

**Unified Long Term Care System (ULTCS) Workgroup
Minutes
May 5, 2010**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Barbara E. Riley, Ohio Department of Aging, Chair
Susan Ackerman, Center for Community Solutions
Jim Adams, Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities
Kathleen Anderson, Ohio Council for Home Care & Hospice
Robert Applebaum, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami, University
Angie Bergefurd, Ohio Department of Mental Health
Salli Bollin, Alzheimer's Association
Mary Butler, Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council
Andrew Capehart, Ohio Coalition for Adult Protective Services
Douglas Day, Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services
Mark Davis, Ohio Provider Resource Association
Pete VanRunkle, Ohio Health Care Association
Chuck Demidovich, County Commissioners Association of Ohio
Jodi Govern (for Rebecca Maust), Ohio Department of Health
Mallory Heidorn (for Senator Shannon Jones), Ohio Senate
Roland Hornbostel, Ohio Department of Aging
Carolyn Knight, Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council
Christine Kozobarich for Becky Williams, SEIU 1199
Peggy Lehner, Ohio House of Representatives
Beverly Laubert, State of Ohio Ombudsman
Steve Moore (for Michael Rench), Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission
Christopher Murray, Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes
Steve Peishel, Office of Budget and Management
Tracy Plouck, ODJFS/Ohio Health Plans
Patrick Stephan, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
Joe Ruby, Ohio Assn. of Area Agencies on Aging
Jason Smith (for Janet Grant), Ohio Association of Health Plans
Bill Sundermeyer, AARP Ohio
Jean Thompson, Ohio Assisted Living Association
Addie Whaley, Ohio Adult Care Facilities Association
Hubert Wirtz, Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Service Providers

HANDOUTS

5/5/10 Agenda
4/7/10 Meeting Minutes
Service Array Subcommittee Charter
Medicaid Provision Highlights PowerPoint
Elder Justice & Transparency Provisions of PPACA PowerPoint
CLASS Provisions in Federal Health Care Reform Bill PowerPoint
Kaiser Health News: Health Law Includes Novel Long-term Care Insurance
Proposal for Community First Choice Medicaid State Options for Inclusion in Health Care Reform
Health Care Reform Resources
ODI Handouts:
 Health Reform: Key Medicare Changes Effective in 2010, 2011, and 2012 and Beyond
 NCOA Straight Talk for Seniors on Health Reform
 Kaiser's Focus on Health Reform Cost Sharing for Brand-Name and Generic Drugs charts

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Barbara Riley opened the plenary meeting at 12:05 pm and called for introduction of ULTCS Workgroup members present.

INTERPRETING HEALTH CARE REFORM FOR LONG-TERM CARE PANEL

Amy McGee talked about the state's response to health care reform and its development of a spreadsheet that designates state agency leads for each provision, as well as interested parties among state agencies. She described temporary high risk pools as one immediate reform option to states for which Ohio has submitted a letter of interest. She demonstrated the Administration's new health care reform website (www.healthcarereform.ohio.gov) that had been launched on April 30th. Ohio's state lead for Medicaid provisions is Trish Martin (ODJFS/OHP) and for Insurance Exchange & Reform provisions, Doug Anderson (ODI). Amy then introduced each of the panelists.

Medicare Improvement

Gretchen Lopez, Director of the Ohio Department of Insurance's OSHIIP Program, addressed provisions related to Medicare Improvement, including reduction of the Medicare Advantage open enrollment from 90 to 30 days, and the incremental closing of the doughnut hole for Medicare Part D, and moving forward the 2012 open enrollment schedule.

Medicaid & Eligibility

Tracy Plouck, Director of ODJFS Ohio Health Plans, presented a PowerPoint outlining Medicaid and Eligibility provisions in the health care reform bill, focusing on those to be implemented in the immediate future, e.g., eligibility expansion, impact on income disregards, income and asset changes. She mentioned required vs. optional provisions in the bill and reminded the audience that policy staff at the federal and state level is still working to interpret various provisions.

Elder Justice & NF Transparency

Beverley Laubert, State of Ohio Long-Term Care Ombudsman, addressed both the Elder Justice Act provisions as well as those on transparency. Among its provisions is the creation of an Elder Justice Advisory Board to develop best practices and report to Congress. This is the first time federal funding for adult protective services has been appropriated. The transparency provisions took effect upon the signing of the bill, authorizing the state, the Inspector General and the Ombudsman nursing home access. This also applies to assisted living waiver programs that meet the federal funding threshold of \$10,000.

CLASS Act

Roland Hornbostel, ODA's Deputy Director of Policy and Programs, talked about the CLASS Act provisions. He acknowledged that the CLASS Act, like the Elder Justice Act, began as a freestanding bill and then was incorporated into the health care reform bill. It is a voluntary program with an opt out option. There is no requirement for employers to participate and states must accommodate employees wishing to participate where the employer has opted out. Currently approximately seven percent of the population purchases LTC insurance. CLASS Act provides a supplemental benefit to Medicaid or LTC insurance. Among other miscellaneous provisions of the health care reform bill are authorization (and funding) for five years' continuation of ADRCs, and the Balancing Incentive Program (enhanced match).

Comments/Questions:

Amy McGee agreed to provide an analysis by a national organization on the overall impact to Ohio of health care reform on low income workers on Medicaid.

Tracy Plouck explained that categorical disability doesn't go away with changes to eligibility; ABD Medicaid must still meet SSA criteria.

ODA was asked to add to its Health Care Reform Resources, disability-specific Web sites and resources that Mary Butler agreed to provide.

STAKEHOLDER COMMENT

Mary Butler discussed the two handouts: Kaiser Health News and Community First Choice. She urged those present not to forget the disability population and applauded the CLASS Act provision of the Health Care Reform bill as "a giant step forward." Mary urged the audience to follow through on four points related to ULTCS and the CLASS Act:

1. Continue and enhance NF diversion/transition.
2. Establish single integrated point of entry to government support services.
3. Establish significantly higher Medicaid spenddown limits for those not eligible for CLASS Act insurance.
4. Conduct a public education campaign to increase understanding of Medicaid and CLASS Act provision.

RATIFICATION OF SERVICE ARRAY SUBCOMMITTEE CHARTER

Bob Applebaum moved that the Service Array Subcommittee Charter be approved and Joe Ruby seconded the motion. Kathleen Anderson raised concerns related to two items under Purpose:

- "Explore the use of independent providers" should be a subset of the previous bullet since it is only one provider type and not a service.
- Add ODJFS to "Advance the use of the new ODJFS HC Attendant Service."

Motion was amended to incorporate addressing concerns raised and approved by consensus without dissent.

NEXT STEPS/NEXT MEETING

The ULTCS Workgroup meeting will be held on June 3, 2010 from noon to 3 pm at the Lazarus Building, 6th Floor, beginning with the plenary session and followed by the subcommittee meetings.

Note: July 2nd meeting is being moved to July 9th.

PLENARY ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:38 pm and subcommittees convened until 3:00 pm.