

**MINUTES  
NEW LTC DISTRICT  
ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS PLANNING MEETING  
November 30, 2009**

Present: Robin Elsner, Kathy Just, Bob Fraik, (Marinette County); Mike Reimer, Craig Johnson, Loretta Shellman, Lois Trevor (Oconto County); Jayme Sellen, Jean O'Leary (Brown County); Rick Kane, Kim Wolfmeyer, Barbara Larson-Herber, John Gallagher, June Erdmann (Shawano County); Bill Kelsey, Carol Patterson, Janice Swoboda, Jim Abrahamsen (Kewaunee County); Joe Krebsbach, Roger Tepe, Mike Van Ess, Ben Meyer, Mark Moeller (Door County), Paul Soczynski, Community Care and Mary Kennedy (Project Manager)

Changes or Additions to the Agenda

No changes or additions

Minutes of September 28, 2009 Meeting

No changes or additions

Report on Shawano County Stakeholder Forums

Shawano County held two forums for consumers. They invited 500+ consumers, guardians, and powers of attorney and had public announcements and advertising. About 80 attended the morning session and 26 attended the afternoon session, which was good attendance. Many consumers later asked questions of the care managers. Community Programs intends to follow up with small question and answer groups for interested consumers and families. The other six counties will be scheduling stakeholder forums in early 2010. Mary Kennedy will forward the materials handed out at the Shawano County forums.

Report by Paul Soczynski, Community Care, on Partnership and Family Care experiences

Community Care has provided the Partnership program in Milwaukee for about 15 years. They have developed Family Care in Racine, Kenosha, Washington, Walworth, Waukesha, Ozaukee and Sheboygan Counties and will expand into Calumet, Outagamie and Waupaca Counties in 2010. They have simultaneously expanded Partnership into most of those counties.

Paul discussed the financial difficulties experienced by all Managed Care Organizations in expanding Family Care. The original five Family Care pilots were profitable prior to the expansion of Family Care, but the rate for expanding MCOs is based on the experience of the five pilot counties after they were mature programs. Expanding MCOs are not able to achieve managed care efficiencies within the first couple of years and all, therefore, experiencing losses. A recent legislative committee hearing generated

concerns from legislators regarding the lack of a legislative oversight role in Family Care and concerns by providers who are impacted by the MCO's need to cut costs.

The Partnership benefit includes both long term care and all health services (hospitals, doctors, etc) and includes both a Medicare rate and a Medicaid rate for dually eligible enrollees. Only Minnesota and Massachusetts have similar plans. Partnership provides an option for people who have had frequent hospitalizations, have many medications and who can benefit from assistance in managing their health and long term care services. In order for Community Care to offer a Partnership benefit in the northeast, they need to submit an adequate provider network to the Federal government in February of the year prior to implementation. They already have approval to expand into Brown County since Brown County's network overlaps with that serving the COW counties. By State rule, they cannot expand Partnership into a county until Family Care starts in that county.

#### Updates from Mary Kennedy and Steering Committee

The Steering Committee interviewed an applicant for the Planning Director/Financial Manager position who is being considered for employment.

Barb Larson-Herber reported on research on payment issues relating to legal services. The Elected Officials concurred that Shawano County should proceed to contract with Andy Phillips in accordance with the proposal discussed at the September meeting.

NEW Family Care provided a daylong training for County Care Managers. About 160 Care Managers and nurses attended. The Care Managers are eager to learn more about the functions of Care Managers in Family Care and to begin discussing ideas for transitioning to Family Care.

The web site is operational at [www.northeastwisconsinfamilycare.com](http://www.northeastwisconsinfamilycare.com).

The planning process for NEW Family Care called for hiring two full time staff by October 1, 2009 and a part time secretary by January 1, 2010. There have been delays in hiring staff. On the other hand, the process also called for using this time period to learn more about the operation of other MCOs. The Steering Committee has heard presentations from Northernbridges and Southwest Family Care Alliance MCOs and is preparing to make some major operational decisions; particularly regarding county provided care management. NEW Family Care is also seeking out temporary office space, equipment and services.

#### Future Meeting

The next meeting will be February 22, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at Brown County Human Services.