

From: [Bascom, June](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: FW: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow
Date: Monday, May 08, 2017 9:14:21 AM
Attachments: [1 - Master Grant Provisions \(5-5-17\) with final comments \(2839921_1\).docx](#)
[2 - HCBS Attachment Notes \(5-5-17\) with rationales \(2840127_1\) \(2\).docx](#)
Importance: High

I'd like to review these with you when we meet this morning.

From: Dragon, Paul
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Bascom, June <June.Bascom@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Burke, Patrick <Patrick.Burke@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Euber, Jim <Jim.Euber@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hurlburt, Laurie <Laurie.Hurlburt@vermont.gov>; Lefebvre, Paula <Paula.Lefebvre@vermont.gov>; Mack, Ellie <Ellie.Mack@vermont.gov>; O'Connell, Tracy E <Tracy.OConnell@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Reed, Frank <frank.reed@vermont.gov>; Singer, Patricia <Patricia.Singer@vermont.gov>; Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Thomas, Cynthia <Cynthia.Thomas@vermont.gov>; Thompson, Shannon <shannon.thompson@vermont.gov>; Trutor, Emily <Emily.Trutor@vermont.gov>
Subject: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow
Importance: High

Good morning all. We received these late Friday evening. Please review and if each department could provide their consolidated comments and get them to Allan and me this afternoon that would be great. Also, we will be readjusting the schedule for tomorrow based on some constraints from VCP. There will most likely not be an afternoon session. Please look for an updated agenda early this afternoon.

Paul

Paul Dragon, Ed.D.
Director of Policy and Program Integration
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Paul.dragon@vermont.gov
Office Line: 802-241-0422
Cell: 802- 585-9188
<http://humanservices.vermont.gov>

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#)
Cc: [O'Neill, Chris](#); [McFadden, Clare](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [George, Camille](#)
Subject: RE: CMS HCBS Milestone Workplan
Date: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 4:34:09 PM
Attachments: [LTSS and HCBS.2017.docx](#)

Hi-

We seem to mean different things when we use the terms 'LTSS' and 'HCBS'.

I have attached my perspective from DAIL for DAIL programs/services, with examples of national uses/meanings of these terms (with links).

Cheers-

Bard

"Nobody knew that health care could be so complicated."

President Donald Trump

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Skaflestad, Shawn

Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 3:11 PM

To: Skaflestad, Shawn; Tierney-Ward, Megan; Courcelle, Andre; Gerstenberger, Roy; Harrigan, Emma; Omland, Laurel; Hill, Bard

Cc: O'Neill, Chris; McFadden, Clare; Hamilton, Kathleen

Subject: CMS HCBS Milestone Workplan

When: Monday, July 10, 2017 3:00 PM-4:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: AHS - WSOC Boxelder 10 OR Dial-In Number: 1-877-273-4202 Conference Room ID: 1262904

Hi All,

This is a meeting to discuss the attached Excel spreadsheet. Rather than having one HCBS workplan like CMS has proposed (also attached) – I am suggesting a separate one for each program. Before we meet – please take some time and review the Excel file – paying special attention to the Topic, Milestone, and what is current written in the CQS/STP about the related topic (reference is listed in the CSQ/STP Page No. column). By the end of our meeting – I would like us to agree on the Milestones and what is currently written in the CQS/STP about the topic – as well as suggested due dates for each milestone.

Please note that a dial in option is available for those unable to attend in person.

Thank you,

Shawn

From: [George, Camille](#)
To: [Kelly, Bill](#); [Hutt, Monica](#); [Euber, Jim](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [McFadden, Clare](#)
Subject: Fw: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow
Date: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 3:54:17 PM
Attachments: [1 - Master Grant Provisions \(5-5-17\) with final comments \(2839921_1\).docx](#)
[2 - HCBS Attachment Notes \(5-5-17\) with rationales \(2840127_1\) \(2\).docx](#)
Importance: High

FYI, am just keeping Bill in the loop as well.

From: Euber, Jim
Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2017 2:55 PM
To: Hutt, Monica; Bascom, June; Gerstenberger, Roy
Cc: Schurr, Stuart; George, Camille; McFadden, Clare
Subject: FW: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow

Monica,

I didn't see a response from Stuart on their proposed language in Attachment B – d of the master grant provisions. They are trying to add language that would require us to pay their admin rates upon new funding (think Equity Fund approvals). As you know we are currently paying 5%. I'm assuming this is something you might have some thoughts on.

Jim

From: Dragon, Paul
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Bascom, June <June.Bascom@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Burke, Patrick <Patrick.Burke@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Euber, Jim <Jim.Euber@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hurlburt, Laurie <Laurie.Hurlburt@vermont.gov>; Lefebvre, Paula <Paula.Lefebvre@vermont.gov>; Mack, Ellie <Ellie.Mack@vermont.gov>; O'Connell, Tracy E <Tracy.OConnell@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Reed, Frank <frank.reed@vermont.gov>; Singer, Patricia <Patricia.Singer@vermont.gov>; Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Thomas, Cynthia <Cynthia.Thomas@vermont.gov>; Thompson, Shannon <shannon.thompson@vermont.gov>; Trutor, Emily <Emily.Trutor@vermont.gov>
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From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Hill, Bard](#)
Subject: RE: CMS HCBS Milestone Workplan
Date: Thursday, July 20, 2017 1:20:23 PM
Attachments: [VT Milestone Template July 20, 2017.docx](#)

Thanks for getting together to discuss the milestone template. I am attaching a modified version to this email. Please review and let me know if the dates still make sense across all programs. Keep in mind that you can insert more aggressive dates into your individual timelines.

I look forward to hearing your feedback.

Shawn

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan; Courcelle, Andre; Gerstenberger, Roy; Harrigan, Emma; Omland, Laurel; Hill, Bard
Subject: CMS HCBS Milestone Workplan
When: Monday, July 10, 2017 3:00 PM-4:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: AHS - WSOC Boxelder 10 OR Dial-In Number: 1-877-273-4202 Conference Room ID: 1262904

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Thank you,

Shawn

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Clark, Bill](#); [McFadden, Clare](#)
Cc: [Hickman, Selina](#); [Carmichael, Erin](#)
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses
Date: Monday, July 24, 2017 5:17:22 PM
Attachments: [CQS Public Hearing Comments with draft State Responses July 24 2017.bh.docx](#)

Hi-
Not sure if the additions (using track changes) are helpful...
Thanks Shawn.
Bard

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Hi All,

As you may recall, a formal public hearing for the attached Comprehensive Quality Strategy (CQS)/State Transition Plan (STP) was held on Thursday, April 21, 2017 from 1pm - 2pm at the Waterbury State Office Complex (WSOC). While no individuals from the community attended the hearing – I did receive three pieces of written feedback during the public comment period. I have attached a Word file that contains a summary of the public comments from these documents – along with draft State responses. As you will notice – not all comments have responses.

I am asking that you edit my draft responses – as well as suggest language for those comments w/o responses - by cob this Friday, July 28th. Once this document is complete – I will modify the CQS/STP accordingly – and submit it to CMS for review. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Shawn

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Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).
(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: FW: input from hearings?
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:46:34 PM
Attachments: [Response to Public Comment all comments 1.3.17.docx](#)

As Camille is asking this, should part of the process be a review by Monica? Or would be just bring her specific sections that are controversial for her input? Or what?

My plan was to get this summarized version of this document done.
Review the responses to comments and finalize with our team and legal.
Based on the responses to comments, do revisions to the regulations.
Have that reviewed by our team and legal and anyone else you think we should involve.
Finalize and handoff to Stuart for filing before I leave for Costa Rica on 2/9.

Once it is filed, we should engage our stakeholders again, but more pointedly this time, to let people know that they have been filed and are posted on our website and how they can testify with LCAR.

Let me know if there are additional steps I need to take.

From: George, Camille
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:29 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>; Hutt, Monica <Monica.Hutt@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: input from hearings?

This is great, Clare, thanks. I'm also sharing with Monica. I'm interested to see what the input was. Do you have a process ironed out for finalizing?

Camille George, Deputy Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner's Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401 or 802.241.0359
E-mail: camille.george@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a

disability - with dignity, respect and independence.

From: McFadden, Clare

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:24 PM

To: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>

Subject: RE: input from hearings?

Hi Camille- I have created a document in which I have compiled all the comments, both from the hearings and those submitted in writing. I am working on creating a summary of the comments and will be meeting next Tuesday with our DS workgroup who have been involved in the regs and legal to review what our responses will be. We will definitely be making changes, but not sure yet the extent. Attached is the document with all the comments. Do you want to be kept in the loop or weigh in on anything?

From: George, Camille

Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:41 PM

To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>; Parro, Lisa <Lisa.Parro@vermont.gov>

Subject: input from hearings?

Hi – You may not have put this together yet, but I’m wondering what the input has been around the DS regs? Do you have any notes from the hearings or other info you can share? Am interested to know if you anticipate any significant changes from what is proposed. Thanks.

Camille George, Deputy Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner’s Office
HC 2 South
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Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401 or 802.241.0359
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From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [Hamilton, Kathleen](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps
Date: Monday, June 26, 2017 11:12:41 AM
Attachments: [DDS HCBS Survey Results June 26, 2017.csv](#)

Hi Roy,

The DDS HCBS provider survey results are attached. As you can see – there were 45 total survey responses from 17 DDS providers. The table below shows the setting types with responses for each provider.

	PROVIDER	STAFFED LIVING	SHARED LIVING	GROUP LIVING	GCS	TOTAL
	CAP	1	1	1	1	4
	CCS		1			1
	CSAC	1	1	1		3
	FAMILIES FIRST	1	1	1	1	4
	FORD FOUNDATION		1			1
	GMSS		1			1
	HCHS	1	1	4	1	7
	HCRS		1			1
	HEARTBEET		1			1
	LCMH		1			1
	LSI		1			1
	NCSS	1	1		1	3
	NKHS	1	1	1		3
	SCC	1	1			2
	UCS		1	1	2	4
	UVS		1	1		2
	WCMH	3	1	1	1	6
TOTAL	17	10	17	11	7	45

I have copied Kathy – to make sure that SG captured all of data for the providers and setting types that she entered.

Please let me know if you would like me to set up some time for you and your quality team to review the attached data.

Best,

Shawn

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hello Shawn,

Please send me information on how we can view the survey results data. This will help us prepare for the next meeting as we craft our approach to validation.

RG

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:03 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>
Cc: Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Subject: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hi All,

Below was the agenda for today's meeting. As you are probably aware, we received an informational bulletin (attached) from CMS on May 9th that changed 3/17/19 as the deadline for full compliance with the new federal regulations – to the deadline for final approval of the CQS/STP. 3/17/2022 becomes the new date to demonstrate full compliance. This gives us a bit more time to complete our provider assessments, validation activities, and document any corrective action plans. In addition, we get a bit more time to think about how ongoing monitoring and compliance fits in with our current practice.

This item segues nicely into the next – as we need to develop a work plan to help us get from current state to final approval. CMS has proposed a set of milestones and end dates for this work (attached). The task at hand is for us to agree on the milestones and propose realistic end dates. Please take some time to do this between now and next meeting. We have some time after the 2019 deadline to worry about developing a full compliance work plan.

Next, I wanted to share the HCBS provider survey response rates with you and determine next steps.

	COMPLETE	PARTIAL	NOT STARTED	NEXT STEPS

CFC	11 (26%)	8	24	
TBI	5 (45%)	1	5	
DS	17 (100%)	0	0	Set up meeting with QM staff.
CRT	2 (20%)	0	8	

As you can see, DS providers have completed 100% of their self-assessments. Great work Roy and Kathleen! My anticipated next step for them would be to set up a meeting with their QM folks to share individual provider responses – and develop a template to document any necessary corrective action plans. As far as the other programs are concerned – please let me know how I can help encourage additional providers to respond.

Finally, I was going to let you know about the status of Vermont's geographic exception request – and discuss with you the current way Case Management and HCBS services are provided for each program in each of the geographic regions of the state. I wanted to have a conversation with you folks – before proposing a draft response to CMS.

Agenda

June 12, 2017

- 1. CMS Memo May 9, 2017*
- 2. CMS Proposed Milestones and End Dates*
- 3. HCBS Provider Survey – update*
- 4. CMS Follow Up – case management conflict of interest issue*

Thank you,

Shawn

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [AHS - DAHL Management Team](#)
Cc: [McFadden, Clare](#); [Lane, Sara](#); [O'Neill, Chris](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Smith-Dieng, Angela](#); [Smith, James](#); [Leavitt, Suzanne](#); [Cota, Pamela](#)
Subject: ANCOR workforce report
Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2017 9:35:35 AM
Attachments: [Workforce White Paper - Final - hyperlinked version.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.txt](#)

Ltss and hcbs workforce challenges are getting increased attention across populations and settings. Here is one example from the ID/DD perspective:

<https://cqcengage.com/ancor/file/ZuL1zlyZ3mE/Workforce%20White%20Paper%20-%20Final%20-%20hyperlinked%20version.pdf>

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Hill, Bard](#); [Clark, Bill](#)
Cc: [Hickman, Selina](#); [Carmichael, Erin](#)
Subject: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses
Date: Monday, July 24, 2017 3:07:04 PM
Attachments: [VT GC CQS March 24, 2017 Public Posting Final.pdf](#)
[CQS Public Hearing Comments with draft State Responses July 24, 2017.docx](#)

Hi All,

As you may recall, a formal public hearing for the attached Comprehensive Quality Strategy (CQS)/State Transition Plan (STP) was held on Thursday, April 21, 2017 from 1pm - 2pm at the Waterbury State Office Complex (WSOC). While no individuals from the community attended the hearing – I did receive three pieces of written feedback during the public comment period. I have attached a Word file that contains a summary of the public comments from these documents – along with draft State responses. As you will notice – not all comments have responses.

I am asking that you edit my draft responses – as well as suggest language for those comments w/o responses - by cob this Friday, July 28th. Once this document is complete – I will modify the CQS/STP accordingly – and submit it to CMS for review. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Shawn

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Cc: [Clark, Bill](#)
Subject: DAIL IGA DRAFT 4.27.17.bh summary.docx
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 6:03:08 PM
Attachments: [DAIL IGA DRAFT 4.27.17.bh summary.docx](#)

Hi-

I have attached the current draft of the DAIL/DVHA intragovernmental agreement (aka IGA), with a table at the front listing those items that I believe merit your specific attention.

I note that Bill scheduled an initial meeting to review this document with Stuart, Megan and I on May 5.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns.

Cheers-
Bard

*"Nobody knew that health care could be so complicated."
President Donald Trump*

Bard Hill

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From: Gerstenberger, Roy
To: [AHS - DAIL DDSD Team](#)
Subject: DDSD Team Meeting - Tuesday - Modified Time
Date: Friday, May 19, 2017 1:12:46 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Vermont HCBS Plan Provider Questions.docx](#)

Hello Everyone,

We will be meeting from 9:00 – 12:00 on Tuesday. One item is review and feedback on the attached draft of guidance for providers regarding the HCBS rules transition. Please read.

ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director

Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: lisa.parro@vermont.gov
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive, HC 2 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell



<https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

From: Kathy Hamilton
To: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Cc: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: Draft DS Survey Tool
Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 10:42:13 AM
Attachments: [DS Self-Assessment Survey - Draft 1-3-17.doc](#)

Shawn and Andre: As requested yesterday, attached you will find the most recent draft of the DS Survey Tool. You'll notice that we shortened the intro as well, leaving the pertinent info.

Roy: In addition to the other edits I made from the last meeting, I added a statement allowing agencies who have more than one group home to complete only one, submitting all names and addresses as they do for home providers, providing the answers are all the same across the homes.

Let me know if you have any questions. Kathy

From: Kathy Hamilton
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: DS Survey Tool
Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 4:53:13 PM
Attachments: [DS Self-Assessment Survey - Final 3-14-17.doc](#)

Roy: Attached is the final Survey Tool for DS. I added some to the instructions, as it didn't seem like enough. I will send Shawn the spreadsheet with the DS contacts as soon as I receive the contact info for Ray Hathaway. I'll cc you a copy of it as well. Once the survey goes out, I can connect with Tammi to work out the best way to get the completed forms from her. I left in TBI and Choices for Care. Since we're inputting into the original tool, it should work.

What would be helpful to include in your email to the DS contacts:

*It would be good to remind them that even if they have the resources to complete on-line, to do the hardcopy. Since the questions are worded differently, it will confuse them to enter on-line. AND..... many of the questions are already answered for them!

