

**Rhode Island Division of Elderly Affairs
Home & Community Care Advisory Committee
MINUTES
November 24, 2015**

Attendance:

Nicholas Oliver; RIPHC, Paula Parker; DEA, Melody Rodrigues; DEA, Diane Gallagher; Alliance BLTC, Charles Dress; AARP, Mike Walker; Leading Age RI, Marylou Rhodes; RI Partnership/ Homecare, Linda Avant-Deishinni; Diocese of Providence, Regina Spirito; Tri-Town CAP, Verteal Patterson; AARP, Kathleen Kelly; RIALA, Kelly Lee; PACE/ADCW, Dottie Santagata; Cornerstone ADC, Tom Martin; OHHS, Linnea Tuttle; OHHS

1. The meeting began at 9:01 AM; introductions followed.
2. The Minutes from the last meeting held on October 27, 2015 were approved; motion made by Charles Dress and seconded by Mary Lou Rhodes to approve minutes. Passed.
3. **EOHHS Update/ CMS Final Rule for Settings- Tom Martin, Linnea Tuttle OHHS**
 - In January 2014 CMS issued a Final Rule regarding Medicaid funded home and community based long-term services
 - Rhode Island must be in full compliance with the rules by 2019.
 - Settings include: Residential Settings (DD), Shared Living, Day/employment programs, Assisted Living Sites, and Adult Day programs
 - A transition plan for compliance has been developed and submitted as of June 2015
 - The summary of the Final Rule:
 - Goal: To ensure the HCBS funds are used in settings that are truly community-based and integrated
 - Focus: HCBS participant's experience in a setting
 - Regulation Intent:
 - To improve HCBS participants' community integration and assure that the setting is integrated.
 - Services and setting have been selected by the beneficiary
 - Optimizes autonomy and independence in making life choices
 - Facilitates individual choice regarding services and supports and who provides them
 - Services based on a person centered service plan
 - State team working on the Transition Plan include: EOHHS, DCYF, DOH, DHS, DEA, BHDDH
 - Community partners include: RIALA, Advocated in Action, RI Council of Developmental Disabilities, Sherlock Center, CPNRI, and Leading Age RI
 - To view the Transition Plan and updates-
<http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ReferenceCenter/HomeandCommunityBasedServices.aspx>.

4. Rebalancing LTC-

Paula Parker/ Division of Elderly Affairs; Assistant Director

- A confidential working draft document was approved to be distributed to this committee stating the progress DEA has taken to date and listing elements of success.
- Stakeholder input is critical in this process and this committee is encouraged to provide feedback to identify and prioritize key areas for success
- Currently RI is at 22% for HCC LTSS and is looking to bridge that gap closer to 50%
- DEA has been researching other states and models which include MI, Washington, and OR.
- DEA will be looking to this committee to prioritize 5 areas to incorporate into the operational plan.
- Paula Parker will continue to attend this advisory meeting and will send out drafts to members looking for feedback.

5. SERVE-RI- SAFE-D Program

Melody Rodrigues/ Division of Elderly Affairs; HCC Coordinator

- Serve RI is looking to members of this committee as well as the community to refer high risk, frail elders who may need assistance after a snow storm.
- The process has been streamlined and they are working to ensure the frailest elders receive assistance.
- There is no guarantee as this program is based on need and also availability of the volunteer pool.
- Application may be sent to Maya Ambroise at SERVE RI fax # 331-2273.

6. Public Comments and Announcements

- Nicholas Oliver shared news of the passing of Jim Riley from Home Care Advantage this committee sends its condolences.
- Dottie Santagata identified areas of the proposed transportation regulations that may impact the Final Rule and Person Centered Planning. A public hearing is scheduled for December 11th.
- Dottie Santagata identified concerns with billing issues providers are having based on the numerous systems providers must now use. Streamlining infrastructure is critical in success.
- DEA has received approval of the state plan and a meeting will take place on 12/1/15 at 10:00
- Paula Parker will continue to attend this advisory meeting and will send out drafts to members looking for feedback.
- Future meetings will be held at the new location for DEA. 57 Howard Ave. Louis Pasteur Building 2nd Floor Conference room.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melody Rodrigues
DEA H&CC Coordinator
December 1, 2015