MINUTES

Long Term Care Advisory Committee
Tuesday, November 2, 2010
2 PM – 3:30 PM

Members Present: Lynn Fornoff, Beverly Hirsekorn, Keith Larsen Sr. (phone,) Viki Manley (phone,) Barry Rosenberg, Janet Snipes (phone,) Michael Wasserman, Lori Woods,

Members Absent Or Excused: Carol Bouchard, Val Corzine, Tony Hernandez, Ken Hoagland, Laura Hershey, Maureen Hewitt, Lynn O'Connor, Sharon O'Hara, Julie Reiskin, Howard Roitman, Marie Valenzuela, Pat Tunnell, John Zabawa

Staff Present: Sean Bryan, LTC Contracts Section Manager, Tim Cortez; Long Term Care Reform; Jenny Nickerson, Acting Division Director; Eujenia Renfroe, Program Assistant;

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting convened at 2:00 PM.

2. **Survey Results - Tim Cortez:** Tim presented the results of his survey of advisory committee members to the committee. Some general themes found in the results are: dissatisfaction with the ability to provide input, and insufficient communication on policy changes from the Department. Survey comments mentioned such issues as: committee meetings dominated by consumers who bring up personal issues rather than system issues, no opportunity to dig into policy issues, lack of opportunity for real input, and a breakdown at the committee's leadership level in regards to direction and focus. Committee members would like to see the committee work on issues such as Long Term Care Presumptive Eligibility, waiver modifications, and analyzing legislation. Facility survey's are rated as a high concern and the committee leadership plans to reach out to DPHE and request they address the committee on this subject.

3. **Membership Gaps –** Jenny Nickerson: Jenny asked the committee for their input on gaps in the advisory committee's membership. The committee suggested trying to recruit from the areas of: Aging, Independent Living, CMS liason, elderly consumers, and a children's representative. The Department will examine the committee's authorizing statute and send out to the committee. Tim Cortez will e-mail out to the committee and Sean Bryan will do some research on the committee by-laws.

Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request for persons with disabilities. Please notify Eujenia Renfroe at (303) 866-2420 at least one week prior to a meeting if you need special accommodations in order to participate.

4. **Money Follows The Person Update -** Tim Cortez:
The Money Follows the Person project has two main components: Rebalancing (Strengthening the HCBS infrastructure in the state) and Community Transitions. The rebalancing component provides 100% administrative support from CMS for such things as quality improvement, eligibility modernization, and IT systems. Part of the process includes identifying systematic change benchmarks, such as statute changes and budgetary changes. The smaller portion of the grant project covers community transition services. The pilot waiver would be composed of clients who were institutionalized for 90 days and already Medicaid clients. The pilot would provide expanded HCBS services and additional transitional services for up to one year at a 75 percent match. These expanded and transitional services could be new services, capped services with the cap removed, or services considered "siloed" by waiver that would benefit other targeted populations. Included in transition services would be one-time support services such as home modification, rent, service dog, starter sets of linens, etc. These would be matched at 50 percent. Another component of transition services will be crisis backup for the client's initial transition year: nurse line, counseling, etc.

Tim emphasized that the scope of the grant was dependant on the Department. Grants can range anywhere from 5 million to 143 million dollars. While most of the money will be spent on the rebalancing portions, the greater weight of detailed work and planning falls on the transition portion.

Currently the project has two work groups: the stakeholder group and the services/benefits group. There will also be a requirement for a steering committee for the project after the grant is made. One of their duties will be to help align the recommendations that came out of the Department's Olmstead report. The Long Term Care Advisory Committee could be the steering committee, or we could form a sub-committee to handle that task. The advisory committee feels that despite having less than solid membership at this point, the original constitution of the group would make them a very appropriate steering committee, and they'd like to have this project as an opportunity to move forward. Tim will propose that the Long Term Care Advisory Committee act as the project's steering committee to their stakeholder group.

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5. **Division Updates** – Jenny Nickerson: Richard Gallagher is resigning as head of Operations/Provider Enrollment section. Right now our bench is very thin and we are actively seeking to fill a number of vacant positions. We are looking at other venues beyond the state website, and welcome recommendations of good candidates. There is concern about the potential of a future hiring freeze.

6. **Next Meeting** – December 7th, 2010. 225 E. 16th Ave. 1st floor Conference Room.

7. **Adjourned** – 3:30pm

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