*Although they have until the end of the month, it would be helpful to get them done as soon as possible - hopefully avoiding my getting them all at once.

*Even though it's in the instructions, you may want to remind them that only one form will be completed for all SL homes, but we need to have the addresses. Probably a reminder as well that all service locations need to be accounted for.

I can't think of anything else on my end. Let me know if you have any questions.
Kathy

From: Tierney-Ward, Megan
To: Suzanne Santarcangelo; Skaflestad, Shawn; Hill, Bard; Courcelle, Andre; Gerstenberger, Roy
Subject: Evaluation measures & NCI
Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 3:30:12 PM
Attachments: ASD Scorecard 12.7.16.docx
 2015-2016 NCI-AD CS full in-person section C.pdf
 ASD NCI ACS to NCI-AD ACS direct overlap crosswalk.pdf
Importance: High

Hi,

I know we are somewhat pressed for time so I thought I'd send this to all of us. Here are my thoughts.

I've attached the NCI cross walk for DS/AD which is not super helpful. I've also attached our current Division Scorecard summary which includes measures for Choices for Care and TBI.

My notes from previous NCI prep discussions last year confirm our interest in employment, rebalancing institutional care, choice/control, satisfaction with setting. There is also mention of quality of life. Note that we also have an internal measure that includes the timeframe for clinical eligibility.

In general, I think the areas of focus should be:

1. Employment
2. Choice and control (setting/services)
3. Health/Wellness
4. Access to services (in home AND community)

Current Scorecard CFC & TBI – See attached ASD summary document.

CFC High/Highest

of people enrolled in High/Highest
% of people enrolled in nursing facility, Target: <46%
% of clinical eligibility determinations pending more than 30 days, Target: <5%
% of people who say choice & control in planning personal care services was excellent or good, Target: 90%
% of people receiving personal care say the degree that services met their daily needs was excellent or good, Target: 90%

CFC Mod Needs

of people enrolled in Moderate Needs
Provider wait list total #
% of people who say choice & control in planning services was excellent or good, Target: 90%

TBI

of people enrolled in TBI (point in time)
% of people employed while in the rehab program
% of people who graduated from rehab

% of people transitioned to CFC or TBI long term

Some relevant NCI questions for Aging & Disabilities: (CFC/TBI implement 2017 for 2018 data)

In general, do you like where you are living right now?

Would you prefer to live somewhere else? *We are not talking about geography, but rather the kind of place you'd like to live in.*

Can you choose or change what kind of services you get and determine how often and when you get them?

Do you feel in control of your life?

Do you have a job?

Would you like a job?

Do you always get enough assistance with your everyday activities when you need it?

Are you able to do things you enjoy outside of your home when and with whom you want to?

How would you describe your overall health?

Roy, Bard and Andre, how does this compare to your thoughts?

Megan Tierney-Ward

Adult Services Division Director

NEW ASD Website: <http://asd.vermont.gov/>

Department of Disabilities, Aging & Independent Living

Adult Services Division

280 State Drive, HC 2 South

Waterbury, VT 05671-0270

Main Phone: (802) 241-0294

Direct Line: (802) 241-0308

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megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov

NOTE: If you need immediate assistance and are unable to reach me, please contact Colleen Forkas at colleen.forkas@vermont.gov. Thank you.

NEED ASSISTANCE?

Contact your local Aging & Disabilities Resource Connection partner:

- Vermont 211: Dial 211
- Senior Helpline: 1-800-642-5119 (for people 60 and older)
- VT Center for Independent Living: 1-800-639-1522 (for people under 60)
- Brain Injury Association of VT: 1-877-856-1772

From: [George, Camille](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [McFadden, Clare](#); [Hutt, Monica](#)
Subject: FW: input from hearings?
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:28:44 PM
Attachments: [Response to Public Comment all comments 1.3.17.docx](#)

This is great, Clare, thanks. I'm also sharing with Monica. I'm interested to see what the input was. Do you have a process ironed out for finalizing?

Camille George, Deputy Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner's Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401 or 802.241.0359
E-mail: camille.george@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:24 PM
To: [George, Camille](#) <Camille.George@vermont.gov>; [Gerstenberger, Roy](#) <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: input from hearings?

Hi Camille- I have created a document in which I have compiled all the comments, both from the hearings and those submitted in writing. I am working on creating a summary of the comments and will be meeting next Tuesday with our DS workgroup who have been involved in the regs and legal to review what our responses will be. We will definitely be making changes, but not sure yet the extent. Attached is the document with all the comments. Do you want to be kept in the loop or weigh in on anything?

From: [George, Camille](#)
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:41 PM
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#) <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; [McFadden, Clare](#) <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>; [Parro, Lisa](#) <Lisa.Parro@vermont.gov>
Subject: input from hearings?

Hi – You may not have put this together yet, but I’m wondering what the input has been around the DS regs? Do you have any notes from the hearings or other info you can share? Am interested to know if you anticipate any significant changes from what is proposed. Thanks.

Camille George, Deputy Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner’s Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401 or 802.241.0359
E-mail: camille.george@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [Fuoco, Danielle](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)
Cc: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: FW: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 11:17:53 AM
Attachments: [2016_waiver_policy_Master.docx](#)
[image001.png](#)

Hi-

A challenge in responding to #9 and #12 below is the structure of the survey, which appears to lump all GC specialized programs together. Items #9 and #12 might best be addressed separately by each discrete program, which appears to be your request- in effect substituting the term 'GC specialized program' for the term 'waiver' in #9, and responding by program for #12. The programs are:

- Choices for Care (Megan)
- Developmental Disability Services (Roy)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (Megan)
- *Community Rehabilitation and Treatment*
- *Children's Mental Health*

Megan would you please respond to #9 and #12 separately for CFC and TBI? I believe that Roy has responded re DDS.



12. HCBS Setting Rules Transition

	Yes	How Many?	Residential or Non-Residential?
Has state identified any settings that do not meet the new HCBS settings requirements and will need to be modified to continue receiving payments for Medicaid HCBS?			
Has state identified any settings that cannot meet the new HCBS settings requirements and will require beneficiaries to be moved or relocated ?			
Does state have any settings that are presumed to be institutional in nature for which state will submit evidence to CMS to meet the heightened scrutiny process?			
Has state identified any settings that may isolate beneficiaries from the broader community (such as disability-specific, provider-owned, or congregate settings)?			
Does state anticipate that these settings will continue to be eligible to be funded as Medicaid HCBS providers under the new rules (possibly with modified practices)?			
Does state anticipate having to change any state rules or policies as part of the transition to the new HCBS settings rules?			

Thanks!

Bard

"Nobody knew that health care could be so complicated."
President Donald Trump

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov
landline 802.241.0376
mobile 802.760.0852

From: Fuoco, Danielle
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Here you go! I really appreciate your assistance with this. These 3 surveys-in-one span numerous departments at the Agency and have been a bit challenging to coordinate.

Dani Fuoco, Program Consultant
AHS Medicaid Policy Unit
(802) 585-4265

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 10:28 AM
To: Fuoco, Danielle <Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Hi
Please (re?)forward the doc w #9 and #12 and I'll confirm w the program leads...
Bard

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 13, 2017, at 9:44 AM, Fuoco, Danielle <Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov> wrote:

Hi Bard,

The totals have not been addressed – I was going to email you and Dale B. separately about those for the DAIL programs. I had already emailed Dale about the PCS data yesterday (you were copied).

Regarding **Question 12** – It sounds like DDS (as well as the DMH programs) are not able to respond to these questions at this point. I suspect the same is true for CFC and TBI but confirmation is appreciated.

Regarding **Question 9** – Shawn already reviewed this and said yes, there are quality measures but each program needs to provide a response as it varies. More information from each program is still needed.

There is an Ombudsman for consumer issues outside of state government – that is the role of the LTC Ombudsman and the Office of the Health Care Advocate at Legal Aid.

Thank you for your continued input!

Dani Fuoco, Program Consultant
AHS Medicaid Policy Unit
(802) 585-4265

From: Hill, Bard

Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 8:59 AM

To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Fuoco, Danielle <Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>

Cc: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>

Subject: RE: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Hi-

I suspect that the totals have been addressed by now- please let me know if that is not the case. Dani do you have what you need from DAIL for #9 and #12 (for Choices for Care, Developmental Disability Services, and Traumatic Brain Injury)?

Cheers-
Bard

The emphasis should be on why we do a job.

W. Edwards Deming

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

From: Gerstenberger, Roy

Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 8:47 AM

To: Fuoco, Danielle <Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>

Cc: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Hello Danielle,

I've copied Bard Hill as he may be able to offer the totals for DAIL divisions. We can also get you the DAIL Annual Report that includes numbers for divisions.

Developmental Services does not have an Ombudsman role. We participate in the National Core Indicators project and track system outcomes with that methodology.

Question #12 relates to our state HCBS Transition Plan and asks for conclusions regarding a phase of the plan that Vermont has not reached as of this date. Therefore, the answer to all of the questions would be "No". I've copied Shawn Skaflestad as he has the AHS Comprehensive Quality Strategy Plan.

Roy Gerstenberger

From: Fuoco, Danielle

Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:09 PM

To: Tierney-Ward, Megan; Gerstenberger, Roy; Harrigan, Emma; Omland, Laurel; Courcelle, Andre

Subject: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Hello,

I coordinate external surveys on Medicaid for AHS and am hoping to get your input for each of your respective programs on a few specific questions on a survey from the Kaiser Family Foundation. The scope of the attached survey is all of the HCBS programs under our 1115 Global Commitment to Health Demonstration waiver. Programs included are:

- Choices for Care
- Developmental Disability Services
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Community Rehabilitation and Treatment
- Children's Mental Health

I am specifically requesting your input on **Question # 9 – *Quality Measures*** and **Question #12 – *HCBS Setting Rules Transition***.

Please respond to me directly by the end of this week (COB Friday, 6/16).

Also, please let me know if you have any questions!

Thank you for your assistance.

Dani Fuoco, MPA

Program Consultant

Medicaid Policy Unit

Agency of Human Services

280 State Drive, Center Building

Waterbury, Vermont 05671-1000

[P] (802) 585-4265

[F] (802) 241-0958

Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Cc: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
Subject: FW: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17
Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 1:40:52 PM
Attachments: [MCE OC Mtg agenda 1 20 17.docx](#)

Hi-

This email refers to related MCE quality committee activities. I propose that we pursue use of the CAHPS HCBS survey module across CFC, TBI, and DDS special programs, and reference this survey in the evaluation plan with an emphasis on the three bolded domains below as quality measures:

“The Home and Community-Based Services Survey must be administered in person or by telephone by an interviewer. It consists of 69 core items that ask beneficiaries to report on their experiences with the following:

•**Getting needed services.**

- Communication with providers.
- Case managers.

•**Choice of services.**

- Medical transportation.
- Personal safety.

•**Community inclusion and empowerment.**

A set of supplemental items ask about experience with employment services.”

<https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hcbs/index.html>

Comments/concerns?

Cheers

Bard

Eschew surplusage.

Samuel Clemens

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

From: Carmichael, Erin

Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 12:53 PM

To: Beck, Stephanie <Stephanie.Beck@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle

<Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>; Dalley, Pam

<Pam.Dalley@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard

<Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Hoffman, Sandi <Sandi.Hoffman@vermont.gov>; Larkin, Robert

<Robert.Larkin@vermont.gov>; Ochs, Walter <Walter.Ochs@vermont.gov>; Ross, Jeffrey

<Jeffrey.Ross@vermont.gov>; Simpatico, Tom <Tom.Simpatico@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>

Cc: Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>

Subject: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

Hi all,

I'm attaching the agenda for our MCE Quality Committee meeting next Friday the 20th either by phone or in person in the Hawthorn room in Waterbury (note room change).

I've set aside the largest hunk of time on the agenda to discuss CAHPS survey planning and implementation. CAHPS is a large body of surveys that ask consumers and patients to report on their experiences with health care. The CAHPS survey tools are widely used, provide a standard measurement tool and comparative results. This is a timely discussion, as other groups around the Agency are currently reviewing how we monitor and report out on experience of care. Here are the items (taken from our agenda) that I've suggested we focus on:

- *Provide an overview of the CAHPS survey modules*
- *Discuss how different Departments within AHS are currently using, or have plans to use, any of these survey modules*
- *Discuss existing regulatory requirements, including the tool used and frequency, for monitoring experience of care for the services we provide.*
- *Where do opportunities exist for collaboration? How do we use our results now? How could we use results in the future?*
- *Do we have recommendations that we could push up to wider GC Evaluation group and/or Comprehensive Quality Strategy re: particular domains or measures that should be monitored?*

I am also including links here to some CAHPS reading you can do ahead of time. Please familiarize yourself with the topic and come with questions and ideas:

General link: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/index.html>

Health Plan survey info: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hp/index.html>

Home and Community Based Services: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hcbs/index.html>

Patient Centered Medical Home: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/item-sets/PCMH/index.html>

Thanks and have a great long weekend,
Erin

Erin Carmichael | Quality Improvement Administrator

Department of Vermont Health Access

: 280 State Drive, NOB 1 South

Waterbury, VT 05671

: 802-241-0388

: Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov

From: [Euber, Jim](#)
To: [Hutt, Monica](#); [Bascom, June](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [Schurr, Stuart](#); [George, Camille](#); [McFadden, Clare](#)
Subject: FW: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow
Date: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 2:55:24 PM
Attachments: [1 - Master Grant Provisions \(5-5-17\) with final comments \(2839921_1\).docx](#)
[2 - HCBS Attachment Notes \(5-5-17\) with rationales \(2840127_1\) \(2\).docx](#)
Importance: High

Monica,

I didn't see a response from Stuart on their proposed language in Attachment B – d of the master grant provisions. They are trying to add language that would require us to pay their admin rates upon new funding (think Equity Fund approvals). As you know we are currently paying 5%. I'm assuming this is something you might have some thoughts on.

Jim

From: Dragon, Paul
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Bascom, June <June.Bascom@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Burke, Patrick <Patrick.Burke@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Euber, Jim <Jim.Euber@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hurlburt, Laurie <Laurie.Hurlburt@vermont.gov>; Lefebvre, Paula <Paula.Lefebvre@vermont.gov>; Mack, Ellie <Ellie.Mack@vermont.gov>; O'Connell, Tracy E <Tracy.OConnell@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Reed, Frank <frank.reed@vermont.gov>; Singer, Patricia <Patricia.Singer@vermont.gov>; Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Thomas, Cynthia <Cynthia.Thomas@vermont.gov>; Thompson, Shannon <shannon.thompson@vermont.gov>; Trutor, Emily <Emily.Trutor@vermont.gov>
Subject: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow
Importance: High

Good morning all. We received these late Friday evening. Please review and if each department could provide their consolidated comments and get them to Allan and me this afternoon that would be great. Also, we will be readjusting the schedule for tomorrow based on some constraints from VCP. There will most likely not be an afternoon session. Please look for an updated agenda early this afternoon.

Paul

Paul Dragon, Ed.D.
Director of Policy and Program Integration
Agency of Human Services

280 State Drive

Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Paul.dragon@vermont.gov

Office Line: 802-241-0422

Cell: 802- 585-9188

<http://humanservices.vermont.gov>

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Reed, Frank](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Clark, Bill](#)
Subject: FW: VT Milestone Template
Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 11:21:54 AM
Attachments: [VT Milestone Template.docx](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

Hi All – please see the attached draft HCBS implementation milestone template put together by CMS. I am going to look for some time for us to get together and discuss – but in the meantime please feel free to forward any comments, concerns, and/or questions.

Thank you,

Shawn

From: Hickman, Selina
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 8:26 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: Fwd: VT Milestone Template

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "MacKenzie, Michele (CMS/CMCS)" <Michele.MacKenzie@cms.hhs.gov>
Date: April 18, 2017 at 7:54:02 AM EDT
To: "Hickman, Selina" <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>
Cc: "Crystal, Frances C. (CMS/CMCS)" <Frances.Crystal@cms.hhs.gov>, "Loehr, Jessica S. (CMS/CMCS)" <Jessica.Loehr@cms.hhs.gov>, "Susan Cahn (cahn-susan@norc.org)" <cahn-susan@norc.org>
Subject: VT Milestone Template

Good morning, Selina;

Attached please find the milestone template that was completed with milestones gleaned from your STP. Please review and revise as appropriate and return to me. We will then have the milestones uploaded into the Liberty system. The SOTA call that will be scheduled in May will provide instruction regarding how to edit and track milestones in the Liberty system. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. You can also access the State User Guide on the Liberty system for assistance.

