

**MINUTES
STEERING COMMITTEE
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN FAMILY CARE
February 1, 2010
1:00 p.m.
Brown County Human Services**

Present: Kim Wolfmeyer, Barb Larson-Herber, Rick Kane, Shawano County; Mike Reimer, Craig Johnson, Oconto County; Robin Elsner, Judy Drier, Glenn Sartorelli, Marinette County; Joe Krebsbach, Roger Tepe, Mike Van Ess, Door County; Bill Kelsey, Carol Patterson, Debra Hakari, Kewaunee County; Jean O'Leary, Brian Shoup, Brown County; Lois Krizan, Menominee County; Cori McFarlane, Regional Office; Paul Soczynski, Barbara Moore, serving as technical advisers, Community Care; Mary Kennedy, Project Adviser; Ying LaCourt, Helping Hands Caregivers; and Rolf Hanson, Planning Director

Additions and Modifications to the Agenda

Approval of the Minutes of December 17, 2009 Steering Committee Meetings

The minutes were approved

Public Comments

There were no public comments

Introductory Comments/Updates from Rolf Hanson

Rolf Hanson, NEW Planning Director, began work on a part time basis beginning January 1, 2010. He provided information on his work with County Based Purchased Organizations in Minnesota, which are, managed care organizations serving Medicaid and dual eligible (Medicaid and Medicare) populations in Minnesota. One of his continuing management support roles has been serving as Controller for PrimeWest Health, which is a County Based Purchasing organization in Alexandria, Minnesota, which serves 13 Counties. Rolf is transitioning out of his management services and consulting work with The Trillium Group and expects to be full time by April 1 if not before.

Since coming aboard on January 1, Mary Kennedy, Barbara Larson-Herber, and Paul Soczynski have been providing Rolf with extensive background information on the planning that has occurred, Family Care and the scope of work for the Planning Director and NEW. He has also spent a day with Paul at Community Care in Milwaukee. Paul and Barbara Moore are serving as technical advisers to NEW.

Report on January 26, 2010 Meeting with NEW and state officials

Barbara Larson-Herber, Rolf Hanson and Paul Soczynski met with Susan Crowley, Tom Lawless, Kathleen Luedtke and Fredi Bove (attended only for a short portion of the

meeting) on January 26. The purpose of the meeting was for NEW to provide an update on NEW, obtain information on the state's informational needs for funding of NEW including timing and obtain any information on how the tribes are viewing NEW.

Barb shared with the state that NEW planning has been underway for some time and described the work of the Steering Committee, Care Management Committee, the Elected Officials Committee, project management of Mary Kennedy, the hiring of a planning director, NEW's web page and securing office space. Barb shared with the state that one county has already had shareholder forums and that other counties are planning to do so.

The state indicated that they want a budget proposal from NEW to cover the remaining planning and the development period. The state provided assurance that the current unused grant funding would be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

The state provided information on a recent meeting that they had with Debbie Danforth and others from the Oneida Tribe. Options for Tribal involvement in ADRCs and Family Care were discussed.

Updates on office space, web site, hiring

Barbara has submitted a business plan to the Northeast Technical College (Green Bay campus) which is required as part of the application to rent space at its Business Incubator building. She said that she should be hearing soon on whether NEW will be able to use space there (subsequent to the Steering Committee, NEW's application was accepted and the lease is being finalized.) Two offices will probably be need over time.

The use of small and large conference rooms at the Business Incubator building is included in the monthly rent. NEW will be using these conference rooms for NEW committee meetings and training. The building is handicapped accessible and there is free parking.

A position description is being developed for an administrative support position and the hiring process will proceed.

The contract with the person maintaining NEW's web page will continue through May by which time NEW will need to determine how best to maintain the web page.

Stakeholder activities-county board presentations, stakeholder forums

Mary noted that the work required of the Fiscal Agent (Shawano County) was probably more than had been expected and she expressed thanks to Shawano County and Barb Larson-Herber and her staff.

