

Unified Long-Term Care System (ULTCS) Workgroup Minutes

May 12, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT*

*(*In addition to those who attended in person, a number of members listened in via conference call.)*

Bonnie Kantor-Burman, Ohio Department of Aging, Chair
Susan Ackerman, Center for Community Solutions
Jim Adams, Ohio Assn. of County Behavioral Health Authorities
Kathleen Anderson, Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice
Bob Applebaum, Scripps Gerontology Center
Megan Bibelhausen-Hube (for Sen. Shannon Jones)
Mark Davis, Ohio Provider Resource Association
Diane Dietz (for Pete VanRunkle), Ohio Health Care Association
Frank Fleischer (for Andrew Capehart), Ohio Coalition of Adult Protective Services
Janet Grant, Ohio Association of Health Plans
Roland Hornbostel, Ohio Department of Aging
Betsy Johnson, National Alliance on Mental Illness, Ohio
Carolyn Knight, Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council
Mehek Mananalia (for John Alfano), LeadingAge Ohio
Rebecca Maust, Ohio Department of Health
John McCarthy, ODJFS Office of Health Plans
Greg Moody, Governor's Office of Health Transformation
Christopher Murray, Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes
Steve Peishel, Office of Budget and Management
Sarah Riegel (for Becky Williams) SEIU/Service Employees Int'l Union/1199
Joe Ruby, Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Bill Sundermeyer, AARP Ohio
Jean Thompson, Ohio Assisted Living Association
Gwen Toney (for Jeff Lycan), Midwest Care Alliance

HANDOUTS

5/12/2011 Agenda
ULTCS Abbreviated Recommendation Summary
OHT Workgroups Draft

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Director Bonnie Kantor-Burman opened the meeting and called for introductions.

OFFICE OF HEALTH TRANSFORMATION (OHT) UPDATE

Greg Moody provided an update on OHT's policy focus on: better care coordination, rebalancing long-term care, and integrating physical/behavioral health. From that launching pad, OHT has begun time-limited workgroups to look at operational policies and issues for operational efficiencies across the "health cluster" departments that would be mentioned later in the meeting.

Greg spoke briefly about the budget, acknowledging the House's additional monies for PASSPORT and mentioned that the OHT Senate testimony on May 10th included language about the need for more PASSPORT resources if money could be found. He admitted that the Area Agencies on Aging have made a compelling case for re-examining the size of the reduction to PAA administrative costs, which from their perspective includes case management costs, at a time when the state expects increased HCBS access and increased population of elders accessing services.

Greg mentioned the perceived agreement among nursing associations, administration leadership and legislative leadership to hold policy discussions around budget concerns, just one day before the airing of what has come to be known as the “flatliner commercial” by the Ohio Health Care Association (shared with the group via Internet). His and the Governor’s frustration related to the 17,000 “scared folks” who had already called the toll-free number.

In response to Greg’s invitation to bring up other areas of concern that had not been addressed, several comments were received:

- AARP wanted increased focus on the foodbank lines and escalating poverty.
 - Greg echoed his concerns based on the 930,000 additional Medicaid enrollees anticipate in two years through the Affordable Care Act, adding to the urgency.
- OCHCH asked about next steps for dual eligible integration since the federal CMMI grant had not been funded.
 - Greg stated the administration’s intent to move ahead anyway and that dollars had been set aside for planning. OHT and OHP met recently with CMS to lay the groundwork.
- OCHCH asked about involvement in stakeholder meetings.
 - Greg acknowledged the need to retool the stakeholder process and his hope to tap into the institutional memory of this and other key groups.
- Midwest Care Alliance asked that OHT not forget about hospice care and its role in long-term care because it often decreases end of life care costs.
- Scripps suggested focus on preventive activities to decrease the number of those with severe disabilities on Medicaid while the demographics increase.
- Scripps also mentioned the need to focus on technology.
- Several raised the issue of the impact of the 3% provider cut on the PASSPORT workforce, e.g., home health aides and Assisted Living providers.

The audience was directed to the new information being posted regularly to the OHT website: <http://www.healthtransformation.ohio.gov/>, including nursing facility data. Bonnie added that the guiding principles are full transparency and consolidation of health cluster information in one place in useable fashion. Questions were raised about adding information on hospitals and on independent providers.

OFFICE OF HEALTH TRANSFORMATION WORKGROUPS

Rick Tully (along with Anne Harnish) provided an overview of the four OHT workgroups:

- Housing (led by Tracy Plouck) is an integral part of healthcare, especially for high need individuals with severe and persistent mental illness.
- Workforce (led by Rick Tully) is focused on the patient-centered medical home and the direct-care workforce efforts being guided by Tiffany Dixon and Leslie Sawyer.
- HIT/HIE (led by Greg Moody) is emphasizing health system performance and including state CIOs and their policy counterparts working to inventory what data is there. Greg mentioned the Health Information Technology workgroup’s focus on eligibility determination and business intelligence/data warehouse.

- Early Childhood and Child Health Care Coordination (led by Anne Harnish) is geared toward reaching a single point of care coordination for children across six agencies (DODD, ODMH, ODE, JFS/OHP, OFCF, and ODH). Anne Harnish reported that the group is looking at external changes, IT challenges and design elements for a coordinated system, with assistance from the Commonwealth Fund.

The OHT workgroups are being used to organize the state agency level work across departments and to align OHT efforts with ongoing work and are short term in nature. Greg Moody invited Stakeholder Workgroup members to share activities in these four areas that are already underway to tie back to the work of OHT.

ULTCS RECOMMENDATIONS REVISITED IN LIGHT OF OHT WORK

Roland explained that the handout provided was not meant to be a summary of every recommendation made, but only those on which there has been some progress, especially those included in Am. Sub. HB 153.

ULTCS SUBCOMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT/REDEPLOYMENT

Bonnie Kantor-Burman conveyed several areas she had heard in the meeting as potential direction for the ULTCS Stakeholder process:

- Technology
- Housing
- Workforce
- Preventive Gerontology

Janet Grant asked how these align with or replace the earlier workgroups of Balance and Funding, Service Array, Integration & Care Management, Front Door, and Direct Service Workforce. Bill Sundermeyer suggested the group spend time determining where we are and what items to prioritize, adding that it is imperative to keep the group together and moving forward.

Action Step: *It was agreed that the group should reconvene after the budget deliberations and that there was a need to reconnect with the standing committees, e.g., Front Door, and get a better understanding of the status of all recommendations.*

It was recommended that an electronic survey be sent out to all ULTCS Stakeholder Workgroup members to ask about willingness to address the critical work of the future. Specific questions will ask who else should be involved, preferred format and specific interests, as well as other more substantive questions.

Action Step: *ODA agreed to create and distribute a survey to help refocus the work of the ULTCS Stakeholder Workgroup.*

As a final note, AARP urged the inclusion of “voices less connected to our world,” e.g., business interests and the building of new models of innovative public/private partnerships.

POTENTIAL NEXT MEETING: July 14, 2011

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.