Thank you,

Michele

Michele MacKenzie
Division of Long Term Services and Supports
Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
michele.mackenzie@cms.hhs.gov
(p) 410.786.5929

From: Hamilton, Kathleen
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](mailto:Gerstenberger.Roy)
Subject: Fwd: No Meeting on Monday - Next Steps
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:21:03 PM
Attachments: [Vermont CQS edits December 21, 2016.docx](#)

Hi Roy. Happy New Year! Although the attached document from Shawn isn't really within the scope of what you hired me for, I would caution about using negative words such as Corrective Action Plan, remedial..... We were clear to say that it wasn't an audit, but an assessment to determine what we needed to do to come into compliance with the new Regs. Since these are new, agencies would of course not be in compliance with all of it. I think agencies will have a negative feeling/response to a Corrective Action Plan. Just my 2 cents.....

I have made all of the changes to the survey we discussed at the last meeting, and received the feedback from Chris on Supervised Living and Staffed Living (no to Supervised and only yes to Staffed Apt's if they are under staff control, such as for Act 248 folks.) You were going to look into questions 3.11 and 3.12 to see if we needed to include them. Not sure if you have had time, with the holidays.

I'll wait to hear from you on how you want to proceed with the survey. I will attend the 3:30 meeting on Monday through conference call. Kathy

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Skaflestad, Shawn" <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Date: Wed, Dec 21, 2016 at 1:41 PM -0500
Subject: RE: No Meeting on Monday - Next Steps
To: "Tierney-Ward, Megan" <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>, "Gerstenberger, Roy" <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>, "Courcelle, Andre" <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>, "Harrigan, Emma" <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>, "Omland, Laurel" <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>, "Hawes, Emily" <Emily.Hawes@vermont.gov>, "Clark, Bill" <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>, "Hamilton, Kathleen" <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>
Cc: "Hickman, Selina" <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>

Hi All,

I am attaching a document that contains current CQS language that addresses the following STP elements:

- <!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Site Specific Settings Assessment (p1)
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Site Specific Settings Validation Plan (p2)
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Remediation Strategies (for systemic assessment, site-specific provider assessment, and validation activities) (p3-4)
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Heightened Scrutiny Plan and Process (p5)
- <!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Relocation Plan and Process (p6)

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Ongoing Monitoring & Compliance Plan and Process (p7-8)

At the bottom of each section, I have also included a suggestion for additional text.

Please review the document and determine if the current or suggested text makes sense for your program. Make any modifications to the language using tracked changes. Please forward me you edits ahead of our next implementation team meeting on **Monday, January 9th, 2017**. I hope this approach makes your review of these sections in the CQS a little less painful.

If I don't speak with you before Thursday – have great holiday season!

Best,

Shawn

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.
Quality Improvement Manager
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive Center Building
3rd Floor – E310-1
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Office: (802) 241-0961
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Fax: 802-241-0450

Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).
(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: Skaflestad, Shawn

Sent: Friday, December 09, 2016 4:05 PM

To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Hawes, Emily <Emily.Hawes@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>

Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>

Subject: No Meeting on Monday - Next Steps

Hi Everyone,

I cancelled our meeting on Monday – but I am hoping that you could use this time to look over the most recent versions of the site specific settings assessment and consumer validation surveys. The DAIL tools are attached to this message. This version contains all of the edits that folks provided during our October meeting. Changes are highlighted using the 'track change' function. Please let

me know if the edits reflect your notes. Also please review PHPG's follow-up to 3 issues that were raised during our October review below – and let me know your thoughts. DMH folks have received their assessment/survey via a separate email directly from PHPG – but the review/feedback request is identical.

VT Rental Law - Question 6.2 – The HCBS rule refers to the living unit or dwelling as a specific physical space that can be owned, rented or occupied under a legally enforceable agreement (e.g., rental lease, admissions agreement, home share contract, etc.) and at a minimum the HCBS enrollee must have the same protections from eviction as others under the tenant/landlord laws of the State or municipality. Thus the reference to Vermont's 'Residential Rental Agreement' law. The HCBS rule also requires that "for settings in which landlord tenant laws do not apply, the State must assure that a lease, admission or residency agreement or other form of written agreement will be in place and that the document provides protections that address evictions and appeals that are comparable to those provided under the jurisdictions landlord tenant law". An option to clarify the question is to include a link to the law as reference (see example below).

6.2 Does the setting offer the same responsibilities and protections from eviction for Medicaid HCBS members as for all tenants under Vermont's Residential Rental Agreement law? ([Click Here for 9 V.S.A. Chp 137 §4467](#))

Private Unit v Privacy - Question 6.10 – The rule requires that HCBS enrollees have a choice of settings 'including the option of a private unit in a residential facility' – thus question 6.10 is a separate construct from the previous questions in this section that are related to having privacy in your living situation regardless of setting. Proposed edit is below:

6.10 Do residents have the option of choosing a private unit (e.g., bedroom, apartment or assisted living unit), as appropriate?

Survey Methodology- Location versus Setting Type: I have reviewed a sample of approved transition plans from 4 states posted on the CMS website. CMS acknowledges the use of sampling techniques for consumer assessments and validation methodologies, however when referring to the provider self-assessment process, CMS commonly uses the phrase "site-specific assessment". A quick review of CMS approval letters for these states supports a location specific methodology. For example: CMS Delaware feedback indicates that the state must ensure provider assessments for "every site where services are offered"; CMS Idaho feedback regarding Certified Family Homes (e.g., host family settings) indicates that the state "needs to assure that they are including an approach to assessing and validating all homes for compliance". There are a total of 14 approved plans posted as of today, if you would like us to review additional plans or create a formal written analysis let me know. Looks as though we can sample during validation – but not during the provider assessments.

Finally - looking over my notes from last month – I also need to send you the following sections of the CQS/STP for your program-specific edits:

- *Site Specific Settings Assessment
- *Site Specific Settings Validation Plan
- *Relocation Plan and Process
- *Heightened Scrutiny Plan and Process
- *Ongoing Monitoring & Compliance Plan and Process

I will be sure to get this to you when I am back in the office on Tuesday. Enjoy the weekend!

Shawn

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.
Quality Improvement Manager
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive Center Building
3rd Floor – E310-1
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Office: (802) 241-0961
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410
Fax: 802-241-0450

Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).
(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#)
Cc: [Clark, Bill](#)
Subject: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps
Date: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:03:27 PM
Attachments: [VT Milestone Template.docx](#)
[CMCS Informational Bulletin new HCBS rules May 9, 2017.pdf](#)

Hi All,

Below was the agenda for today's meeting. As you are probably aware, we received an informational bulletin (attached) from CMS on May 9th that changed 3/17/19 as the deadline for full compliance with the new federal regulations – to the deadline for final approval of the CQS/STP. 3/17/2022 becomes the new date to demonstrate full compliance. This gives us a bit more time to complete our provider assessments, validation activities, and document any corrective action plans. In addition, we get a bit more time to think about how ongoing monitoring and compliance fits in with our current practice.

This item segues nicely into the next – as we need to develop a work plan to help us get from current state to final approval. CMS has proposed a set of milestones and end dates for this work (attached). The task at hand is for us to agree on the milestones and propose realistic end dates. Please take some time to do this between now and next meeting. We have some time after the 2019 deadline to worry about developing a full compliance work plan.

Next, I wanted to share the HCBS provider survey response rates with you and determine next steps.

	COMPLETE	PARTIAL	NOT STARTED	NEXT STEPS
CFC	11 (26%)	8	24	
TBI	5 (45%)	1	5	
DS	17 (100%)	0	0	Set up meeting with QM staff.
CRT	2 (20%)	0	8	

As you can see, DS providers have completed 100% of their self-assessments. Great work Roy and Kathleen! My anticipated next step for them would be to set up a meeting with their QM folks to share individual provider responses – and develop a template to document any necessary corrective action plans. As far as the other programs are concerned – please let me know how I can help encourage additional providers to respond.

Finally, I was going to let you know about the status of Vermont's geographic exception request – and discuss with you the current way Case Management and HCBS services are provided for each program in each of the geographic regions of the state. I wanted to have a conversation with you folks – before proposing a draft response to CMS.

Agenda
June 12, 2017

1. *CMS Memo May 9, 2017*
2. *CMS Proposed Milestones and End Dates*
3. *HCBS Provider Survey – update*
4. *CMS Follow Up – case management conflict of interest issue*

Thank you,

Shawn

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Hutt, Monica](#); [Schurr, Stuart](#)
Cc: [George, Camille](#)
Subject: latest version of DD regs and response to comments
Date: Friday, February 03, 2017 3:36:11 PM
Attachments: [Response to Public Comment summarized 1.3.17V.3.docx](#)
[DDAct_Regulations2017LCARdraft.docx](#)

Hi folks- In advance of our meeting next Tuesday, I am sending you the latest version of our response to the comments on the proposed DD regulations. Monica- you will see some comments in the right column which are some areas where we would like your input. Also attached in the latest version of the regulations. This represents what we would propose to file with LCAR, which includes the changes we made based on the comments received. We will be making some final edits and Stuart and Alice are still working on Section 8 which is the grievance and appeals section.

FYI Camille – as I know you were interested.

Please note that my contact information has changed.

Clare McFadden

Assistant Director
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0302
802-585-5396 cell
Clare.mcfadden@vermont.gov

From: [Parro, Lisa](#)
To: [Guidry, Kim](#)
Cc: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [McFadden, Clare](#); [Schurr, Stuart](#); [Kennedy, Alice](#)
Subject: Posting for DAIL website
Date: Friday, August 04, 2017 12:49:50 PM
Attachments: [SSCP draft FY18-20 for posting.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Kim,

Please post the draft of the Vermont System of Care Plan on the DAIL website with the blurb below. It is important this gets posted today, to give stakeholders time to review.

(FYI – It is being posted on the DAIL website because of the public hearing. Once approved, the plan will be posted on the DDSD website.)

Thank you!

For DAIL website:

New Draft Vermont System of Care Plan for Developmental Disabilities Services for FY18-20

In accordance with the Developmental Disabilities Act of 1996, the Developmental Disabilities Services Division has drafted an update for the System of Care Plan for Developmental Disabilities Services for fiscal years 2018-2020, with an effective date of October 1, 2017. This plan outlines how funds appropriated by the Legislature are to be used to support Vermonters with developmental disabilities and their families.

There will be a **public hearing** on the draft plan on August 17, 2017 from 10am-12:30pm at the Comfort Inn in Berlin, VT during the Developmental Disabilities Services Division State Program Standing Committee meeting. The public is invited to come to the hearing to provide their comments on the plan.

The Department will also take written comment on the draft plan until September 15, 2017. Comments may be e-mailed to clare.mcfadden@vermont.gov or mailed to: Developmental Disabilities Services Division, Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living, 280 State Drive, HC 2 South, Waterbury, VT 05671-2030

The draft plan is posted at : add link

From: [Bascom, June](#)
To: [Hutt, Monica](#)
Cc: [Euber, Jim](#); [McFadden, Clare](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Schurr, Stuart](#)
Subject: RE: Bi-Weekly Master Grant Check In
Date: Friday, May 12, 2017 3:10:27 PM
Attachments: [RE VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow .msg](#)

FYI – the minutes from Monday’s MG meeting that Jim sent were draft. The final ones will be sent out this afternoon.

It was noted at today’s Master Grant meeting that there is a meeting on Monday at 10:30 with Paul and Allan with the Commissioners and Secretary to go over a number of these issues. That would be the time to bring this and other solutions up – though, I’ll say that many of these urgent needs are not solved through one time funding. I also attached the email I sent previously with Clare’s comments regarding 7B that will be discussed on Monday.

Attachment B (sections d and e on page 8 of VCP’s feedback), is the other section that Clare commented on. That section is to be discussed by Jim, Roy and Stuart and a proposal made with new wording that they think will work. According to Paul, that is due ASAP – and probably no later than next Wednesday.

Regarding the Attachment F meeting on Wednesday at 10:30, Clare is planning to attend.

From: Euber, Jim
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 9:25 AM
To: Hutt, Monica <Monica.Hutt@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
Cc: McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: Bi-Weekly Master Grant Check In

Monica,

See attached. Would you like us to discuss the fact we do have a plan in place to help cover costs over current CAPs? The one-time crisis fund you created?

Jim

From: Mack, Ellie
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2017 4:24 PM
To: Hurlburt, Laurie <Laurie.Hurlburt@vermont.gov>; Bascom, June <June.Bascom@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Burke, Patrick <Patrick.Burke@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Euber, Jim <Jim.Euber@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; O’Connell, Tracy E <Tracy.OConnell@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Reed, Frank <frank.reed@vermont.gov>; Singer, Patricia <Patricia.Singer@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; Sullivan,

Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Thomas, Cynthia <Cynthia.Thomas@vermont.gov>; Thompson, Shannon <shannon.thompson@vermont.gov>; Trutor, Emily <Emily.Trutor@vermont.gov>

Subject: RE: Bi-Weekly Master Grant Check In

I apologize for the second email, but we have an addition to the agenda. Paul would like to review and approve the May 9 minutes before sharing with our partners. See attached – we will put it up on the projector and discuss tomorrow.

Thank you!

Ellie Mack

IT Business Analyst III | AHS PMO

802.760.9759 | ellie.mack@vermont.gov

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-----Original Appointment-----

From: Hurlburt, Laurie

Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 11:19 AM

To: Hurlburt, Laurie; Bascom, June; Bilodeau, Cheryle; Burke, Patrick; Dragon, Paul; Euber, Jim; Gerstenberger, Roy; Harrigan, Emma; Mack, Ellie; O'Connell, Tracy E; Omland, Laurel; Reed, Frank; Singer, Patricia; Skaflestad, Shawn; Sullivan, Allan; Thomas, Cynthia; Thompson, Shannon; Trutor, Emily; Hickman, Selina

Subject: Bi-Weekly Master Grant Check In

When: Friday, May 12, 2017 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: AHS - WSOC Elm 40

Please note: If you are unable to attend in person, please send a representative. Thank you, Laurie

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/941637261>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: +1 (872) 240-3311

Access Code: 941-637-261

First GoToMeeting? Try a test session: <http://help.citrix.com/getready>

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Hill, Bard](#)
Subject: RE: CMS Extends Settings Rule Deadline to 2022
Date: Thursday, May 11, 2017 9:13:33 AM
Attachments: [VT Milestone Template.docx](#)

If I am interpreting this correctly – we have until March 17, 2019 (original compliance date) to get a final approval for our CQS/STP. Full compliance is not expected until March 17, 2022.

Any thoughts re: how this new information impacts the attached draft Milestone Template proposed by CMS last month?

Shawn

From: Tierney-Ward, Megan
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 2:25 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>
Cc: Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: CMS Extends Settings Rule Deadline to 2022

Thank you Roy!

Megan

Sent from my iPhone

On May 9, 2017, at 11:53 AM, Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov> wrote:

Hello Everyone,

This morning, CMS released an informational bulletin noting that states will have an additional three years (until 2022) to comply with the settings requirements of the HCBS regulations. CMS notes that states must still work to gain approval for their Statewide Transition Plans by 2019, but that additional time is being provided to achieve compliance in recognition of the complex work necessary.

ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director

Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: lisa.parro@vermont.gov
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive, HC 2 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell
<image001.png> <https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

<cib050917.pdf>

From: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)
To: [Hill, Bard](#); [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#)
Cc: [O'Neill, Chris](#); [McFadden, Clare](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [George, Camille](#)
Subject: RE: CMS HCBS Milestone Workplan
Date: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 9:03:07 AM
Attachments: [Definitions used for CFC & Case management Standards.docx.docx](#)

I don't know if this helps or not, but ASD is using these definitions in our program and certification standards work with regards to the HCBS regulations.

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 4:34 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>
Cc: O'Neill, Chris <Chris.ONeill@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: CMS HCBS Milestone Workplan

Hi-

We seem to mean different things when we use the terms 'LTSS' and 'HCBS'.

I have attached my perspective from DAIL for DAIL programs/services, with examples of national uses/meanings of these terms (with links).

Cheers-

Bard

"Nobody knew that health care could be so complicated."

