



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Services Work Group

Date: August 10, 2006

Attending: Carol Aronson, Paul Bennett, Pat Cohen, Betsy Creamer, Kelly Cunningham, Shelly Ebbert, John Eckert, Darcia Ferrari, Mary Geis, Donna Ginther, Ryan Gruenenfelder, Margaret Hastings, Carol Lentz Headley, Martha Holstein, Walt Meyers, Robin Morgan, Scott Musser, Margaret Niederer, Nancy Nelson, Amy Paschedag, Mary Patton, Sally Petrone, Tarry Plattner and Jan Schweigert

I. Introductions:

Donna Ginther began the meeting and requested introductions of all present.

Minutes from the July 11 meeting were approved as amended.

II. Alternative Senior Services:

Shelly Ebbert distributed and walked the Committee through the Department's draft elements for the alternative senior services money (document is attached). During her review, she mentioned the following additional elements that are not listed in the draft design elements document: (i) the Department plans to serve only CCP clients and to amend the Medicaid waiver to claim additional FFP, (ii) the Department does not know yet if rulemaking is involved in this process, (iii) a list of allowable expenditures/services for the alternative senior services will be created, (iv) the money can be used in place of gap-filling funding in AAAs, which will allow them to use gap-filling money for non-CCP clients, (v) the alternative senior services will be available in addition to and not in place of homemaker, adult day services, and emergency home response, and (vi) the desire of the Department is to be cost neutral with this new service. The committee and Shelly were unclear as to what the final design element (i.e. "Additional funding will be available to cover increased costs associated with meeting SCM for more clients from additional funds appropriated.") means, and she will get further clarification.

Shelly also distributed a draft copy of an unsigned memorandum of understanding of Older Adult Services Act implementation that had been distributed at the OASAC retreat on April 26, 2006. She stated that the Department agrees with the statements in this memorandum of understanding.

Recommendations by the Illinois Council of Case Coordination Units for the alternative senior service money were also discussed.

The Committee voted and agreed to the following recommendations with regards to the use of the alternative senior services money:

- 1. The Committee would like to see a structure consistent with the structure of the Enhanced Transition program.**
- 2. The Department should look at data they have on actual costs in setting payment levels for services.**
- 3. The maximum allocation per client should be in addition to the client service cost maximums.**
- 4. The Department should distribute the alternative senior service money by utilizing previous fiscal year data on CCU client percentage distribution.**
- 5. The Department should evaluate expenditures by individual utilization to allow transfer of money among CCUs, expenditure of funds, and achieve greater utilization.**
- 6. The Department should complete a formal program evaluation which includes analysis of the funding formula on an annual basis.**

The fiscal agent for the money should be the CCUs..

III. Assistive Technology:

John Eckert reviewed preliminary Department plans to utilize the \$2 million allocation received from the Illinois Housing Development Authority. He stated that \$500,000 is available to create an assistive technology program. The remainder of the \$2 million will be distributed as follows: (i) \$500,000 for home modifications, (ii) \$500,000 for the Enhanced Transition program, and (iii) \$500,000 for a joint notice of funding availability (NOFA) for comprehensive care in residential settings.

Regarding assistive technology, John mentioned the Department plans to provide statewide training to the CCUs, have presentations by the Illinois Assistive Technology Program at the Governor's Conference on Aging and the Case Management Conference, and have an article in the October version of Network News. The Department is also considering the following elements to be in the assistive technology program: (i) adding a section in the DON assessment, (ii) performing a home environment assessment, and (iii) setting a \$500 limit per client and allowing only lower ticket devices. Client eligibility and costs of purchasing and installing equipment are aspects that have not been determined yet.

The Committee voted and agreed to the following recommendations with regards to the implementation of the assistive technology program:

- 1. The Department should use Community Care Program (CCP) eligibility requirements but not require individuals to be CCP clients.**
- 2. The Department should set a spending limit per assistive technology item that the case managers can approve. The Department would then be required to approve expenditures of anything over that spending limit.**

IV. Long Term Recommendations:

Donna Ginther indicated that due to the amount of time required to review the Department on Aging's proposed long term recommendations discussion would have to be postponed to the September 12 meeting.

Donna Ginther indicated that she would send a draft of the Services Committee's Long Term Recommendations by email to the Committee. Committee members were asked to volunteer for groups based on subject areas in the recommendations which include: guiding principles and vision for what aging should be; service enhancements; service expansion; service delivery improvement; and service initiation. The purpose of these groups is to deliberate and recommend the senior service related topics to be included in each subject area. These groups should meet between regular Committee meetings and report back.

V. Comprehensive Care Coordination (Case Management):

Donna Ginther announced the comprehensive care coordination symposium that AARP will be holding on August 23 in Chicago.

Donna distributed Senate Joint Resolution 79 and House Joint Resolution 105 (attached), which are identical and were each passed in their introduced chamber during the spring legislative session. These resolutions lay out guidelines for what a comprehensive care coordination system should look like. Donna explained that although these resolutions do not have the force of law, their passage by the introduced chambers constitutes legislative intent.

The Illinois Council of Case Coordination Units distributed their recommendations relative to comprehensive care coordination (attached).

The Department on Aging distributed a list of discussion questions for advisory groups to consider regarding comprehensive case management (attached). The list of questions was defined internally in the Department as necessary to implement the preliminary steps of implementation for a statewide system of comprehensive case/care management, and the Department believes it is important for stakeholders to provide their input.

These present agreed to meet on August 31 to take up the Department's questions, the CCU's recommendations and recommendations of other groups.

VI. Other Business:

Paul Bennett distributed information on the coding performed through the AIRS Elderly Services Program (ESP). Seven of the thirteen AAAs are tracking with this taxonomy. It was mentioned that a taxonomy is not used in home health or in nursing homes, and that we need to figure out how to track clients across the spectrum of services that is available.

VII. Next Meeting:

The next face to face meeting was set for August 31. The following meeting will be on September 12 and dedicated to developing a five year long term care reform plan.