

GLOBAL WAIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
March 28, 2011
MEETING MINUTES

Task Force Members Attending: Paul Block, Sharon Brinkworth, Virginia Burke, Leo Canuel, Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Jacqueline Downy, Elizabeth Earls, Elaina Goldstein, Linda Katz, Kathleen Kelly, Maureen Maigret, Joanne Malise, Donna Martin, James Nyberg, Br. Michael Reis, Corinne C. Russo, Judy Sullivan, Craig Syata, Sharon Terzian, Linnea Tuttle, Dawn Wardyga, Vivian Weisman, Rebecca Kislak (representing Jane Hayward)

Staff and Members of the Public Attending: Lori Quararta, Alison Croke, Holly Garvey, Tara Townsend, Heather Daglier, Lynn DelVecchio, Denise Achin, Rebecca Martish, Deb Garneau, Roberta Merkle, Kathleen Samways, Claire Rosenbaum, Kathleen Heron, Paul Choquette, Alison Buckser, Ellen Kreutler, Alan Post, John Newbauer, Janet Iovino, Rele Ablade Ritter, Robert Kalaskowski, Diana Beaton, Fred Sneesby, Jacqueline Kelly, Patrice Cogur, Stacy Paterno, Kathy Dennard, Ann Martino, Elena Nicolella

Directors Attending: Craig Stenning, BHDDH Director, Catherine Taylor, DEA Director

Ms. Ann Martino, EOHHS Policy Director, opened the meeting by welcoming Task force members and other participants. She recognized Ms. Earls who was the designated chair for the meeting.

Ms. Elizabeth Earls, CEC Spokesperson, commented that the Community Executive Council (CEC) met with the **EOHHS Deputy Secretary, Mr. John Young,** during their last scheduled meeting. Some of the items discussed were Global Waiver Workgroups, the appointment of a Community Chair, and the budget. She commented that there would be no Workgroup updates and recognized Mr. Young.

Mr. Young presented and discussed the EOHHS SFY 2012 Budget Proposals. (Presentation attached)

He reported that this budget was the result of many meetings with the other 5 social service departments who analyzed a closer level of detail among the departments. He commented that this budget is conservative and will serve as a better base for the next EOHHS SFY 2013 because it is focused more on performance basis. The \$60 million that will be saved in the SYF 2012 include some aggressive choices but has maintained current state policy and still provides a safety net that does not affect quality. He stated that the budget is now being discussed in the House and Senate Finance Committees and the final budget decisions will be decided by the General Assembly. Mr. Young gave a 3-page summary of the major budget items affecting BHDDH, DCYF, DEA, DOH, and DHS- Medicaid and Non Medicaid. He reported that there are additional smaller budget items in this year's budget but not included in this presentation.

Q: Relative to RIPAE, could there be an adjustment similar to CMAP for CSP?

A: That is being reviewed by the department, and that adjustment may qualify as a Medicaid benefit. During that process the department will work with the community in resolving this issue. There have been fewer participants in the program. The department will analyze the continued users in RIPAE and develop a plan.

Q: How will the Department of Health handle the Certificate of Need (CON) functions?

A: Some of the functions will be handled under the licensure/regulations activities. The CON staff will be handle the Utilization Review Appeals functions which has been unstaffed

Q: Has there been any adjustment for Background Checks?

A: That will be taken into account and perhaps there will be a fiscal note.

Q: Relative to the selective contract for Health Services, is that directed to just skilled services?

A: The department does have more capacity but there are some who only offer homemaker services

Q: Will there be a decrease in nursing home utilization?

A: This budget does not reduce utilization.

Q: Could you please elaborate on the budget vs. policy?

A: This budget presented a great opportunity to look at services, analyze the results in order to create a framework for future discussions, which will be open to all stakeholders.

Q: Please comment on the Child Health Account Enhancements.

A: This decreases Medicaid spending by focusing on third party reimbursement which has been lacking. Changes include expanding the \$2,500 per child to \$2,500 per service for all disorders including autism.

Q: How does the Global Waiver fit into this discussion moving forward?

A: Upon reviewing the Global Waiver, there will be discussions relative to changes that has been accomplished as required by the CMS. The department is still analyzing numerous findings, which has included stimulus money, and report what is affordable now and what can be used in Medicaid funds to help prepare the focus going forward, for example the CNOM realized \$20 million. The analysis will also include why certain goals were not accomplished.

Q: Will there be an extension of Global Waiver?

A: The department can seek an extension.

Ms. Elena Nicolella, Medicaid Director, reported on the first phase of the Money Follows the Person (MFP) which includes the elderly and disabled. The next phase will include initiatives from BHDDA and DCYF. There will be a Project Director appointed

to lead this initiative and there will also be focus groups that will include consumers and providers who will help to develop an implementation work plan. Ms. Nicolella commented that she is working with Mr. Tom Conlon, DHS Administrator, who is also involved in the implementation.

(Presentation Attached)

Ms. Nicolella reported that the DHS Health Homes Phase1 is being developed with input from CMS. Before any initiative moves forward, there will be an opportunity for public input. She also commented that CMS is moving into community life, which also includes employment.

Ms. Martino announced the Discharge Planning Conference that will be held on April 28, 2011, from 8:00 a.m. – noon at the Radisson Hotel in Warwick, RI. Please contact Tom Marcello if you wish to register. She also announced that there would be a presentation on the Real Choices grant at the next Global Waiver meeting.

Ms. Dawn Wardyga announced the RIPIN would host the Health Care Reform Conference on April 27, 2011, from 12:00 – 8:00 p.m., at the Crown Plaza, Warwick, RI. Online Registration is available.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the Global Waiver Implementation Task Force has been scheduled for Monday, April 25, 2011, from 1-3 p.m., at the Arnold Conference Room, Eleanor Slater Hospital, Cranston, RI.