

GLOBAL WAIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
November 28, 2011
MEETING MINUTES

Task Force Members Attending: Paul Block, Virginia Burke, Cathy Ciano, Jacqueline Downy, Elaina Goldstein, Linda Katz, Kathleen Kelly, Joanne Malise, Maureen Maigret, Ann Mulready, James Nyberg, Br. Michael Reis, Judy Sullivan, Craig Syata, Sharon Terzian, Dawn Wardyga, Vivian Weisman, Rebecca Kislak (representing Jane Hayward)

Staff and Members of the Public Attending: Ann Martino, Elena Nicolella, Thomas Izzo, Ellen Mauro, Michele Szylin, Michelle Amado, Holly Garvey, Alison Croke, Linda Ward, Rick Jacobson, Roberta Merkele, Keith West, Kate Gilsean, Kathleen Heren, Diana Beaton, Lisa Conlon, Michele Heim, Stacy Paterno, Christina Amedeo, Ken Pariseau, Janet Iovinio, John Dooley, Rebecca Martish, Aubrey Manning, Deborah Garneau, Christian Heiss, Mary Slinko, Anthony Salvo, Tom Marcello, Kathy Dennard

Thomas Izzo, Community Chair, opened the meeting by welcoming Task Force members and other attendees. Mr. Izzo commented that he was happy to be joining the Global Waiver Task Force members in meaningful dialog and will be providing them with updated information at future meetings.

Mr. Izzo recognized **Elena Nicolella, Medicaid Director**, who announced an Executive meeting being held at 2 p.m. relative to Dual Eligible. At that meeting there would be a presentation on the 3 R's, which would be focused on risk adjustment, insurance requirement and the risk corridor. Ms. Nicolella then made a presentation on the Integrating Care for Medicare and Medicaid Members and RI Planning efforts. Individuals involved with Medicaid and/or Medicare are the most needy group with the least amount of coordination. Ms. Nicolella announced that at the federal level there is an interest in working to assist in better coordination and CMS will be providing technical assistance. The goal will be to better integrate primary and acute care while preserving Choice.

Presentation Attached

Q: (Dawn Wardyga, RIPIN) Will those individuals under 21 be included?

A: This is a very small percentage and is usually included in other initiatives.

Q: (Maureen Maigret, LTC) Are there any special needs plans?

A: The state had two special needs plans and the state can enter into agreement with anyone through an RFP.

Q: (Vivian Weisman, Mental Health Association) Could you comment on the Ever Care Plan under the United Healthcare.

A: That plan is offered in nursing homes to reduce hospital visits and would be important to incorporate in the State model.

Q: (James Nyberg, Leading Age RI) Would there be savings to Medicare?

A: There would be shared savings under which the state would benefit.

Q: Will there be an expanded use of more nurse practitioners? (Maureen)

A: Yes – there will be an effort to use everyone including hospice as part of the care team.

Virginia Burke voiced support for of the United Healthcare model of including a Nurse Practitioner in the Nursing Facilities as a key program design feature to consider

Ms. Ann Martino, EOHHS Policy Director, presented the Community First Choice Options Plan under the Affordable Care Act along with a copy of the federal legislation that was passed by the House and Senate. Implementation has been delayed until rules have been finalized but the new State Plan will allow for great flexibility with a consumer controlled service delivery approach.

Presentation Attached

Q: (Sharon Terzian) Is this plan just for adults?

A: This plan would be focused on certain populations and will be very helpful for those residing in assisted living. The challenge will be to integrate all initiatives to preserve a system of care.

Q: (Elaina Goldstein, DHS) Is this a shift from the Waiver and not an expansion?

A: This plan will be picking specific services rather than specific needs.

Mr. Keith West, Hewlett-Packard Development Company consultant, presented the RItE Resources Project, which is the web, based real time inventory of available home and community based resources for RI families, discharge planners, and providers.

Presentation Attached

Q: (Dawn Wardyga) Will this website address and promote the needs of all populations?

A: The goal is to address the needs of all populations.

Mr. Izzo commented that there needs to be more active in developing a website that is more inclusive as this system evolves. Having a link with the Department of Health and a license and regulation site would be a positive step in that direction.

Q: (James Nyberg) Does this website help senior housing?

A: At this time Senior Housing is not a component of RItE Resources. There may be an opportunity to look at including Senior Housing in the future.

Q: (Kathy Heren) Should morbidly obese be part of the selection criteria?

A: That will be revisited during the input process.

Ms. Martino commented that the website would be based in real time relative to the availability of beds, transportation, rehabilitation services, etc., and would be targeted at specific needs and expose gaps.

She also responded to questions regarding the Lewin Report and announced that the report would be released shortly and would be posted on the EOHHS website.

Mr. Izzo commented that he had met with Ms. Martino and Ms. Nicoletto along with a small group of Global Waiver members. During those discussions it was agreed to that more information on the agenda would be provided prior to Global Waiver meeting two weeks in advance along with an executive summary. He also hopes to develop an internal policy group to help channel ideas with staff from OHHS that he would be discussing during his meeting with Directors at their next meeting in December. He is hopeful this lead to more meaningful interaction.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the Global Waiver Implementation Task Force will be held on December 19, 2011 at 1 p.m., at the Arnold Conference Center, Eleanor Slater Hospital, Cranston, RI.