

GLOBAL WAIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
October 22, 2012
MEETING MINUTES

Task Force Members Attending: Kathleen Kelly, Maureen Maigret, Kathy McKeon, Ann Mulready, Br. Michael Reis, Michelle Brophy, Sharon Terzian, Dawn Wardyga, Vivian Weisman, Virginia Burke, Jacqueline L. Downy, Charles Feldman, Rebecca Kislak, Linda Katz

Staff Members and Public Attending: Carmela Corte, Jenn Bergeron, Michelle Szyllin, Jennifer Reid, Janet Marquez, Tina Spears, Holly Garvey, Cristina Amedo, Catherine Taylor, Michael Varadian, Lindsay McAllister, Caroline Van Allen, Jessica McGee, Steven Patriarca, Elizabeth Brewer, Michael Cancelliere, Donna Carris, Rebecca Martish, Alison Croke, Ken Pariseau, Michele Heim, Gerry Bedrick, John Dooley, Susan Jacobsen, Dean Gardner, Brenda Munro, Alda Rego, Deborah Garneau, Lee Baker, Senator Tom Izzo, Ann Martino, Elena Nicolella, Anthony Salvo

Elena Nicolella, Medicaid Director, opened the meeting by discussing the special terms and conditions that CMS and the state of Rhode Island agreed to in early 2009. The state must submit a waiver renewal exactly one year before the waiver expires on December 31, 2013. New terms and conditions will be negotiated between CMS and the state. The state is seeking permission from the federal government to submit a waiver renewal by July 31, 2013 instead of the current December 31, 2012 deadline. Please see attached presentation.

Q – Maureen Maigret – When does an evaluation of the waiver occur?

A – This will take place when we submit an extension request. There is also data in the Senate quarterly reports.

Ann Martino, EOHHS Policy Director, spoke to the task force in regards to the authority that the Global Waiver possesses. She stated the global waiver is a consolidation of existing waivers. The waiver also gives the state the ability to pay for services for people in assisted living and keep them out of nursing homes. Ms. Martino also noted there are a set of waiver authorities unique to the Global Waiver. This includes providing substance abuse treatment to parents of DCYF children that the state has removed from the home.

Ms. Martino also noted GWTF workgroup recommendations that will be looked at going forward. She identified respite care as a long-term care service as well as a broader range of rehabilitation options. Ms. Martino also spoke to the task force on numerous accomplishments of the waiver. Under the Global Waiver the state has been able to control high acuity expenditures, there have not been any waiting lists, the cap has not been exceeded and the state has not used its power to disadvantage users. Budget initiatives rather than the waiver have been the reason for decreased funding in some areas.

Senator Izzo closed the meeting and urged the task force to notify Anthony Salvo if they wish to have certain items on the agenda (Anthony Salvo, asalvo@dhs.ri.gov). The next Global Waiver Task Force meeting will be on November 26, 2012 at the Arnold Conference Center, Pastore Complex, Cranston, RI.