President Donald Trump

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn; Tierney-Ward, Megan; Courcelle, Andre; Gerstenberger, Roy; Harrigan, Emma; Omland, Laurel; Hill, Bard
Cc: O'Neill, Chris; McFadden, Clare; Hamilton, Kathleen
Subject: CMS HCBS Milestone Workplan

When: Monday, July 10, 2017 3:00 PM-4:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: AHS - WSOC Boxelder 10 OR Dial-In Number: 1-877-273-4202 Conference Room ID: 1262904

Hi All,

This is a meeting to discuss the attached Excel spreadsheet. Rather than having one HCBS workplan like CMS has proposed (also attached) – I am suggesting a separate one for each program. Before we meet – please take some time and review the Excel file – paying special attention to the Topic, Milestone, and what is current written in the CQS/STP about the related topic (reference is listed in the CSQ/STP Page No. column). By the end of our meeting – I would like us to agree on the Milestones and what is currently written in the CQS/STP about the topic – as well as suggested due dates for each milestone.

Please note that a dial in option is available for those unable to attend in person.

Thank you,

Shawn

From: Clark, Sarah
To: Morgan, Candace; Gobeille, Al; Davis, Clarence; Dragon, Paul; Fisher, Jaime; LaClair, Jolinda; Gustafson, Cory; Costa, Michael; Madison, Cassandra; Schilling, Lisa; Aborjaily, Amerin; Berliner, Ashley; Schatz, Ken; Dalley, Pam; Vastine, Karen; Shea, Karen; Brown, Sean P.; Murphy, Reeve; Evans, Brian; Niggel, Jillian; Bailey, Melissa; Fox, Mourning; Thompson, Shannon; Menard, Lisa; Touchette, Mike; D'Agostino, Matt; Hutt, Monica; George, Camille; Kelly, Bill; Levine, Mark; Daley, Paul; Dolan, Tracy; Swenson, Anna; Rex, Judith
Cc: O'Connell, Tracy E
Subject: H.924 - Budget Bill Feedback
Date: Monday, May 14, 2018 2:18:48 PM
Attachments: AHS FY19 Ups Downs CC v39 w H924 FINAL.xlsx
Importance: High

In order to be prepared to respond as needed to Finance & Management on the budget bill, please review and provide feedback to Tracy and I by **COB, Tuesday, May 15th**. You should review both the language and web report. Are there areas that need technical adjustment or further clarification? See the updated links below.

Funding – web report:

http://www.leg.state.vt.us/jfo/webreports/webreports/Web/FY2019%20Big%20Bill%20Web%20Report%205-12-2018%2012_56_26%20PM.html

Language:

http://www.leg.state.vt.us/jfo/appropriations/fy_2019/H_924_-_Committee_of_Conference_Report_Official_Signed_Copy.pdf

One-times (both GF and Tobacco Settlement):

http://www.leg.state.vt.us/jfo/appropriations/fy_2019/H.924%20General%20Fund%20-%202018%20One-time%20Appropriations.pdf

I've also attached the updated "ups and downs" document to reflect the FY19 As Passed budget.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Sarah

From: Clark, Sarah

Sent: Saturday, May 12, 2018 2:09 PM

To: Gobeille, Al <Al.Gobeille@vermont.gov>; Davis, Clarence <Clarence.Davis@vermont.gov>; Morgan, Candace <Candace.Morgan@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Fisher, Jaime <Jaime.Fisher@vermont.gov>; LaClair, Jolinda <Jolinda.LaClair@vermont.gov>; Gustafson, Cory <Cory.Gustafson@vermont.gov>; Costa, Michael <Michael.Costa@vermont.gov>; Madison, Cassandra <Cassandra.Madison@vermont.gov>; Schilling, Lisa <Lisa.Schilling@vermont.gov>; Aborjaily, Amerin <Amerin.Aborjaily@vermont.gov>; Berliner, Ashley <Ashley.Berliner@vermont.gov>; Schatz, Ken <Ken.Schatz@vermont.gov>; Dalley, Pam <Pam.Dalley@vermont.gov>; Vastine, Karen <Karen.Vastine@vermont.gov>; Shea, Karen <Karen.Shea@vermont.gov>; Brown, Sean P. <Sean.Brown@vermont.gov>; Murphy, Reeve <Reeve.Murphy@vermont.gov>; Evans, Brian <Brian.Evans@vermont.gov>; Niggel, Jillian <Jillian.Niggel@vermont.gov>; Bailey, Melissa <Melissa.Bailey@vermont.gov>; Fox, Mourning <Mourning.Fox@vermont.gov>; Thompson, Shannon <shannon.thompson@vermont.gov>; Menard, Lisa <Lisa.Menard@vermont.gov>; Touchette, Mike <Mike.Touchette@vermont.gov>; D'Agostino, Matt <Matt.DAgostino@vermont.gov>; Hutt, Monica <Monica.Hutt@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>; Kelly, Bill

<Bill.Kelly@vermont.gov>; Levine, Mark <Mark.Levine@vermont.gov>; Daley, Paul <Paul.Daley@vermont.gov>; Dolan, Tracy <Tracy.Dolan@vermont.gov>; Swenson, Anna <Anna.Swenson@vermont.gov>

Cc: O'Connell, Tracy E <Tracy.OConnell@vermont.gov>

Subject: Fwd: H.924 - Budget Bill - Out of Conference Committee

The budget Conference Committee voted the bill out just now! See the links below to the budget documents. I expect that we will need to provide feedback to Finance & Management by COB Monday (or possibly earlier). I will provide further direction on response as soon as I receive more information.

Web Report (\$'s):

http://www.leg.state.vt.us/ifo/webreports/webreports/Web/FY2019%20Big%20Bill%20Web%20Report%205-12-2018%2012_56_26%20PM.html

Language:

http://www.leg.state.vt.us/ifo/appropriations/fy_2019/H.924%20CC.pdf

One-times:

http://www.leg.state.vt.us/ifo/appropriations/fy_2019/Budget%20Conferees%20Onetime%20Items%20-%20Final.pdf

The bulleted lists below highlight changes from the Senate passed version.

\$ Changes:

- B.301 – AHS – GC - \$1M GF increase, \$1M special ed special fund decrease for ed fund restructure
- B.314 – DMH - \$200K GF increase for supportive housing vouchers
- B.317 – DCF – Family Services - \$150K GF increase to transfer to the Defender General for family reunification activities
- B.337 – DOC – Education – Swaps Ed Fund for General Fund per the H.911 EF restructure –**no more Ed fund at CHSVT**

Language Changes (includes some \$ - highlighted in yellow):

- C.105.1 – Tobacco Settlement Funds – there were some changes from the Senate version
- C.106 – CHINS – removes DOC and includes DCF as an “equal”
- C.106.1 – SUD Workforce - Secretary of AHS will convene a workgroup including UVM, VSC, AHEC & others including consumers, primary care doctors
- C.106.2 – SUD Response Initiatives -\$2.5M from tobacco settlement funds to fund time-limited or self-sustaining SUD initiatives related to prevention, intervention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery – will be spread over three years – AHS must present a plan to JFC at July 2018 meeting
- C.1000(a)(14) – \$7.1M to AHS for closeout – if funds available after C.102 (closeout), funds can be used to maintain critical healthcare services that have lost federal funding and to support SUD activities(**can include funding for OCC positions, syringe exchange, MAT**)
- D.108 – State Health Care Resources Fund Transition
- D.109 – Review of Statutory Reserves
- E.100.2 – extends position pilot for two years
- E.126.1 – Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee – system-wide review – includes corrections policies
- E.126.2 – Joint IT Oversight Committee

E.127 – Review & Evaluation of DOC Health Care Services – JFO shall review and evaluate policies, contracts & processes at DOC that deliver health care services – removed the pilot language with UVMHC

- E.306.1 – FY19 BAA – Research Study on Acupuncture
- E.306.2 – Vermont Health Benefit Exchange Rules – added requested emergency rulemaking language
- E.307 – Primary Care Payments – thru Blueprint
- E.314 – DA Staff Retention – updates language – as expected – 20% to value-based incentive payments
- E.317 – Parent Child Center Network – went back to the house language on true value
- E.329 – adult day certification – incorporates most of our edits
- E.500.7 – Pre-K Education Report – AOE, in consultation with AHS
- Did not include language on street outreach and community match

Sarah Clark
Chief Financial Officer
Agency of Human Services

Desk: 802-241-9007

Cell: 802-505-0285

From: [Perreault, Liz](#)
To: [Hill, Bard](#)
Cc: [George, Camille](#)
Subject: How about now???
Date: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:03:28 AM
Attachments: [Compiled Annual Report Draft.docx](#)

Please let me know.

Liz Perreault
Executive Assistant
Commissioner's Office
Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
802-241-2401 – Main Line
802-241-0362
Mailing Address:
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020

“Life’s too short not to go barefoot.”

From: [Maksym, Martha](#)
To: [Tanzman, Beth](#); [Dragon, Paul](#); [Gobeille, Al](#); [Gustafson, Cory](#); [Davis, Clarence](#); [Helmstetter, Jane](#); [Eberle, Will](#); [Legare Belcher, Suzanne](#); [Fischesser, Sadie](#); [Boyle, Lynn](#); [Prior, Kristin](#); [Sancic, Adam](#); [Schatz, Ken](#); [Brown, Sean P.](#); [Phillips, Sarah](#); [Pippenger, Geoffrey](#); [White, Monica](#); [George, Camille](#)
Subject: Interesting report from Brookings Institute
Date: Friday, March 23, 2018 11:30:23 AM
Attachments: [Housing as a Hub for Health, Community Svcs and Upward Mobility.pdf](#)

Vermont mentioned several times re: SASH and Choices for Care. Feel free to share with others.

Wasn't sure who would be interested

Martha

Martha E. Maksym
Deputy Secretary, Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671
Office Line: 802-241-0430
Cell: 802-760-0786
Email: martha.maksym@vermont.gov
<http://humanservices.vermont.gov>

From: [George, Camille](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [McFadden, Clare](#); [Hutt, Monica](#)
Subject: FW: input from hearings?
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:28:44 PM
Attachments: [Response to Public Comment all comments 1.3.17.docx](#)

This is great, Clare, thanks. I'm also sharing with Monica. I'm interested to see what the input was. Do you have a process ironed out for finalizing?

Camille George, Deputy Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner's Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401 or 802.241.0359
E-mail: camille.george@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.

From: McFadden, Clare
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:24 PM
To: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: input from hearings?

Hi Camille- I have created a document in which I have compiled all the comments, both from the hearings and those submitted in writing. I am working on creating a summary of the comments and will be meeting next Tuesday with our DS workgroup who have been involved in the regs and legal to review what our responses will be. We will definitely be making changes, but not sure yet the extent. Attached is the document with all the comments. Do you want to be kept in the loop or weigh in on anything?

From: George, Camille
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:41 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>; Parro, Lisa <Lisa.Parro@vermont.gov>
Subject: input from hearings?

Hi – You may not have put this together yet, but I’m wondering what the input has been around the DS regs? Do you have any notes from the hearings or other info you can share? Am interested to know if you anticipate any significant changes from what is proposed. Thanks.

Camille George, Deputy Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner’s Office
HC 2 South
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Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401 or 802.241.0359
E-mail: camille.george@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.

From: [George, Camille](#)
To: [Kelly, Bill](#); [Hutt, Monica](#); [Euber, Jim](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [McFadden, Clare](#)
Subject: Fw: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow
Date: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 3:54:17 PM
Attachments: [1 - Master Grant Provisions \(5-5-17\) with final comments \(2839921_1\).docx](#)
[2 - HCBS Attachment Notes \(5-5-17\) with rationales \(2840127_1\) \(2\).docx](#)
Importance: High

FYI, am just keeping Bill in the loop as well.

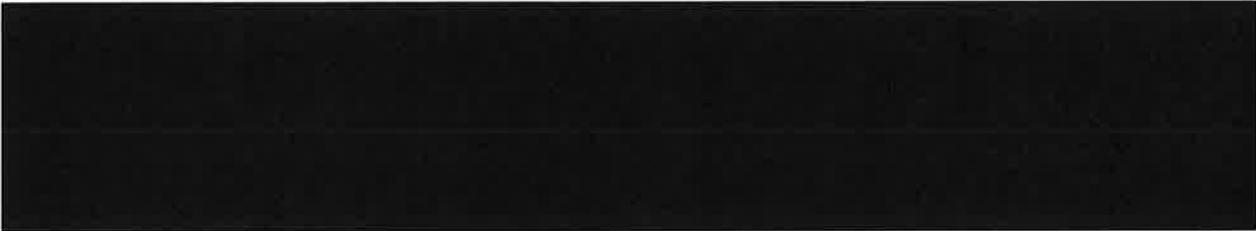
From: Euber, Jim
Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2017 2:55 PM
To: Hutt, Monica; Bascom, June; Gerstenberger, Roy
Cc: Schurr, Stuart; George, Camille; McFadden, Clare
Subject: FW: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow

Monica,



Jim

From: Dragon, Paul
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Bascom, June <June.Bascom@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Burke, Patrick <Patrick.Burke@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Euber, Jim <Jim.Euber@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hurlburt, Laurie <Laurie.Hurlburt@vermont.gov>; Lefebvre, Paula <Paula.Lefebvre@vermont.gov>; Mack, Ellie <Ellie.Mack@vermont.gov>; O'Connell, Tracy E <Tracy.OConnell@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Reed, Frank <frank.reed@vermont.gov>; Singer, Patricia <Patricia.Singer@vermont.gov>; Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Thomas, Cynthia <Cynthia.Thomas@vermont.gov>; Thompson, Shannon <shannon.thompson@vermont.gov>; Trutor, Emily <Emily.Trutor@vermont.gov>
Subject: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow
Importance: High



Paul

Paul Dragon, Ed.D.
Director of Policy and Program Integration
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Paul.dragon@vermont.gov
Office Line: 802-241-0422
Cell: 802- 585-9188
<http://humanservices.vermont.gov>

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [Schurr, Stuart](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Lane, Sara](#); [Kelly, Bill](#)
Cc: [George, Camille](#); [Hutt, Monica](#)
Subject: FW: DVHA-DAIL IGA draft
Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 4:26:24 PM
Attachments: [DAIL IGA DRAFT 4.25.17.docx](#)

Hi-



Bard

The emphasis should be on why we do a job.

W. Edwards Deming

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

From: Clark, Bill
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>
Cc: Schurr, Stuart <Stuart.Schurr@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: DVHA-DAIL IGA draft



Bill

From: Clark, Bill
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 3:04 PM
To: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>
Cc: Schurr, Stuart <Stuart.Schurr@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>
Subject: DVHA-DAIL IGA draft

Hi Bard,



Bill

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [Marinelli, Nancy](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [McFadden, Clare](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Cc: [George, Camille](#); [Hutt, Monica](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)
Subject: FW: TIMELY - NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response
Date: Tuesday, January 03, 2017 10:52:10 AM
Attachments: [NAMD Response to HCBS RFI DRAFT.DOCX](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)
Importance: High

Hi- You may also be interested in this...

Bard

From: Fuoco, Danielle
Sent: Tuesday, January 03, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>
Subject: TIMELY - NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response
Importance: High

Hello,

The NAMD is seeking comments/feedback on their response to a CMS RFI on Medicaid HCBS by **COB Thursday, January 5th** – see email below.

If you have comments I'm happy to collect those **by 1pm on Thursday, 1/5** and compile them into a single document for NAMD.

Please feel free to share this with anyone who would be interested that I missed.

Thank you,

Dani Fuoco, Program Consultant
AHS Medicaid Policy Unit
(802) 585-4265

From: Parker, Lindsay
Sent: Friday, December 30, 2016 9:01 AM
To: Fuoco, Danielle <Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response

Dani, Can you please treat this as survey and work on response? Thanks

Lindsay Parker
Agency of Human Services
[p] 802-578-9427

From: McPherson, Darcy

Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2016 3:08 PM
To: Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov>
Subject: Fwd: NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jack Rollins <jack.rollins@medicaiddirectors.org>
Date: December 29, 2016 at 1:27:40 PM EST
Cc: Jack Rollins <jack.rollins@medicaiddirectors.org>, Lindsey Browning <lindsey.browning@medicaiddirectors.org>, Cornelia LLuberes <cornelia.lluberes@medicaiddirectors.org>
Subject: NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response

Good afternoon Medicaid Directors,

We hope you are enjoying the holiday season and look forward to a pleasant new year. NAMD is writing to request your review and feedback on the attached document, containing draft NAMD comments on a [CMS Request for Information on Medicaid home and community-based services \(HCBS\)](#). We would most appreciate your feedback by **COB Thursday, January 5**; this timeline will allow us to incorporate your comments into the document in time for the RFI closing date of January 9. We apologize for the brief comment period and its falling across the holidays, but will work diligently to accept feedback for as long as possible.

