that RIPAE recipients will remain recipients after the change and restructuring.

Discussion on Effectiveness of the H&CC Advisory Committee:

Director Taylor and Chair Kathleen Kelly spoke on the goal of the committee and the fact that attendance has dropped off in previous meetings.

Discussion on what the committee would like from DEA with requests for: DEA / H&CC Utilization Reports (quarterly); Co-Pay Utilization and budget #'s so that advocacy can take place if more \$ is needed; Utilization Reports can also be used as a preventative measure and can show trends. Further discussion on billing processes and waiting lists which can both lead to NH placement.

Develop the Elements of a Useful Report from DEA:

Suggestion for gathering of H&CC historical data so that a baseline can be established. Request for #'s of people on the DEA/H&CC programs. Request for the DEA / Statewide Planning Profile. Committee requests that policies and regulations of the DEA H&CC Programs be shared amongst the committee members. Suggestion for the DEA / Director to share any H&CC changes with the committee prior to the change, akin to the DOH model. Recommendation that information is necessary and important for projected trends.

Discussion of How Members Utilize the Point:

Director Taylor informed members on the availability of the Point / ADRC which is a federal priority through the Older American Act. The Point is under utilized; routine use of the Point should be encouraged and not only in "crisis" situations. Suggestion for someone to give a presentation to the committee on the Point: present and moving forward.

Begin Developing a Plan Toward Statewide Understanding of the Importance of HCBS:

Director Taylor proposed that DEA inform the committee of changes and asked the committee for suggestions on how to resolve issues. Suggestion that the committee can help to inform the public on HCBS changes and initiatives. Further discussion on Co-Pay Program: High Utilization requests not done in a timely manner and also suggestion that assets should be looked at during Co-Pay eligibility review.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 @ 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Ladd
DEA