

***DAIL Advisory Board
September 9, 2010
Skylight Conference Room***

Attendees:

Board Members: Jim Coutts, Rachel Cumming, Jennifer Fitzgerald, Harriet Goodwin, Janet Cramer, Susan Gordon,

State Employees: Jackie Rogers, Ellen Malone, Bard Hill, Camille George, Marybeth McCaffrey, David O’Vitt, Lisa Parro, Brendan Hogan

Guests: Jeff Coy, Beth Stern, Nancy Werner, Barb Prine, Michael Sirotkin, Kathleen Demeritt, Katie Holden, Amy Caffry, Joyce Lemire, Ken Gordon, Julie martin, Marie Zura, John Barbour, Michelle Carter, Marlys Waller, Karen Topper, Dixie McFarland, Sue Chase, Peter Cobb, Tracey Chellis, Liz Slayton, Rich Atkinson, Max Barrows, Lynn Bedue, Anne Bakeman, Bart Mair,

Meeting minutes for June were approved, with a typo on page 2 being fixed.

Acting Commissioner Hogan welcomed everyone, and introductions were done.

Updates from Board Members and Guests

- Community of Vermont Elders (COVE) in conjunction with the Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) and Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice (CVHHH) are putting on a caregiver retreat on 10/22, like the one that was held in the Champlain Valley in May. Please share the information and let Susan Gordon know of any individuals who are interested in attending. *(Note: This retreat has since been cancelled due to the lack of participants.)*
- As of September 1st, the information at DAIL showed 22 people (statewide) on the Choices for Care waiting list. There is a lag time with the information as it takes 2-3 months to receive information from the providers. There isn’t a waiting list for Moderate Needs.
 - o Moderate needs information in the quarterly report

- DAIL keeps track of expenditures – look at the information from month to month. In the next few months a decision will be made whether someone can be taken off the list.
- The data shows application vs rejections due to medical needs. Long Term Clinical Coordinators (LTCCC) have clinical certification so details for the data can be seen. The data does not indicate an increase in rejections due to medical needs.
- The process for financial eligibility is being changed, so this may be a discussion in the future.

Acting Commissioner Updates

- Joan Senecal told Brendan to say ‘hello’ to the DAIL Advisory Board for her. She is in the process of taking a mediation class this month.
- Everything is on track with the Choices for Care 1115 Waiver, a 5-year extension with no substantive changes. It is in the ‘clearance process’, which is the final track for signatures. DAIL is involved with weekly phone calls with CMS, and it is anticipated that everything will be approved very soon. The GC waiver is only expected for 3.25 years.
- The ‘big bill’ passed, in addition to the Challenges for Change budget. Targets for next year’s budget have not yet been set. The Federal Government did pass the extension of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which extended Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP - this helps pay for Medicaid program in Vermont). However, the amount passed with no as much as it has been in the past, so this helps the holes in the budget but will not fill the holes.
- Through health care reform, a new office was created for the coordination of Medicare in CMS. Some of the staff in this office has worked with Medicaid, so this is helpful for Vermont and our dual eligibles effort. The Agency of Human Services (AHS) has contracted to potentially apply for a Dual Eligibles waiver (individuals with both Medicaid and Medicare), however there are a lot of hurdles. The contractor is analyzing data from 2004 – 2008 for the cost of Medicaid and Medicare that Vermont serves. Brendan will keep the DAIL Advisory Board updated.

Purpose of the Meeting Today

The purpose of the meeting today is to do a brief walk through of all the Challenges for Change groups with which DAIL is participating, but not necessarily leading. DAIL provides AHS with a biweekly report for the

Challenges for Change group for DAIL. This is the outline that is being used for this meeting. Questions may be asked, however, they will not be answered today. DAIL staff will do their best to get written responses to individuals prior to the next meeting; however, it may take longer to respond to some questions. If somebody thinks of something as they are driving home, they may send their question/comment to Lanora.preedom@ahs.state.vt.us

There will be 3 extended DAIL Advisory Board meetings, and 2 other meetings scheduled for additional discussions. There may be a need to have meetings with subgroups also, such as one with consumers. DAIL staff will do their best to give people notice about what will be on the agenda prior to the meetings.

It is good to have a range of representation at this meeting – providers, consumers, and stake holders. The process to obtain input is open for other suggestions and ideas – there is no one process that will reach everyone.

- Some important people who DAIL may be overlooking is personal care attendants, case managers, and other staff who are in the day-to-day trenches. Each agency has a case management meeting so possibly there may be a way to share information with case managers at that time.
- Some consumers may want to give input, but can not come to the meetings. DAIL is creating a page for Challenges for Change on their website. There was a suggestion to create some type of discussion board, and if there was any way input could be given anonymously, possibly more information may be given.

Please see other attachment for the questions and answers to the September 9th meeting. This information can also be found on the DAIL website at: <http://www.dail.vermont.gov/challenges-for-change>

Acting Commissioner thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and appreciated the engagement and different perspectives that were offered.