

**Minutes**



**HEALTH CARE WORKING GROUP,**

**LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNOR’S COMMISSION ON**

**DISABILITIES**

**Monday October 2, 2006 10:00-11:30 PM**

**Multiple Sclerosis Society,**

**205 Hallene Road, Suite 209, Warwick**

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**ATTENDANCE:**

Gwen Reeve, convener; Liberty Goodwin; Kate McCarthy-Barnett; & Michael Spoerri

**MINUTES**

**1. Introductions**

Gwen Reeve Convener

Gwen Reeve convened the meeting at 10:00 AM

**2. Review of the Public Forum Testimony**

Members of the working group reviewed the testimony and discussed possible concerns and recommendations.

**3. Development of Concerns and Recommendations**

**MOTION:** To recommend the following to the Legislation Committee:

<b>Themes/Findings</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Testimony on Pages</b>
Chemical sensitivities not recognized or accommodated.	Education and legislation targeted toward hospitals. Reintroduction of last year’s bill with limited goals (application for healthcare facilities)	4-5, 43, 58 and submitted testimony
S 2604 and H7546 for programs that support persons with brain injury need administrative money.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amend legislation for Governor’s Commission on Brain injury to include administrative funding.</li> <li>Modify General Assembly appropriation to include 10% administrative cost for DHS.</li> </ul>	24, 57
Need for more Habilitation waivers. Need is greater than availability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roll all home and community-based waiver services into managed care health plan options for adults with disabilities.</li> <li>Increase funding for PCA program for non-Medicaid population.</li> <li>Mandate coverage in commercial insurance benefit package.</li> </ul>	24-25,54,57
Waiting list for Home Based Treatment Services (HBTS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make HBTS an in-plan covered service under the Rite Care health plans.</li> </ul>	47-48

Themes/Findings	Recommendation	Testimony on Pages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandate coverage of HBTS by commercial health plans.</li> <li>• Certify workers.</li> </ul>	
Inappropriate placement of younger people with disabilities who need to be in long-term care facilities.	Assessment of how many younger people in LTC facilities who might benefit from placement in more age appropriate setting. Feasibility study.	35, 57
Limited care coordination services available in commercial health insurance for families with children with special needs.	Same as **	25
Group home receiving Social Security funds instead of consumer.	Medicaid fraud (?) Under investigation	36-38
Guardianship issues and problems		41-43
Disappointment and dissatisfaction with CEDARR Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission to obtain report on the status of CEDARR review. Make recommendations based on report.</li> <li>• DHS needs to implement House Bill 5829A that requires Rite Care Health plans to develop additional home and community based services.</li> </ul>	47-48
Lack of adult specialty providers for persons with disabilities.	Managed care health plans will be responsible for developing provider network needed by its members.	49
Costs of co-pays for dual eligibles are too high.	Put monthly cap on co-pay. Whose authority (?)	55,56
Inadequate or no payment by Medicare for wheel chairs (power assist).	Education and advocacy with CMS. Medicare issue	56
Modify the DHS deductions according to a person's income.		60
Kate McCarthy-Barnett/ Michael Spoerri passed unanimously		
Adjourned	12:00 PM	