The RFI is expansive and address four key areas of Medicaid HCBS:

- Methods to support continued rebalancing of Medicaid long-term services and supports towards the community;
- Strategies to ensure the provision of high-quality HCBS and ensure beneficiary safety;
- Program integrity in HCBS, particularly in personal care services; and
- Enhancing the HCBS workforce, primarily via enhanced federal review of rates.

In each of these areas, NAMD draws upon input from a group of our core HCBS state experts and previous NAMD comments on HCBS issues to provide a response. We welcome any additional examples or nuance you and your staff are able to provide to further solidify our comments and maximize their utility.

Thank you, and please don't hesitate to contact NAMD with questions.

Best,
Jack

Jack Rollins
Policy Analyst
The National Association of Medicaid Directors
444 North Capitol Street, Suite 524
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 403-8628
jack.rollins@medicaiddirectors.org

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS Provider Doc
Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 9:52:09 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Vermont HCBS Plan Provider Questions.docx](#)

Hi Roy- This is well done. I have a few suggested edits. Also, since Sara Lane moved into the TBI program, should you send to Megan as well?

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 3:52 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; O'Neill, Chris <Chris.ONeill@vermont.gov>; Lane, Sara <Sara.Lane@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>
Subject: HCBS Provider Doc

Here is an updated version. Comments are welcome.

ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director

Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: lisa.parro@vermont.gov
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive, HC 2 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell

 <https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

From: [Parro, Lisa](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Josh Smith](#); [Ashe, William](#); [Marlys Waller](#); [Barb Prine](#); [Kara Artus](#); [Murphy, Kirsten](#); [Karen Topper](#); [Leigh Holliday](#); [Bethany Drum](#); "[Susan Yuan \(syuan@uvm.edu\)](#)"; [Rachel Colby](#); [Jennifer Stratton \(LCMH\)](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS Transition Advisory Committee - Meeting 6/15
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 1:47:36 PM
Attachments: [Vermont HCBS Plan Provider Questions DRAFT 1.docx](#)

Attached is the reference document mentioned in the previous e-mail. The agenda for the meeting is to review and receive recommendations on what should be included.

From: Parro, Lisa
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 10:18 AM
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#) <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; [Josh Smith](#) <joshsgmssi.com>; [Ashe, William](#) <billa@uvs-vt.org>; [Marlys Waller](#) <marlys@vermontcarepartners.org>; [Barb Prine](#) <bprine@vtlegalaid.org>; [Kara Artus](#) <kara@transitionii.com>; [Murphy, Kirsten](#) <Kirsten.Murphy@vermont.gov>; [Karen Topper](#) <topper@gmsavt.org>; [Leigh Holliday](#) <leigh@heartbeet.org>
Subject: RE: HCBS Transition Advisory Committee - Meeting Thursday

The location of this meeting is in the Sally Fox Conference Center, Cherry B conference room, Waterbury State Office Complex. If you have not yet done so, please confirm if you will be attending.

Please be sure to bring a photo ID for complex security.

From: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 2:59 PM
To: [Josh Smith](#) <joshsgmssi.com>; [Ashe, William](#) <billa@uvs-vt.org>; [Marlys Waller](#) <marlys@vermontcarepartners.org>; [Barb Prine](#) <bprine@vtlegalaid.org>; [Kara Artus](#) <kara@transitionii.com>; [Murphy, Kirsten](#) <Kirsten.Murphy@vermont.gov>; [Karen Topper](#) <topper@gmsavt.org>; [Leigh Holliday](#) <leigh@heartbeet.org>
Cc: [Parro, Lisa](#) <Lisa.Parro@vermont.gov>
Subject: HCBS Transition Advisory Committee - Meeting Thursday

Hello Everyone,

There will be an HCBS Transition Advisory Committee this Thursday at 1:00 at the

Waterbury State Office Complex. The committee will advise on the content and structure of a reference document designed to assist service provider agencies with common questions about the transition steps and expectations in meeting new rules requirements. A draft will be sent to you prior to the meeting. We will also send information confirming the location.

Roy Gerstenberger

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
To: [George, Camille](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: RE: input from hearings?
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:24:29 PM
Attachments: [Response to Public Comment all comments 1.3.17.docx](#)

Hi Camille- I have created a document in which I have compiled all the comments, both from the hearings and those submitted in writing. I am working on creating a summary of the comments and will be meeting next Tuesday with our DS workgroup who have been involved in the regs and legal to review what our responses will be. We will definitely be making changes, but not sure yet the extent. Attached is the document with all the comments. Do you want to be kept in the loop or weigh in on anything?

From: George, Camille
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:41 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>; Parro, Lisa <Lisa.Parro@vermont.gov>
Subject: input from hearings?

Hi – You may not have put this together yet, but I’m wondering what the input has been around the DS regs? Do you have any notes from the hearings or other info you can share? Am interested to know if you anticipate any significant changes from what is proposed. Thanks.

Camille George, Deputy Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner’s Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401 or 802.241.0359
E-mail: camille.george@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Perkins, Jennifer](#); [Bascom, June](#); [O'Neill, Chris](#); [Schurr, Stuart](#); [Kennedy, Alice](#); [Rogers, Jackie](#)
Subject: RE: Review of public comment on DD regs
Date: Monday, January 09, 2017 9:12:47 AM
Attachments: [Response to Public Comment summarized 1.3.17.docx](#)
[proposed-dd-rule-annotated.posted-for-comment.pdf](#)

From: McFadden, Clare
Sent: Friday, January 06, 2017 12:06 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <roy.gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Perkins, Jennifer <Jennifer.Perkins@vermont.gov>; Bascom, June <June.Bascom@vermont.gov>; O'Neill, Chris <Chris.ONeill@vermont.gov>; Schurr, Stuart <Stuart.Schurr@vermont.gov>; Kennedy, Alice <Alice.Kennedy@vermont.gov>; Rogers, Jackie <Jackie.Rogers@vermont.gov>
Subject: Review of public comment on DD regs

Please note that my contact information has changed.

Clare McFadden

Assistant Director
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0302
802-585-5396 cell
Clare.mcfadden@vermont.gov

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
To: [Bascom, June](#); [Hutt, Monica](#)
Cc: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Schurr, Stuart](#); [George, Camille](#); [Euber, Jim](#)
Subject: RE: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow
Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 8:58:25 AM
Attachments: [1 - Master Grant Provisions \(5-5-17\) with final comments \(2839921_1\).docx](#)

[REDACTED]

From: Bascom, June
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 4:11 PM
To: Hutt, Monica <Monica.Hutt@vermont.gov>
Cc: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Schurr, Stuart <Stuart.Schurr@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>; Euber, Jim <Jim.Euber@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow

[REDACTED]

From: Hutt, Monica
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 3:26 PM
To: Euber, Jim <Jim.Euber@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bascom, June <June.Bascom@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Schurr, Stuart <Stuart.Schurr@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow

[REDACTED]



Monica Caserta Hutt
Commissioner
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

Sent from my iPad

On May 9, 2017, at 2:55 PM, Euber, Jim <Jim.Euber@vermont.gov> wrote:

Monica,



Jim

From: Dragon, Paul

Sent: Monday, May 08, 2017 8:51 AM

To: Bascom, June <June.Bascom@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Burke, Patrick <Patrick.Burke@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Euber, Jim <Jim.Euber@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hurlburt, Laurie <Laurie.Hurlburt@vermont.gov>; Lefebvre, Paula <Paula.Lefebvre@vermont.gov>; Mack, Ellie <Ellie.Mack@vermont.gov>; O'Connell, Tracy E <Tracy.OConnell@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Reed, Frank <frank.reed@vermont.gov>; Singer, Patricia <Patricia.Singer@vermont.gov>; Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Thomas, Cynthia <Cynthia.Thomas@vermont.gov>; Thompson, Shannon <shannon.thompson@vermont.gov>; Trutor, Emily <Emily.Trutor@vermont.gov>

Subject: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow

Importance: High





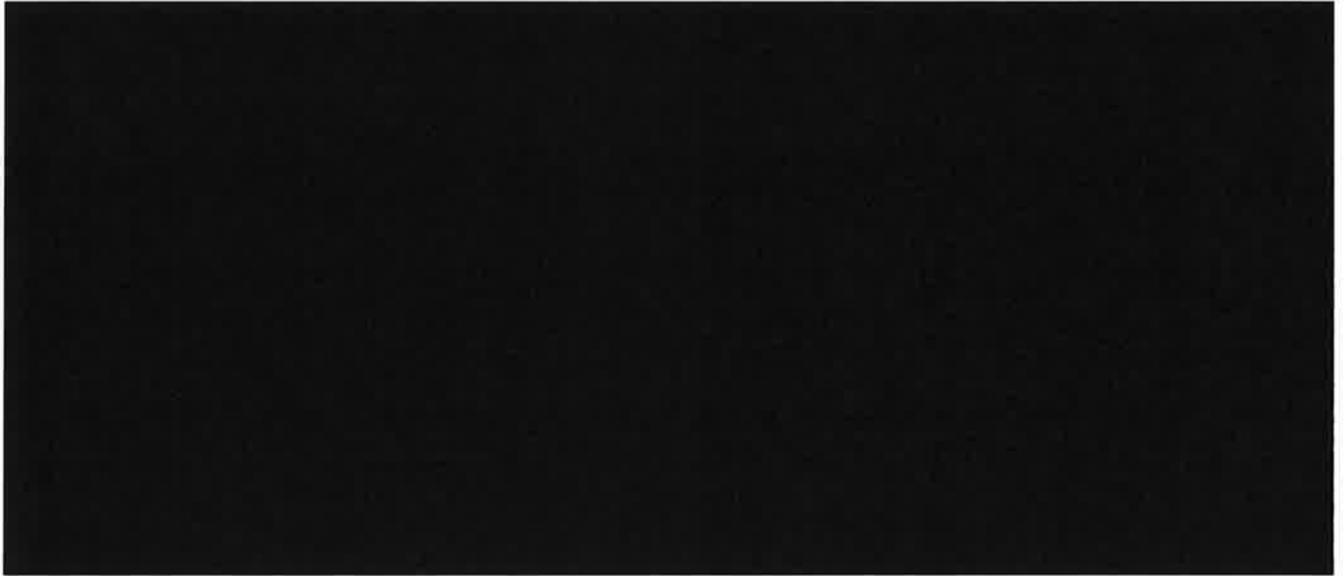
Paul

Paul Dragon, Ed.D.
Director of Policy and Program Integration
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Paul.dragon@vermont.gov
Office Line: 802-241-0422
Cell: 802- 585-9188
<http://humanservices.vermont.gov>

<1 - Master Grant Provisions (5-5-17) with final comments (2839921_1).docx>

<2 - HCBS Attachment Notes (5-5-17) with rationales (2840127_1) (2).docx>

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
To: [Schurr, Stuart](#); [Kennedy, Alice](#)
Cc: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Bascom, June](#)
Subject: Regs - handoff (woo hoo!)
Date: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 3:49:23 PM
Attachments: [DDAct_Regulations2017LCAR2.8.17final to legal.docx](#)
[LCAR cover memo 2.8.17final to legal.docx](#)
[Response to Public Comment summarized 2.8.17final to legal.docx](#)



Thanks for everyone's work on this!

Please note that my contact information has changed.

Clare McFadden

Assistant Director
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0302
802-585-5396 cell
Clare.mcfadden@vermont.gov

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: response to the comments and regs
Date: Friday, January 20, 2017 4:45:12 PM
Attachments: [Response to Public Comment summarized 1.3.17V.2.docx](#)
[proposed-dd-rule-annotated.posted-for-comment.pdf](#)

Hi Roy- I am attaching the proposed regs and the response to the comments on the regulations. It is a big document and may take a while to read through. In the response to comments on the right hand column, there are a number of areas where I have noted where we need your decision or input. If you use the "find" function with your name, you'll get to them all. I see we have time on Tuesday. This is still a work in progress and it may look slightly different by Tuesday, but you can work off the document as it is now.

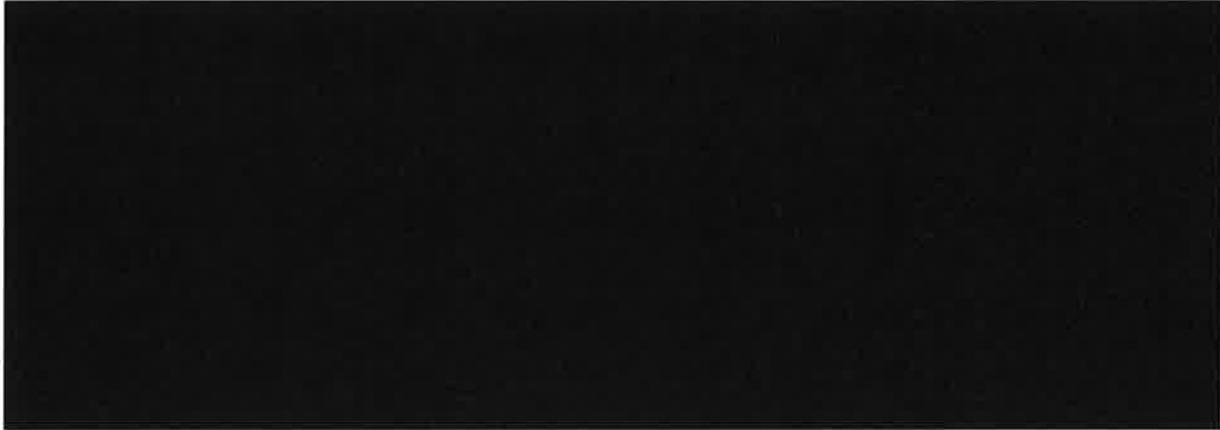
Thanks.

Please note that my contact information has changed.

Clare McFadden

Assistant Director
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0302
802-585-5396 cell
Clare.mcfadden@vermont.gov

From: [McFadden, Clare](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Perkins, Jennifer](#); [Bascom, June](#); [O'Neill, Chris](#); [Schurr, Stuart](#); [Kennedy, Alice](#); [Rogers, Jackie](#)
Subject: Review of public comment on DD regs
Date: Friday, January 06, 2017 12:06:37 PM
Attachments: [Response to Public Comment summarized 1.3.17.docx](#)
[proposed-dd-rule-annotated.posted-for-comment.pdf](#)



Please note that my contact information has changed.

Clare McFadden

Assistant Director
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0302
802-585-5396 cell
Clare.mcfadden@vermont.gov

From: [Parro, Lisa](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: SPSC Committee Mtg minutes 7.20.17-DRAFT for review
Date: Monday, August 07, 2017 1:17:47 PM
Attachments: [SPSC Committee Mtg 7.20.17-DRAFT.doc](#)
Importance: High

Roy,

Attached are the SPSC Committee meeting notes from the July meeting, for your review.

Lisa

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
To: [AHS - DAIL DDSD Team](#)
Subject: Team Meeting - Call In
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 8:26:33 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[07_DDSD_Team_1_24_17_Agenda-Minutes.docx](#)

Hello Everyone,

Given the difficult travel conditions I assume that many people would like to call in to the meeting. As a reminder, here is the call in information:

Call in # 1-866-951-1151

Conf # 8911790

ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director

Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: lisa.parro@vermont.gov
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive, HC 2 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell



<https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

From: [Dragon, Paul](#)
To: [Bascom, June](#); [Bilodeau, Cheryl](#); [Burke, Patrick](#); [Dragon, Paul](#); [Euber, Jim](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Hurlburt, Laurie](#); [Lefebvre, Paula](#); [Mack, Ellie](#); [O'Connell, Tracy E](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Reed, Frank](#); [Singer, Patricia](#); [Sullivan, Allan](#); [Thomas, Cynthia](#); [Thompson, Shannon](#); [Trutor, Emily](#)
Subject: VCP Comments and edits for Tomorrow
Date: Monday, May 08, 2017 8:50:46 AM
Attachments: [1 - Master Grant Provisions \(5-5-17\) with final comments \(2839921_1\).docx](#)
[2 - HCBS Attachment Notes \(5-5-17\) with rationales \(2840127_1\) \(2\).docx](#)
Importance: High



Paul

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280 State Drive
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Paul.dragon@vermont.gov
Office Line: 802-241-0422
Cell: 802- 585-9188
<http://humanservices.vermont.gov>

From: [Bascom, June](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: Vermont HCBS Plan Provider Questions_jb edits.docx
Date: Thursday, June 01, 2017 8:07:02 AM
Attachments: [Vermont HCBS Plan Provider Questions_jb edits.docx](#)

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Clark, Bill](#)
Cc: [Hickman, Selina](#)
Subject: FW: GCR Proposed Policy 17-017: Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:55:30 PM

Hi All,

The GC CQS was posted today. Please see announcement below for the details. The “how to submit public comment” link will take you to the actual announcement – which contains links to the document as well as other useful information. Please note that rather than adding the physical systemic assessments and work plans as appendices to the CQS – I inserted links. My hope is that this will make the document a bit more user friendly. If you open the posting announcement – you will also see that I added some information to call out the HCBS sections of the document. This is another attempt to make the document easier to navigate. Finally, in the body of the CQS, I inserted links to the site-specific provider assessment and consumer validation surveys. While this work has yet to be finalized – I thought it couldn’t hurt to let folks view the tools if they were interested.

