

**Unified Long Term Care System (ULTCS) Workgroup
Minutes
December 17, 2009**

MEMBERS & PENDING MEMBERS PRESENT

Jim Adams, Ohio Assn. of County BH Authorities
John Alfano, AOPHA
Kathleen Anderson, Ohio Council for Home Care & Hospice
Robert Applebaum, Scripps Gerontology Center, Miami, University
Angie Bergeford, Ohio Department of Mental Health
Shannon Ginther for Cynthia Burnell, Ohio Health Care Coverage & Quality Council
Mary Butler, Ohio Centers for Independent Living
Mark Davis, Ohio Provider Resources Association
Bridget Gargan, Ohio Hospital Association
Toni Fortson-Bigby for Janet Grant, Ohio Association of Health Plans
Betsy Johnson, NAMI Ohio
Kelly Carey for Sen. Shannon Jones, Ohio Senate
Beverley Laubert, State of Ohio Ombudsman
Rep. Peggy Lehner, Ohio House of Representatives
Jeff Lycan, Ohio Hospice and Palliative Care
Jodi Govern for Becky Maust, Ohio Department of Health
Amy McGee, Executive Medicaid Management Administration
Brett Kirkpatrick for Steve Mombach, TriHealth Senior Link
Christopher Murray, Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes
Shelley Papenfuse, Ohio Olmstead Task Force
Steve Peishel, Office of Budget and Management
Maureen Corcoran for Tracy Plouck, ODJFS/Ohio Health Plans
Larke Recchie for Joe Ruby, Ohio Assn. of Area Agencies on Aging
Michael Rench, Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission
Bill Sundermeyer, AARP Ohio
Jean Thompson, Ohio Assisted Living Association
Diane Dietz for Pete VanRunkle, Ohio Health Care Association
Addie Whaley, Ohio Association of Adult Care Facilities
Sarah Riegel for Becky Williams, SEIU/1199
Hubert Wirtz, Ohio Council of BH and Family Service Providers

ODA STAFF PRESENT

Barbara E. Riley
Roland Hornbostel

HANDOUTS

12/17/09 Agenda
11/19/09 Revised Meeting Minutes
ODH Certificate of Need Program
ULTCS Recommendation Matrix revised
Proposed Structure for the ULTCS Workgroup

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Barbara Riley opened the meeting and called for introductions of those present. She reiterated ODA's intent to broaden the membership to be more inclusive, given the strategic nature of ULTCS, as evidenced by the new faces around the table. She announced the addition of public comment on the agenda with 24 hours' advance notice.

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

INTERVENTION AND DIVERSION STRATEGIES

Deanna Clifford explained that the HB 1 Implementation Team, comprised of AAA staff, Scripps Center staff, and ODA staff, has been meeting since August. The group started by reviewing a variety of data from MDS, Scripps and ODA. A list of initiatives to be implemented under HB 1 was developed. The group reviewed current related initiatives and developed a potential list of strategies, elements and tools under the broad categories of (nursing home) diversion and transition. Scripps will be evaluating the specific strategies selected by AAAs for implementation. There are efforts to ensure inclusion of strategies specific to younger Ohioans with disabilities as well.

CON RULES UPDATE

As a follow-up to discussion generated from the previous meeting, Jodi Govern provided a handout to explain the Ohio Department of Health's efforts around Recommendation # 81 regarding potential movement of CON beds across counties. Jodi reminded the group that the rule does not create new beds, and described current efforts to implement the rules to comply with statute as a first step only.

Comments/Questions:

Bob Applebaum suggested the state develop a policy to take beds out of service in order to bank beds.

Jean asked for the reasoning on the comparative review preference point, "Will these beds be part of a continuing care retirement community?" Jodi stated that criteria are based on the philosophy of consumer preference and aging in place.

Action Step: In answer to Chris Murray's question on how the ten contiguous county applications (a separate provision of HB 1) align with need, Jodi agreed to provide that information by the next meeting. (Note: Jodi has already provided the requested info).

ULTCS RECOMMENDATION MATRIX

Roland Hornbostel reviewed the ULTCS original recommendations, noting the two new columns: "No planned implementation in current biennium" (based on need for more research) and "Not accepted by Administration at this time" (based on funding concerns). In response to a question on how to move an item from the funding concern column in order to explore the concept further, Roland described the only timeline constraints are those set by ability to impact the ULTCS budget for the next biennium.