Mary said Rolf had asked her to contact the counties to get an assessment of what additional work needs to be done with county boards and other stakeholders. Mary had contact with some of the counties. Shawano had stakeholder meetings and the consensus

was that the forums had gone well. A PowerPoint presentation had been used and some modifications have been made to the PowerPoint as a result of the forums.

The informational needs of each stakeholder need to be assessed and different forums will likely be necessary for each group. Separate meetings with large providers and small providers are appropriate since their perceived needs are different.

There was discussion of the county board resolution process that Northern Bridges used. Northern Bridges used four board resolutions to ensure that the counties had sufficient time for understanding of Family Care and to make timely decisions.

The timing of when NEW can go operational is dependent on the state and its budget process. The current planning implementation date is December 2011. However, this is an aggressive date and is depending on the state budget process and timing. Rolf, Mary and Barb will follow up with the state to get clarity of the timing and will report back to the next Steering Committee which is scheduled for March 22, 2010.

Counties will need to identify how much, if any, savings they will have and how they plan on using those savings for social and human services as a result of Family Care. Several of the NEW counties had previously participated in a prior planning effort in a Data Committee, which did a rigorous review of the financial impact. This Data Committee was comprised of financial and long-term care staff from the counties. NEW should convene a Data Committee or expand the scope of work of the Care Management Committee to complete a financial review. Some NEW counties were not part of the prior effort. Additionally, more current data on potential enrollment and costs need to be used.

Counties expressed concern that their county contribution had decreased since the statewide amount was set in 2006. Discussions occurred about whether a different base year might be used or whether counties had any ability to get the county contribution changed. Jim Strachota, the Human Services Director from Washington County, might be able to share some information on their experience with the county contribution

Discussion of the Vision and Structure of NEW Family Care

The Steering Committee had discussed this at the December 17, 2009 meeting. Rolf indicated that he would like to have some time to review this and requested that discussion on this be deferred to a future meeting. The Steering Committee agreed with deferring discussion to a future meeting.

Update from Paul Soczynski on Family Care expansion and issues for MCOs

Paul is the Chief Operating Officer of Community Care, which is based in Milwaukee and by the summer of 2010, will be providing Family Care in eleven Wisconsin counties and also provides Family Care Partnership (an integrated acute and primary care and long term care service). Community Care is serving as a technical adviser to NEW. Barbara Moore of Community Care is providing technical advice to NEW's Care Management

Committee. Paul participates in the Wisconsin Family Care Association group, which is composed of all the Family Care MCOs and meets monthly, along with the other MCOs, in a State/MCO Leadership meeting.

Paul noted the following:

- All MCOs submitted their business plans to the state in October 2009 and the state has certified all for business
- The State is using the savings the five pilot counties were able to achieve over eight years to set the rates for the expansion counties rather than including the higher costs the expansion counties' experienced in the first few years.
- The level of funding and the expansion of Family Care to achieve its goals (eliminate waiting lists) have required significant realignment of revenues and expenses for all MCOs. As a result, some provider and provider associations have raised serious concerns in some areas on the financial impact and the negotiation processes of the MCOs.
- Residential providers are probably seeing the greatest negative impacts. MCO's are aligning the needs of the individual with the required services. Some MCOs are paying residential providers on a per-person rate and some providers are struggling to pay their fixed costs.
- Community Care did not get the rates they had budgeted for and submitted to the state for the COW counties which contributed to a projected deficit that Community Care is now responding to
- As a result of the uncertainty in the national health reform legislation, Community Care will not be expanding Family Care Partnership to other counties until there is clarity. Community Care could expand to Brown County (concurrent with Family Care expansion) since it has already has received CMS approval, but Community Care is not requesting expansion into the other counties at this time.

Discussion of March 29, 2010 Elected Officials meeting

The Elected Officials will have an opportunity to meet the Planning Director. Other agenda topics would be: Updates on ADRC planning, Care Management Committee, Vision and Structure of NEW Family Care and updates on the logistics of establishing an office.

Next step/future meetings

The next meeting will be March 22, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at the NEW Offices at the Advanced Business Center at Northeast Technical College: 2701 Larson Road, Green Bay

A key agenda item will be reviewing the planning timeline.