The public comment period runs through April 28, 2017 (so a bit over 30 days). Please feel free to send me any comments you might have re: the content or orientation of material. Thanks for all your help putting this document together.

Have a great weekend!

Shawn

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.
Quality Improvement Manager
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive Center Building
3rd Floor – E310-1
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Office: (802) 241-0961
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410
Fax: 802-241-0450

Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).
(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: AHS - Medicaid Policy
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:13 PM
To: AHS - Medicaid Policy <AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov>
Subject: GCR Proposed Policy 17-017: Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy

Hello,

Global Commitment Register (GCR) proposed policy 17-017: Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy is open for public comment through April 28, 2017. A public hearing will be held on April 21, 2017. For information about the proposed policy change, the public hearing, and to find out how to submit a public comment, please [click here](#).

The GCR is a database of policy changes to and clarifications of existing Medicaid policy under Vermont's [1115 Global Commitment to Health waiver](#). To access the Global Commitment Register, [click here](#).

[NOTE: You have received this email because you are on an email distribution list for changes to Agency of Human Services (AHS) health care policies. If you no longer wish to receive email notifications for changes to AHS health care policies, such as administrative rule, Medicaid State Plan or the Global Commitment waiver, or if you would like someone added to this list, please email AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.]

Sincerely,

Medicaid Policy Unit

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Hill, Bard](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Clark, Bill](#); [McFadden, Clare](#)
Cc: [Hickman, Selina](#); [Carmichael, Erin](#)
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 10:31:26 AM

Thanks for your comments Bard – very helpful!

Shawn

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 5:17 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Hi-
Not sure if the additions (using track changes) are helpful...
Thanks Shawn.
Bard

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Hi All,

As you may recall, a formal public hearing for the attached Comprehensive Quality Strategy (CQS)/State Transition Plan (STP) was held on Thursday, April 21, 2017 from 1pm - 2pm at the Waterbury State Office Complex (WSOC). While no individuals from the community attended the hearing – I did receive three pieces of written feedback during the public comment period. I have attached a Word file that contains a summary of the public comments from these documents –

along with draft State responses. As you will notice – not all comments have responses.

I am asking that you edit my draft responses – as well as suggest language for those comments w/o responses - by cob this Friday, July 28th. Once this document is complete – I will modify the CQS/STP accordingly – and submit it to CMS for review. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Shawn

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.
Quality Improvement Manager
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive Center Building
3rd Floor – E310-1
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Office: (802) 241-0961
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410
Fax: 802-241-0450

Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).

(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: [Hutt, Monica](#)
To: [Dragon, Paul](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [George, Camille](#)
Cc: [Sullivan, Allan](#); [Bailey, Melissa](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS and the Master Grant
Date: Thursday, May 11, 2017 3:58:39 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Monica Caserta Hutt, Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner's Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401
E-mail: monica.hutt@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.



May is a time to recognize the importance of Older Americans Act programs in keeping more than 60,000 Vermonters healthy and at home as they age and honor the older Vermonters in our communities whose hard work, years of experience and energy are helping build momentum for a strong and vibrant Vermont. If you have questions about services to age well in your community, call the Vermont Senior Helpline at 1-800-642-5119.

From: Dragon, Paul
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Hutt, Monica

<Monica.Hutt@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>

Cc: Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Bailey, Melissa <Melissa.Bailey@vermont.gov>

Subject: RE: HCBS and the Master Grant



Paul

Paul Dragon, Ed.D.

Director of Policy and Program Integration

Agency of Human Services

280 State Drive

Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Paul.dragon@vermont.gov

Office Line: 802-241-0422

Cell: 802- 585-9188

<http://humanservices.vermont.gov>

From: Gerstenberger, Roy

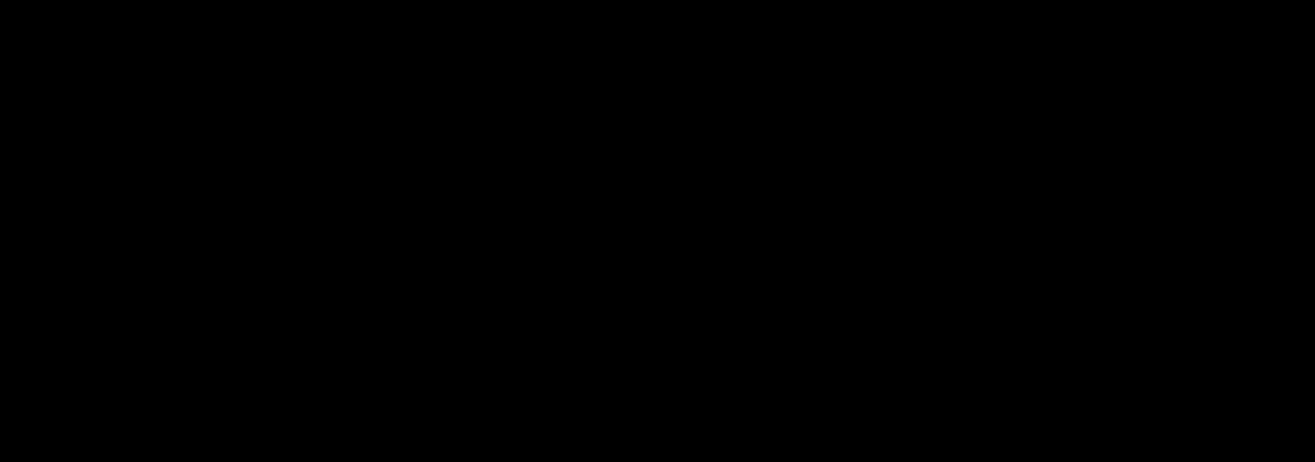
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2017 11:35 AM

To: Hutt, Monica <Monica.Hutt@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>

Cc: Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Bailey, Melissa <Melissa.Bailey@vermont.gov>

Subject: RE: HCBS and the Master Grant

Hello Monica,



RG

From: Hutt, Monica
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2017 9:30 AM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
Cc: Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Bailey, Melissa <Melissa.Bailey@vermont.gov>; Hutt, Monica <Monica.Hutt@vermont.gov>
Subject: HCBS and the Master Grant
Importance: High

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thanks, Monica

Monica Caserta Hutt, Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner's Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401
E-mail: monica.hutt@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.



May is a time to recognize the importance of Older Americans Act programs in keeping more than 60,000 Vermonters healthy and at home as they age and honor the older Vermonters in our communities whose hard work, years of experience and energy are helping build momentum for a strong and vibrant Vermont. If you have questions about services to age well in your community, call the Vermont Senior Helpline at 1-800-642-5119.

-

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#)
Cc: [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Clark, Bill](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones
Date: Monday, April 10, 2017 3:16:10 PM
Attachments: [Price-Verma Letter to States - 3-14-17.pdf](#)

I believe that this letter was mentioned during our last meeting (specifically the first paragraph on top of page 3). While I don't have any updates – I wanted to make sure folks were aware of the communication.

Shawn

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 12:25 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones

Hi Everyone,

Below are some of the items I would like to discuss this afternoon:

- Sender and Subject Line of survey email;
- Link in introductory email (user-friendly and hyperlink);
- Use of http vs https protocol (security);
- Multiple responses from one contact (functionality and messaging);
- Contact list; and
- Communicating w/providers

Kathy has been fielding comments, concerns, and questions from the DS providers – so she might have some other things to add as well.

Best,

Shawn

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Hurlburt, Laurie **On Behalf Of** Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 11:49 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn; Tierney-Ward, Megan; Gerstenberger, Roy; Courcelle, Andre; Harrigan, Emma; Omland, Laurel; Clark, Bill; Hawes, Emily
Cc: Hamilton, Kathleen; Reed, Frank

Subject: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones

When: Monday, April 10, 2017 3:30 PM-4:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Spruce 8 (DAIL)

Hi All,

I am extending our monthly HCBS CQS/STP Milestone meeting through June of 2017. Please note that I changed the location of this meeting to Spruce 8 (2nd floor of the Historic Core South – near DAIL). Thank you for your continued involvement.

Shawn

-

Conference Call Information:

Dial-In Number: 1-877-273-4202

Conference Room ID: 1262904

From: Hamilton, Kathleen
To: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [O'Neill, Chris](#)
Subject: Re: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 11:42:34 AM

Hi Shawn. One correction on your list - Ford Foundation should say Francis Foundation. It's correct in your data report. (At 1st I thought it was an auto correct from my computer that I didn't catch.) This should be a complete list of all surveys entered, but I will cross reference with my pile of forms next week when I am home from vacation and confirm. Kathy

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 11:12:38 AM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy
Cc: Hamilton, Kathleen
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hi Roy,

The DDS HCBS provider survey results are attached. As you can see – there were 45 total survey responses from 17 DDS providers. The table below shows the setting types with responses for each provider.

	PROVIDER	STAFFED LIVING	SHARED LIVING	GROUP LIVING	GCS	TOTAL
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	FORD FOUNDATION		1			1
	GMSS		1			1
	HCHS	1	1	4	1	7
	HCRS		1			1
	HEARTBEET		1			1
	LCMH		1			1
	LSI		1			1
	NCSS	1	1		1	3
	NKHS	1	1	1		3
	SCC	1	1			2
	UCS		1	1	2	4
	UVS		1	1		2
	WCMH	3	1	1	1	6

TOTAL	17	10	17	11	7	45
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I have copied Kathy – to make sure that SG captured all of data for the providers and setting types that she entered.

Please let me know if you would like me to set up some time for you and your quality team to review the attached data.

Best,

Shawn

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hello Shawn,

Please send me information on how we can view the survey results data. This will help us prepare for the next meeting as we craft our approach to validation.

RG

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:03 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>
Cc: Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Subject: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hi All,

Below was the agenda for today's meeting. As you are probably aware, we received an informational bulletin (attached) from CMS on May 9th that changed 3/17/19 as the deadline for full compliance with the new federal regulations – to the deadline for final approval of the CQS/STP. 3/17/2022 becomes the new date to demonstrate full compliance. This gives us a bit more time to complete our provider assessments, validation activities, and document any corrective action plans. In addition, we get a bit more time to think about how ongoing monitoring and compliance fits in with our current practice.

This item segues nicely into the next – as we need to develop a work plan to help us get from current state to final approval. CMS has proposed a set of milestones and end dates for this work (attached). The task at hand is for us to agree on the milestones and propose realistic end dates. Please take some time to do this between now and next meeting. We have some time after the 2019 deadline to worry about developing a full compliance work plan.

Next, I wanted to share the HCBS provider survey response rates with you and determine next steps.

	COMPLETE	PARTIAL	NOT STARTED	NEXT STEPS
CFC	11 (26%)	8	24	
TBI	5 (45%)	1	5	
DS	17 (100%)	0	0	Set up meeting with QM staff.
CRT	2 (20%)	0	8	

As you can see, DS providers have completed 100% of their self-assessments. Great work Roy and Kathleen! My anticipated next step for them would be to set up a meeting with their QM folks to share individual provider responses – and develop a template to document any necessary corrective action plans. As far as the other programs are concerned – please let me know how I can help encourage additional providers to respond.

Finally, I was going to let you know about the status of Vermont’s geographic exception request – and discuss with you the current way Case Management and HCBS services are provided for each program in each of the geographic regions of the state. I wanted to have a conversation with you folks – before proposing a draft response to CMS.

*Agenda
June 12, 2017*

- [1. CMS Memo May 9, 2017](#)
- [2. CMS Proposed Milestones and End Dates](#)
- [3. HCBS Provider Survey – update](#)
- [4. CMS Follow Up – case management conflict of interest issue](#)

Thank you,

Shawn

From: [Fuoco, Danielle](#)
To: [Hill, Bard](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Cc: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
Subject: RE: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 9:44:57 AM

Hi Bard,

The totals have not been addressed – I was going to email you and Dale B. separately about those for the DAIL programs. I had already emailed Dale about the PCS data yesterday (you were copied).

Regarding **Question 12** – It sounds like DDS (as well as the DMH programs) are not able to respond to these questions at this point. I suspect the same is true for CFC and TBI but confirmation is appreciated.

Regarding **Question 9** – Shawn already reviewed this and said yes, there are quality measures but each program needs to provide a response as it varies. More information from each program is still needed.

There is an Ombudsman for consumer issues outside of state government – that is the role of the LTC Ombudsman and the Office of the Health Care Advocate at Legal Aid.

Thank you for your continued input!

Dani Fuoco, Program Consultant
AHS Medicaid Policy Unit
(802) 585-4265

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 8:59 AM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Fuoco, Danielle <Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Cc: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Hi-

I suspect that the totals have been addressed by now- please let me know if that is not the case. Dani do you have what you need from DAIL for #9 and #12 (for Choices for Care, Developmental Disability Services, and Traumatic Brain Injury)?

Cheers-
Bard

The emphasis should be on why we do a job.

W. Edwards Deming

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

From: Gerstenberger, Roy

Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 8:47 AM

To: Fuoco, Danielle <Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>

Cc: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Hello Danielle,

I've copied Bard Hill as he may be able to offer the totals for DAIL divisions. We can also get you the DAIL Annual Report that includes numbers for divisions.

Developmental Services does not have an Ombudsman role. We participate in the National Core Indicators project and track system outcomes with that methodology.

Question #12 relates to our state HCBS Transition Plan and asks for conclusions regarding a phase of the plan that Vermont has not reached as of this date. Therefore, the answer to all of the questions would be "No". I've copied Shawn Skaflestad as he has the AHS Comprehensive Quality Strategy Plan.

Roy Gerstenberger

From: Fuoco, Danielle

Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:09 PM

To: Tierney-Ward, Megan; Gerstenberger, Roy; Harrigan, Emma; Omland, Laurel; Courcelle, Andre

Subject: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Hello,

I coordinate external surveys on Medicaid for AHS and am hoping to get your input for each of your respective programs on a few specific questions on a survey from the Kaiser Family Foundation. The scope of the attached survey is all of the HCBS programs under our 1115 Global Commitment to Health Demonstration waiver. Programs included are:

- Choices for Care
- Developmental Disability Services
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Community Rehabilitation and Treatment
- Children's Mental Health

I am specifically requesting your input on **Question # 9** – *Quality Measures* and **Question #12** – *HCBS Setting Rules Transition*.

Please respond to me directly by the end of this week (COB Friday, 6/16).

Also, please let me know if you have any questions!

Thank you for your assistance.

Dani Fuoco, MPA

Program Consultant

Medicaid Policy Unit

Agency of Human Services

280 State Drive, Center Building

Waterbury, Vermont 05671-1000

[P] (802) 585-4265

[F] (802) 241-0958

Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
Cc: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Subject: RE: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17
Date: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:58:57 AM

My point is that the terms appear to be fluid. Look at the cahps hcbs vendor instructions not just the form...

I don't understand your comment re additional surveys.

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:43 AM
To: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>
Cc: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

I totally agree that the survey would allow us to insert our own names for the 4 types of staff/services mentioned below. Not knowing the details re: the types of services offered by each program (or the staff providing them) - I was wondering if asking CFC, DS, and TBI consumers about these 4 staff/services would be a good proxy for their overall experience of care. If not – my concern is that we would need to administer additional surveys.

Shawn

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:23 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Cc: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

The survey would need to address specific names relevant to vt programs. I believe the italics are meant to communicate that.

Or we can delay cahps hcbs pending further implementation elsewhere.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 20, 2017, at 10:10 AM, Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov> wrote:

I have attached the survey Bard referenced below. After a quick look - I noticed that it focuses on assessing the experience that individuals have with the following types of staff and services:

- personal assistance

- behavioral health
- homemaker
- case manager

Is this list complete or are there other staff and services that would need to be included in order to adequately assess the experience of care received by CFC, DS, and TBI consumers?