Questions and Comments:

Hugh Wirtz asked for clarification of why #10 was listed under that particular category and was told that essentially "we have to break even before we can save money."

Bill Sundermeyer asked about the process for determining categories and was told that would be a discussion topic at the retreat.

Jean Thompson asked if the state is tracking for NF admissions vs. cost issues. Roland noted that many factors play into NF admissions, and that until now, we didn't even know how many NF admissions there are. The new PASRR data questions went into effect on December 1st, so it is too early to determine impact. Bob Applebaum added that people should consider the changing viewing of nursing homes from a long-term stay to a short-term rehabilitation option. The new PASRR form data also asks people if they want follow-up contact.

Barbara Riley stated that the original recommendations developed took six committees and 300 participants, and that the matrix represents only a digest of the original document.

PROPOSED SUBCOMMITTEE STRUCTURE & RETREAT PLANNING

Roland Hornbostel mentioned that he is working with Maggie Lewis from the Commission on Dispute Resolution to plan the ULTCS Retreat. He shared the Proposed Structure handout whereby there would be monthly meetings with the subcommittees meeting for the first half of the time designated and the full group to meet for the last half. He initially proposed four strategic subcommittees:

- Access (also known as the Front Door, which already has a set meeting schedule)
- Direct Service Worker Recruitment and Retention Strategies
- Consumer Direction
- Long Term Services and Supports (for consumers not enrolled in Medicaid waiver programs)

Other Subcommittees suggested (details below) include:

- Quality and Regulation of Care/Health & Safety
- Revenue Strategies & Prevention
- Technology, e.g., electronic health records

Questions and Comments:

Per Bill Sundermeyer, most subcommittees refer to stage 1 (current biennium). Roland suggests reviewing original recommendations, e.g., assumptions around MITS, for needed updates.

Maureen Corcoran suggested adding a subcommittee on Quality of Care/Health & Safety, noting original quality subcommittee recommendations (#106 and higher, as well as #97).

Mary Butler has concerns with the use of the term, “safe,” noting that consumers want to have the “dignity of risk.” Maureen clarified that choice needs to be balanced with waiver requirements. Mark said that dignity of risk must be balanced with health and welfare. Shelley Papenfuse described her view of the concept of safety differently, in contrast with predatory behavior. Bev Laubert says we are learning from HOME Choice how to balance choice with welfare issues.

Bob Applebaum suggested a Quality and Regulation subcommittee.

Mark Davis suggested a Revenue Strategies and Prevention subcommittee to consider what other states are doing and maximize federal reimbursement.

Mary Butler asked if we could specify the impact of NOT funding as “in conflict with the Olmstead Plan.”

John Alfano asked about Technology as a subcommittee.

Bob Applebaum asked for clarification on what level of detail we anticipate for subgroup work, suggesting that one group step back and look at the long term, e.g., technology, prevention, etc.

Barbara Riley noted that we should consider the impact of federal health care reform.

Jeff Lycan stated that we should define care support and service items and the role they play in long-term care support.

Bill asked that the list of subcommittees recommended be distributed before January 21st so that groups can further develop the goals of each subcommittee during the retreat.

Homework Assignment

Roland devised the following homework assignment in preparation for the retreat:

1. Identify recommendations from the ULTCS Implementation Matrix that are not moving forward to your satisfaction.
2. Identify recommendations that can be implemented without dollars, even if they are not currently on the list.
3. Identify which recommendations require new revenue to implement, being as specific as possible.

Based on the assignment responses, ODA and Maggie Lewis may revise subcommittee groupings. He will email this information next week and expect to have the responses back by January 8th. Part of the retreat will be dedicated to having subcommittees refine goals and direction, based on responses to the homework assignment.

ULTCS now has six overarching goals that may need to be expanded based on the retreat outcomes.

Action Items:

- *Upon request, ODA is willing to meet one-on-one with any new members prior to the retreat to review with them the history and progress of the ULTCS Workgroup and offer tools to help orient them.*

MEMBER ITEM(S)

N/A

MISCELLANEOUS

Hugh Wirtz asked if the group needed to weigh in on Home First legislation (SB 214 and HB 398) and was told that it would be helpful, once the hearings are scheduled.

Note: This group will want to discuss issues related to legislation, but it is not ODA's expectation that this group formally endorse any legislation.

NEXT STEPS/NEXT MEETING

The ULTCS Strategic Planning Retreat will be held on January 21, 2010, from 10 am to 4 pm at the Riffe Center, 77 South High Street, 31st Floor.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm.