

MINUTES
NEW LTC DISTRICT DIRECTORS MEETING
April 13, 2009

Present: Mary Kennedy, Barb Nelson, Carol Patterson, Kim Wolfmeyer, Rick Kane, Barbara Larson-Herber, Craig Johnson, Judy Drier, Robin Elsner, Stacy Strasler, Joe Krebsbach, Roger Tepe, Mark Quam, Mike Reimer, Bill Kelsey, Tom Eggebrecht, Brandon Cooper and Sandy Mahn

Guests: Cori McFarlane

Additions and Modifications to the Agenda

None.

Minutes of February 16, 2009 Meeting

Approved as presented with many thanks to Tom Eggebrecht for taking such excellent minutes.

Updates from Counties and Tribes

Corporation Counsels in some counties have recommended posting the meetings of the NEW elected officials as Open Meetings. Others have decided to consider them Open Meetings even if they may not be subject to the Open Meetings laws. This topic will be discussed with Attorney Andy Phillips at the April 27, 2009 elected officials meetings. Mary Kennedy will send each county the final agenda for each meeting and the county can add any required notices to the agenda.

The draft State letter regarding Conflict of Interest between ADRCs and MCOs was discussed and will be disseminated to all counties. WCHSA Committees will be reviewing the memo for action.

State officials are saying that much of the COP high cost funding is now being diverted to contribute to MCO reserves.

Update from Mary Kennedy

The MCO Fiscal Work Group is discussing the criteria for rate setting for 2010. The state is now saying that the 2010 rates will recognize that expansion counties may not be able to immediately achieve the same efficiencies and cost savings due to managing care.

The Office of the Insurance Commissioner will be assuming some of the oversight functions for Family Care agencies. They will be primarily concerned with solvency issues and will be expecting more rigorous business plans from the MCOs.

Judith explained the Family Care budget for the next biennium. Family Care is still considered budget neutral in that the cost is not more than the Medical Assistance costs (fee for service and Waivers) prior to Family Care. Family Care enrollees enter nursing homes later and stay for an average of 5 months versus 9 months for non Family Care enrollees. The budget, however, will have to pick up the increasing costs of the County Contribution over the next few years.

Discussion of Funding application and proposed budget

Judith Frey would like to commit funding for the Northeast planning process by the end of June 2009. The NEW planning group discussed a draft planning process/application and budget. The NEW group reiterated their intention to purchase or use systems from existing Family Care organizations whenever possible. The group also emphasized that they believe the best process is to get their planning team involved as early as possible and believe that the team should include a financial person early in the process. The planning team would include a full time planning director and a full time financial analyst/officer with additional technical assistance. It is likely that Brown County will be able to employ the planning staff and offer benefits including Wisconsin Retirement System. This should assist in recruiting high level planning staff with the intent they will continue in management roles with the Managed Care Organization when it is formed. The planning group modified the proposed budget to include a full time financial analyst (starting October 1, 2009) and increase advertising costs and fringe benefit estimates.

The group discussed recruitment of planning staff and the potential availability of human resource assistance from a county. Factors to consider in deciding the timing for formation of the Interim Board were discussed. These issues will be discussed with the elected officials on April 27th.

The next step will be to submit a revised funding application and budget to Judith Frey and arrange for a meeting with her. ***NOTE: The meeting with Judith Frey will be 9:00, April 30, 2009 at Brown County Human Services.***

The Oneida Tribal representatives, Sandy Mahn and Brendan Cooper, updated the Directors/managers group on Family Care discussions with the Oneida Tribe. The NEW group will be setting up meetings with all of the Tribes.

Discussion of plans for April 27, 2009 Elected Officials Meeting

Brown County is inviting all members of their Human Services Committee to the meeting but, in view of the time of the meeting, does not expect many to attend. Kewaunee County may invite their entire County Board to the meeting and expects to have 8-10 County Board members present. With the availability of both Board Room A and B at Brown County Human Services, there should be adequate space for larger attendance. The two board members who will be speaking from Western Wisconsin Cares (Tara Johnson (La Crosse County) and Carl Kalberg (Clark County) have been sent a list of likely meeting attendees and their affiliations.

The timing and process for obtaining county sanction for the suggested Board Composition was discussed. At the April 27, 2009 meeting, it may be appropriate to ask participants if they are ready to move forward with their own counties to finalize this issue or whether they need additional information.

Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Directors/managers group will be April 30, 2009, 9:00 at Brown County Human Services