Shawn

From: Hill, Bard

Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 1:41 PM

To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>

Cc: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>

Subject: FW: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

Hi-

This email refers to related MCE quality committee activities. I propose that we pursue use of the CAHPS HCBS survey module across CFC, TBI, and DDS special programs, and reference this survey in the evaluation plan with an emphasis on the three bolded domains below as quality measures:

“The Home and Community-Based Services Survey must be administered in person or by telephone by an interviewer. It consists of 69 core items that ask beneficiaries to report on their experiences with the following:

•**Getting needed services.**

- Communication with providers.
- Case managers.

•**Choice of services.**

- Medical transportation.
- Personal safety.

•**Community inclusion and empowerment.**

A set of supplemental items ask about experience with employment services.”

<https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hcbs/index.html>

Comments/concerns?

Cheers

Bard

Eschew surplusage.

Samuel Clemens

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

From: Carmichael, Erin

Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 12:53 PM

To: Beck, Stephanie <Stephanie.Beck@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>; Dalley, Pam <Pam.Dalley@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Hoffman, Sandi <Sandi.Hoffman@vermont.gov>; Larkin, Robert <Robert.Larkin@vermont.gov>; Ochs, Walter <Walter.Ochs@vermont.gov>; Ross, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Ross@vermont.gov>; Simpatico, Tom <Tom.Simpatico@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>

Cc: Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>

Subject: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

Hi all,

I'm attaching the agenda for our MCE Quality Committee meeting next Friday the 20th either by phone or in person in the Hawthorn room in Waterbury (note room change).

I've set aside the largest hunk of time on the agenda to discuss CAHPS survey planning and implementation. CAHPS is a large body of surveys that ask consumers and patients to report on their experiences with health care. The CAHPS survey tools are widely used, provide a standard measurement tool and comparative results. This is a timely discussion, as other groups around the Agency are currently reviewing how we monitor and report out on experience of care. Here are the items (taken from our agenda) that I've suggested we focus on:

- *Provide an overview of the CAHPS survey modules*
- *Discuss how different Departments within AHS are currently using, or have plans to use, any of these survey modules*
- *Discuss existing regulatory requirements, including the tool used and frequency, for monitoring experience of care for the services we provide.*
- *Where do opportunities exist for collaboration? How do we use our results now? How could we use results in the future?*
- *Do we have recommendations that we could push up to wider GC Evaluation*

group and/or Comprehensive Quality Strategy re: particular domains or measures that should be monitored?

I am also including links here to some CAHPS reading you can do ahead of time. Please familiarize yourself with the topic and come with questions and ideas:

General link: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/index.html>

Health Plan survey info: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hp/index.html>

Home and Community Based Services: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hcbs/index.html>

Patient Centered Medical Home: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/item-sets/PCMH/index.html>

Thanks and have a great long weekend,
Erin

Erin Carmichael | Quality Improvement Administrator

Department of Vermont Health Access

📍: 280 State Drive, NOB 1 South
Waterbury, VT 05671

☎: 802-241-0388

✉: Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov

<cahps-home-and-community-based-services-survey-10-english.pdf>

From: [Hutt, Monica](#)
To: [AHS - DAIL Management Team](#)
Subject: FW: GCR Proposed Policy 17-017: Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy
Date: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 2:02:02 PM

Monica Caserta Hutt, Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner's Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401
E-mail: monica.hutt@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.

“If the spirit of liberty should vanish in other parts of the Union, and support of our institutions should languish, it could all be replenished from the generous store held by the people of this brave little state of Vermont.” Calvin Coolidge

-

From: AHS - Medicaid Policy
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:13 PM
To: AHS - Medicaid Policy <AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov>
Subject: GCR Proposed Policy 17-017: Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy

Hello,

Global Commitment Register (GCR) proposed policy 17-017: Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy is open for public comment through April 28, 2017. A public hearing will be held on April 21, 2017. For information about the proposed policy change, the public hearing, and to find out how to submit a public comment, please [click here](#).

The GCR is a database of policy changes to and clarifications of existing Medicaid policy under

Vermont's [1115 Global Commitment to Health waiver](#). To access the Global Commitment Register, [click here](#).

[NOTE: You have received this email because you are on an email distribution list for changes to Agency of Human Services (AHS) health care policies. If you no longer wish to receive email notifications for changes to AHS health care policies, such as administrative rule, Medicaid State Plan or the Global Commitment waiver, or if you would like someone added to this list, please email AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.]

Sincerely,

Medicaid Policy Unit

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#)
Cc: [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Clark, Bill](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones
Date: Monday, April 10, 2017 12:24:49 PM

Hi Everyone,

Below are some of the items I would like to discuss this afternoon:

- Sender and Subject Line of survey email;
- Link in introductory email (user-friendly and hyperlink);
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Best,

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Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 11:49 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn; Tierney-Ward, Megan; Gerstenberger, Roy; Courcelle, Andre; Harrigan, Emma; Omland, Laurel; Clark, Bill; Hawes, Emily
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When: Monday, April 10, 2017 3:30 PM-4:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
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Shawn

-

Conference Call Information:

Dial-In Number: 1-877-273-4202

Conference Room ID: 1262904

From: [O'Neill, Chris](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [McFadden, Clare](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps
Date: Monday, June 26, 2017 12:23:50 PM

Thanks Roy,

The results are difficult to read in the format they're in but I only did a quick glance. I was surprised at the number of group community supports, but looking at the survey results it makes sense. Should we clarify with Shawn that it's Francis Foundation and not the Ford Foundation. Though if it was the Ford Foundation, they would have some resources for grants and other funding that could help with the transition process.

Chris

Christopher M. O'Neill
 Quality Management Team Leader
 Developmental Disabilities Services Division (DDSD)
 (802) 241-0332; Cell: (802) 793-4213
 Fax: (802) 241-0410

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 11:55 AM
To: O'Neill, Chris <Chris.ONeill@vermont.gov>
Cc: McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 11:13 AM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>
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	LSI		1			1
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From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:03 PM

To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>
Cc: Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Subject: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hi All,

Below was the agenda for today's meeting. As you are probably aware, we received an informational bulletin (attached) from CMS on May 9th that changed 3/17/19 as the deadline for full compliance with the new federal regulations – to the deadline for final approval of the CQS/STP. 3/17/2022 becomes the new date to demonstrate full compliance. This gives us a bit more time to complete our provider assessments, validation activities, and document any corrective action plans. In addition, we get a bit more time to think about how ongoing monitoring and compliance fits in with our current practice.

This item segues nicely into the next – as we need to develop a work plan to help us get from current state to final approval. CMS has proposed a set of milestones and end dates for this work (attached). The task at hand is for us to agree on the milestones and propose realistic end dates. Please take some time to do this between now and next meeting. We have some time after the 2019 deadline to worry about developing a full compliance work plan.

Next, I wanted to share the HCBS provider survey response rates with you and determine next steps.

	COMPLETE	PARTIAL	NOT STARTED	NEXT STEPS
CFC	11 (26%)	8	24	
TBI	5 (45%)	1	5	
DS	17 (100%)	0	0	Set up meeting with QM staff.
CRT	2 (20%)	0	8	

As you can see, DS providers have completed 100% of their self-assessments. Great work Roy and Kathleen! My anticipated next step for them would be to set up a meeting with their QM folks to share individual provider responses – and develop a template to document any necessary corrective action plans. As far as the other programs are concerned – please let me know how I can help encourage additional providers to respond.

Finally, I was going to let you know about the status of Vermont's geographic exception request – and discuss with you the current way Case Management and HCBS services are provided for each program in each of the geographic regions of the state. I wanted to have a conversation with you folks – before proposing a draft response to CMS.

Agenda

June 12, 2017

- 1. CMS Memo May 9, 2017*
- 2. CMS Proposed Milestones and End Dates*
- 3. HCBS Provider Survey – update*
- 4. CMS Follow Up – case management conflict of interest issue*

Thank you,

Shawn

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Hill, Bard](#)
Cc: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Subject: RE: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17
Date: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:42:45 AM

I totally agree that the survey would allow us to insert our own names for the 4 types of staff/services mentioned below. Not knowing the details re: the types of services offered by each program (or the staff providing them) - I was wondering if asking CFC, DS, and TBI consumers about these 4 staff/services would be a good proxy for their overall experience of care. If not – my concern is that we would need to administer additional surveys.

Shawn

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:23 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Cc: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

The survey would need to address specific names relevant to vt programs. I believe the italics are meant to communicate that.

Or we can delay cahps hcbs pending further implementation elsewhere.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 20, 2017, at 10:10 AM, Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov> wrote:

I have attached the survey Bard referenced below. After a quick look - I noticed that it focuses on assessing the experience that individuals have with the following types of staff and services:

- personal assistance
- behavioral health
- homemaker
- case manager

Is this list complete or are there other staff and services that would need to be included in order to adequately assess the experience of care received by CFC, DS, and TBI consumers?

Shawn

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 1:41 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Cc: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

Hi-

This email refers to related MCE quality committee activities. I propose that we pursue use of the CAHPS HCBS survey module across CFC, TBI, and DDS special programs, and reference this survey in the evaluation plan with an emphasis on the three bolded domains below as quality measures:

“The Home and Community-Based Services Survey must be administered in person or by telephone by an interviewer. It consists of 69 core items that ask beneficiaries to report on their experiences with the following:

•**Getting needed services.**

- Communication with providers.
- Case managers.

•**Choice of services.**

- Medical transportation.
- Personal safety.

•**Community inclusion and empowerment.**

A set of supplemental items ask about experience with employment services.”

<https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hcbs/index.html>

Comments/concerns?

Cheers
Bard

Eschew surplusage.
Samuel Clemens

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

From: Carmichael, Erin
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 12:53 PM

To: Beck, Stephanie <Stephanie.Beck@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>; Dalley, Pam <Pam.Dalley@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Hoffman, Sandi <Sandi.Hoffman@vermont.gov>; Larkin, Robert <Robert.Larkin@vermont.gov>; Ochs, Walter <Walter.Ochs@vermont.gov>; Ross, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Ross@vermont.gov>; Simpatico, Tom <Tom.Simpatico@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Cc: Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

Hi all,

I'm attaching the agenda for our MCE Quality Committee meeting next Friday the 20th either by phone or in person in the Hawthorn room in Waterbury (note room change).

I've set aside the largest hunk of time on the agenda to discuss CAHPS survey planning and implementation. CAHPS is a large body of surveys that ask consumers and patients to report on their experiences with health care. The CAHPS survey tools are widely used, provide a standard measurement tool and comparative results. This is a timely discussion, as other groups around the Agency are currently reviewing how we monitor and report out on experience of care. Here are the items (taken from our agenda) that I've suggested we focus on:

- *Provide an overview of the CAHPS survey modules*
- *Discuss how different Departments within AHS are currently using, or have plans to use, any of these survey modules*
- *Discuss existing regulatory requirements, including the tool used and frequency, for monitoring experience of care for the services we provide.*
- *Where do opportunities exist for collaboration? How do we use our results now? How could we use results in the future?*
- *Do we have recommendations that we could push up to wider GC Evaluation group and/or Comprehensive Quality Strategy re: particular domains or measures that should be monitored?*

I am also including links here to some CAHPS reading you can do ahead of time. Please familiarize yourself with the topic and come with questions and ideas:

General link: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/index.html>

Health Plan survey info: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hp/index.html>

Home and Community Based Services: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hcbs/index.html>

Patient Centered Medical Home: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/item-sets/PCMH/index.html>

Thanks and have a great long weekend,
Erin

Erin Carmichael | Quality Improvement Administrator

Department of Vermont Health Access

📍: 280 State Drive, NOB 1 South

Waterbury, VT 05671

☎: 802-241-0388

✉: Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov

<cahps-home-and-community-based-services-survey-10-english.pdf>

From: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)
To: [Hill, Bard](#); [Parker, Lindsay](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [George, Camille](#); [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Hickman, Selina](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Subject: RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 3:07:54 PM
Attachments: [Price-Verma Letter to States - 3-14-17.pdf](#)

This is interesting. Though I believe our timeline is looking good for CFC on the HCBS rules compliance, we have not yet received the guidance we requested from CMS regarding case management and conflict of interest (unless we did while I was on vacation... Selina?). So more time is never a bad thing if we are faced with a potential big shift in how we deliver case management. Perhaps the statement "we will be examining ways in which we can improve our engagement with states on the implementation of the HCBS rule, including greater state involvement in the process of assessing compliance of specific settings" is a sign that CMS will be more flexible within the rules???

Megan

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:28 PM
To: Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>
Cc: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

I defer to roy and Megan in DAIL
Not sure who the dmh lead is

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2017, at 12:25 PM, Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov> wrote:

Sorry Bard sitting in ACA meeting.

Is it fair to say VT is on track to come into compliance by 2019?

Lindsay Parker
Agency of Human Services
[p] 802-578-9427

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:24 PM
To: Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov>
Cc: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

Hi

Both DAIL and dmh are working on a hcbs rules, as d scribed in the gc cqs. Roy is lead for dds and Megan for cfc and tbi Bard

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2017, at 11:53 AM, Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov> wrote:

Hi Bard and Camille,

Am hoping you can let me know if the fed reg below is one DAIL has been working on and where VT is with compliance? (attached is Verma-Price letter for context).

Am asking so I can provide update to Cory asap (he has reporter coming in for ACA repeal questions).

Thanks!

<image001.png>

Lindsay Parker, MPH

Health Access Policy & Planning Chief
Medicaid Policy, Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive, Building E-313
Waterbury, VT 05671
[p] 802-578-9427 | [f] 802-871-3001
[e] lindsay.parker@vermont.gov

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<Price-Verma Letter to States - 3-14-17.pdf>

From: Kara Artus
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: RE: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy
Date: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:00:03 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thanks Roy!

Kara

Kara Artus
Executive Director
Transition II
346 Shelburne Road
Burlington, Vermont 05401
Phone: 802-846-7281
Fax: 802-846-7282
Website: www.transitionii.com

From: Gerstenberger, Roy [mailto:Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 2:38 PM
To: Murphy, Kirsten <Kirsten.Murphy@vermont.gov>; Barb Prine <BPrine@vtlegalaid.org>; Max Barrows <max@gmsavt.org>; Karen Topper <topper@gmsavt.org>; McCarthy, Pam <pam.mccarthy@vtfn.org>; Holsopple, Kathy <kholsopple@vffcmh.org>; Waller, Marlys <Marlys@vermontcarepartners.org>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Ashe, William <billa@uvs-vt.org>; Dawn Danner (ddanner@ucsvt.org) <ddanner@ucsvt.org>; Dixie McFarland (dmcfarland@nkhs.net) <dmcfarland@nkhs.net>; Dylan Devlin (ddevlin@hcrs.org) <ddevlin@hcrs.org>; Elizabeth Sightler <esightler@ccs-vt.org>; Ellen Malone (emalone@rmhscn.org) <emalone@rmhscn.org>; Greg Mairs (gmairs@csac-vt.org) <gmairs@csac-vt.org>; Jennifer Stratton (jennifers@lamoille.org) <jennifers@lamoille.org>; Josh Smith (JoshS@gmssi.com) <JoshS@gmssi.com>; Cunningham, Julie <juliec families@myfairpoint.net>; Juliet Martin (juliem@wcmhs.org) <juliem@wcmhs.org>; Kara Artus (kara@transitionii.com) <kara@transitionii.com>; Kathleen Brown (kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org) <kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org>; Marie Zura <mariez@howardcenter.org>; Hathaway, Ray <rdhathaway@aol.com>; Sherry Thrall (cthral@lincolnstreetinc.org) <cthral@lincolnstreetinc.org>; Theresa Earle <tearle@hcrs.org>
Cc: AHS - DAIL DDS Team <AHS.DAILDDSDTeam@vermont.gov>
Subject: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy

Hello Everyone,

An updated Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy has been posted for public comment through April 28, 2017. This is the document that summarizes how Vermont is planning the transition to align with the new HCBS Medicaid rules. A public hearing will be held on

April 21, 2017. For information about the proposed policy change, the public hearing, and to find out how to submit a public comment, please [click here](#).

You'll find the posting announcement. If you follow the link to the strategy document, here's where you will find the transition information:

- HCBS Transition Plan Preface (pp. 3-15)
- The fourth part of Section III: State Standards (pp. 58-62)
- Appendix A-E VT HCBS Program Systemic Assessments and Work Plans (links on pp. 78-82)

The AHS site has links to several related documents.

ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director

Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: lisa.parro@vermont.gov

[Developmental Disabilities Services Division](#)

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

280 State Drive, HC 2 South

Waterbury, VT 05671-2030

802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell



<https://www.facebook.com/vtdsd/>

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Hill, Bard](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Clark, Bill](#); [McFadden, Clare](#)
Cc: [Hickman, Selina](#); [Carmichael, Erin](#)
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses
Date: Tuesday, August 08, 2017 12:38:23 PM

Thanks for your comments on this Emma! I will edit the response below to highlight the fact that AHS has submitted a geographic exception request to CMS in response to this requirement – and that the CQS/STP will be updated once a CMS determination has been made.

Shawn

From: Harrigan, Emma
Sent: Monday, August 07, 2017 3:44 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Apologies for the late reply. I don't see anything MH-specific so I don't have much feedback.

<p>The document does not specifically address the issue of conflict free case management.</p>	<p>Vermont's rules and statutes currently require person-centered planning for all populations. The person-centered planning provisions of the HCBS rules at 42 CFR§441.301(c)(1), (2) and (3) became effective on March 17, 2014. These requirements are not subject to a phase in or transition period. Compliance with these requirements is being addressed by the ongoing monitoring and compliance requirements of the CQS. Each specialized program will address the conflict free case management element in its own HCBS Compliance Plan.</p>
---	---

Perhaps I'm mis-remembering, but aren't we approaching an AHS-level solution to conflict-free case management since it touches all programs?

Emma Harrigan
Quality Management Director
Department of Mental Health
802-241-0098

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 10:31 AM
To: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Thanks for your comments Bard – very helpful!

Shawn

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 5:17 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Hi-
Not sure if the additions (using track changes) are helpful...
Thanks Shawn.
Bard

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Hi All,

As you may recall, a formal public hearing for the attached Comprehensive Quality Strategy (CQS)/State Transition Plan (STP) was held on Thursday, April 21, 2017 from 1pm - 2pm at the Waterbury State Office Complex (WSOC). While no individuals from the community attended the hearing – I did receive three pieces of written feedback during the public comment period. I have attached a Word file that contains a summary of the public comments from these documents – along with draft State responses. As you will notice – not all comments have responses.

I am asking that you edit my draft responses – as well as suggest language for those comments w/o responses - by cob this Friday, July 28th. Once this document is complete – I will modify the CQS/STP accordingly – and submit it to CMS for review. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Shawn

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.
Quality Improvement Manager
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive Center Building
3rd Floor – E310-1
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Office: (802) 241-0961
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410
Fax: 802-241-0450

Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).
(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: [Omland, Laurel](#)
To: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Hawes, Emily](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Reed, Frank](#)
Cc: [Clark, Bill](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones Meeting on Monday March 13th
Date: Friday, March 10, 2017 12:44:19 PM

Thanks Shawn. Can we also discuss the methodology for selecting the consumer (parent) survey recipients? My understanding is that it's a sample. See you Monday

Laurel

Desk: 802-241-0162
Cell: 802-279-5012
laurel.omland@vermont.gov

280 State Drive, NOB 2 North
Waterbury, VT 05671-2090

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Thursday, March 09, 2017 1:34 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Hawes, Emily <Emily.Hawes@vermont.gov>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Reed, Frank <frank.reed@vermont.gov>
Cc: Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Subject: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones Meeting on Monday March 13th

Hi All,

The DAIL program surveys have been successfully transferred to the AHS SurveyGizmo (SG) account and the DMH survey transfer was initiated today. We expect the DMH surveys to be in our account by this Monday, March 13th. As far as provider survey next steps are concerned – we need to do the following:

- Create personalized messages (both content and look) that you would like to send to providers. SG offers customizable messages for invites, reminders, and thank yous. I can send you a template that you can modify. **As a group, we will need to determine the most efficient way to customize the look of your messages.**
- Upload a spreadsheet containing provider contact information. In order to do this, **I will need a spreadsheet from you with provider contact information (specifically emails).** To date, I have set up 3 DAIL email campaigns (i.e., CFC providers, DS providers, and TBI providers). As a result, I will need a spreadsheet with provider contact information for each. I have also set up 3 DMH email campaigns (i.e., CRT providers, EFT providers, and EFT Parents/Guardians). Similar to DAIL – each will need a spreadsheet with contact information. I set up the email campaigns – so if these don't make sense – we can make adjustments.

- **Determine survey open and close dates.** I propose Monday, April 3rd as the day that DAIL provider surveys should be sent out – and Friday, April 28th as the closing date. As far as DMH is concerned – I propose May 1st and May 31st OR June 1st and June 30th. These dates are flexible – but we need to agree on dates ahead of the Comprehensive Quality Strategy (CQS – aka Vermont’s State Transition Plan) public posting next Friday, March 17th.
- **Clarify a monitoring plan.** SG has numerous statistics that track message/survey delivery and completion. We need to determine how best to use the information available via the application to enhance response rates, flag concerns, and monitor any corrective actions.

Please keep in mind that these items relate to provider self-assessments only. We have an update meeting scheduled for this coming Monday, March 13th from 3:30pm-4:30pm. I would like to use some of this meeting to review this email, make some decisions, and determine next steps – including the administration of the consumer validation survey. If you would like to talk before our meeting, please feel free to email, call, or stop by.

Speak with you soon,

Shawn

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.
Quality Improvement Manager
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive Center Building
3rd Floor – E310-1
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Office: (802) 241-0961
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410
Fax: 802-241-0450

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(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
Cc: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Subject: Re: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17
Date: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:22:39 AM

The survey would need to address specific names relevant to vt programs. I believe the italics are meant to communicate that.

Or we can delay cahps hcbs pending further implementation elsewhere.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 20, 2017, at 10:10 AM, Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov> wrote:

I have attached the survey Bard referenced below. After a quick look - I noticed that it focuses on assessing the experience that individuals have with the following types of staff and services:

- personal assistance
- behavioral health
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- case manager

Is this list complete or are there other staff and services that would need to be included in order to adequately assess the experience of care received by CFC, DS, and TBI consumers?

Shawn

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 1:41 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Cc: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

Hi-

This email refers to related MCE quality committee activities. I propose that we pursue use of the CAHPS HCBS survey module across CFC, TBI, and DDS special programs, and reference this survey in the evaluation plan with an emphasis on the three bolded domains below as quality measures:

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by telephone by an interviewer. It consists of 69 core items that ask beneficiaries to report on their experiences with the following:

•**Getting needed services.**

•Communication with providers.

•Case managers.

•**Choice of services.**

•Medical transportation.

•Personal safety.

•**Community inclusion and empowerment.**

A set of supplemental items ask about experience with employment services.”

<https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/hcbs/index.html>

Comments/concerns?

Cheers

Bard

Eschew surplusage.

Samuel Clemens

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

From: Carmichael, Erin

Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 12:53 PM

To: Beck, Stephanie <Stephanie.Beck@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>; Dalley, Pam <Pam.Dalley@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Hoffman, Sandi <Sandi.Hoffman@vermont.gov>; Larkin, Robert <Robert.Larkin@vermont.gov>; Ochs, Walter <Walter.Ochs@vermont.gov>; Ross, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Ross@vermont.gov>; Simpatico, Tom <Tom.Simpatico@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>

Cc: Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>

Subject: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

Hi all,

I'm attaching the agenda for our MCE Quality Committee meeting next Friday the 20th either by phone or in person in the Hawthorn room in Waterbury (note room change).

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Patient Centered Medical Home: <https://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/surveys-guidance/item-sets/PCMH/index.html>

Thanks and have a great long weekend,
Erin

Erin Carmichael | Quality Improvement Administrator

Department of Vermont Health Access

📍: 280 State Drive, NOB 1 South
Waterbury, VT 05671

☎: 802-241-0388

✉: Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov

<cahps-home-and-community-based-services-survey-10-english.pdf>

From: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)
To: [Hill, Bard](#); [Parker, Lindsay](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [George, Camille](#)
Subject: RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:36:57 PM

I can't see the attachment.

M

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:28 PM
To: Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>
Cc: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

I defer to roy and Megan in DAIL
Not sure who the dmh lead is

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2017, at 12:25 PM, Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov> wrote:

Sorry Bard sitting in ACA meeting.

Is it fair to say VT is on track to come into compliance by 2019?

Lindsay Parker
Agency of Human Services
[p] 802-578-9427

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To: Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov>
Cc: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
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Am asking so I can provide update to Cory asap (he has reporter coming in for ACA repeal questions).

Thanks!

<image001.png>

Lindsay Parker, MPH

Health Access Policy & Planning Chief
Medicaid Policy, Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive, Building E-313
Waterbury, VT 05671
[p] 802-578-9427 | [f] 802-871-3001
[e] lindsay.parker@vermont.gov

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<Price-Verma Letter to States - 3-14-17.pdf>

From: julie@familiesfirstvt.com
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Murphy, Kirsten](#); [Barb Prine](#); [Max Barrows](#); [Karen Topper](#); [McCarthy, Pam](#); [Holsopple, Kathy](#); [Waller, Marlys](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Ashe, William](#); [Dawn Danner \(ddanner@ucsvt.org\)](#); [Dixie McFarland \(dmcfarland@nkhs.net\)](#); [Dylan Devlin \(ddevlin@hcrs.org\)](#); [Elizabeth Sightler](#); [Ellen Malone \(emalone@rmhscn.org\)](#); [Greg Mairs \(gmairs@csac-vt.org\)](#); [Jennifer Stratton \(jennifers@lamaille.org\)](#); [Josh Smith \(JoshS@gmssi.com\)](#); [Cunningham, Julie](#); [Juliet Martin \(juliem@wcmhs.org\)](#); [Kara Artus \(kara@transitionii.com\)](#); [Kathleen Brown \(kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org\)](#); [Marie Zura](#); [Hathaway, Ray](#); [Sherry Thrall \(cthrall@lincolnstreetinc.org\)](#); [Theresa Earle](#)
Cc: [AHS - DAIL DDSD Team](#)
Subject: RE: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy
Date: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:46:55 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thank you, Roy. Is it possible to have video conferencing for the public hearing from other sites?

Julie Cunningham, LICSW
Executive Director
Families First
(802) 464-9633

From: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 2:38 PM
To: [Murphy, Kirsten](#); [Barb Prine](#); [Max Barrows](#); [Karen Topper](#); [McCarthy, Pam](#); [Holsopple, Kathy](#); [Waller, Marlys](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Ashe, William](#); [Dawn Danner \(ddanner@ucsvt.org\)](#); [Dixie McFarland \(dmcfarland@nkhs.net\)](#); [Dylan Devlin \(ddevlin@hcrs.org\)](#); [Elizabeth Sightler](#); [Ellen Malone \(emalone@rmhscn.org\)](#); [Greg Mairs \(gmairs@csac-vt.org\)](#); [Jennifer Stratton \(jennifers@lamaille.org\)](#); [Josh Smith \(JoshS@gmssi.com\)](#); [Cunningham, Julie](#); [Juliet Martin \(juliem@wcmhs.org\)](#); [Kara Artus \(kara@transitionii.com\)](#); [Kathleen Brown \(kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org\)](#); [Marie Zura](#); [Hathaway, Ray](#); [Sherry Thrall \(cthrall@lincolnstreetinc.org\)](#); [Theresa Earle](#)
Cc: [AHS - DAIL DDSD Team](#)
Subject: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy

Hello Everyone,

An updated Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy has been posted for public comment through April 28, 2017. This is the document that summarizes how Vermont is planning the transition to align with the new HCBS Medicaid rules. A public hearing will be held on April 21, 2017. For information about the proposed policy change, the public hearing, and to find out how to submit a public comment, please [click here](#).

You'll find the posting announcement. If you follow the link to the strategy document, here's where you will find the transition information:

- HCBS Transition Plan Preface (pp. 3-15)
- The fourth part of Section III: State Standards (pp. 58-62)
- Appendix A-E VT HCBS Program Systemic Assessments and Work Plans (links on pp. 78-82)

The AHS site has links to several related documents.

ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director

Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: lisa.parro@vermont.gov

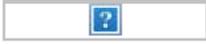
Developmental Disabilities Services Division

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

280 State Drive, HC 2 South

Waterbury, VT 05671-2030

802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell



<https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#)
Cc: [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Clark, Bill](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones
Date: Friday, April 14, 2017 4:00:49 PM

Hi All,

A second HCBS Survey email went out this afternoon with the following changes:

- Subject of email is “HCBS Survey”
- Link to survey is now secure (https)
- Link to the survey can be used more than once
- Link to survey moved up in introductory message
- Link is now hyperlink – and is titled “HCBS Survey”
- Due date in introductory message has been changed to Friday, May 12th
- First paragraph of Instructions section has been deleted
- “Click here if you need to complete a survey for another setting” link has been included at the end of the survey

Please let me know if your program contacts do not receive the email.

Have a great weekend!

Shawn

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 12:25 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones

Hi Everyone,

Below are some of the items I would like to discuss this afternoon:

- Sender and Subject Line of survey email;
- Link in introductory email (user-friendly and hyperlink);
- Use of http vs https protocol (security);
- Multiple responses from one contact (functionality and messaging);
- Contact list; and
- Communicating w/providers

Kathy has been fielding comments, concerns, and questions from the DS providers – so she might have some other things to add as well.

Best,

Shawn

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Hurlburt, Laurie **On Behalf Of** Skaflestad, Shawn

Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 11:49 AM

To: Skaflestad, Shawn; Tierney-Ward, Megan; Gerstenberger, Roy; Courcelle, Andre; Harrigan, Emma; Omland, Laurel; Clark, Bill; Hawes, Emily

Cc: Hamilton, Kathleen; Reed, Frank

Subject: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones

When: Monday, April 10, 2017 3:30 PM-4:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Spruce 8 (DAIL)

Hi All,

I am extending our monthly HCBS CQS/STP Milestone meeting through June of 2017. Please note that I changed the location of this meeting to Spruce 8 (2nd floor of the Historic Core South – near DAIL). Thank you for your continued involvement.

Shawn

-

Conference Call Information:

Dial-In Number: 1-877-273-4202

Conference Room ID: 1262904

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Hill, Bard](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Subject: RE: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17
Date: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:10:37 AM
Attachments: [cahps-home-and-community-based-services-survey-10-english.pdf](#)

I have attached the survey Bard referenced below. After a quick look - I noticed that it focuses on assessing the experience that individuals have with the following types of staff and services:

- personal assistance
- behavioral health
- homemaker
- case manager

Is this list complete or are there other staff and services that would need to be included in order to adequately assess the experience of care received by CFC, DS, and TBI consumers?

Shawn

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Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 1:41 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Cc: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

Hi-

This email refers to related MCE quality committee activities. I propose that we pursue use of the CAHPS HCBS survey module across CFC, TBI, and DDS special programs, and reference this survey in the evaluation plan with an emphasis on the three bolded domains below as quality measures:

“The Home and Community-Based Services Survey must be administered in person or by telephone by an interviewer. It consists of 69 core items that ask beneficiaries to report on their experiences with the following:

●**Getting needed services.**

- Communication with providers.
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●**Choice of services.**

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A set of supplemental items ask about experience with employment services.”

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Comments/concerns?

Cheers
Bard

Eschew surplusage.
Samuel Clemens

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov
landline 802.241.0376
mobile 802.760.0852

From: Carmichael, Erin
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 12:53 PM
To: Beck, Stephanie <Stephanie.Beck@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>; Dalley, Pam <Pam.Dalley@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Hoffman, Sandi <Sandi.Hoffman@vermont.gov>; Larkin, Robert <Robert.Larkin@vermont.gov>; Ochs, Walter <Walter.Ochs@vermont.gov>; Ross, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Ross@vermont.gov>; Simpatico, Tom <Tom.Simpatico@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Cc: Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
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Erin Carmichael | Quality Improvement Administrator

Department of Vermont Health Access

📍: 280 State Drive, NOB 1 South
Waterbury, VT 05671

☎: 802-241-0388

✉: Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov

From: [George, Camille](#)
To: [Parker, Lindsay](#); [Hill, Bard](#)
Cc: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Tilney-Ward, Megan](#); [Schurr, Stuart](#)
Subject: RE: Timely quest ons - HCBS fed reg
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017, 12:33:35 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

[Redacted content]

Camille George, Deputy Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner's Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802 241 2401 or 802 241 0359
E-mail: camille.george@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.

From: Parker, Lindsay
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017, 12:25 PM
To: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>
Cc: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

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Lindsay Parker
Agency of Human Services
[p] 802-578-9427

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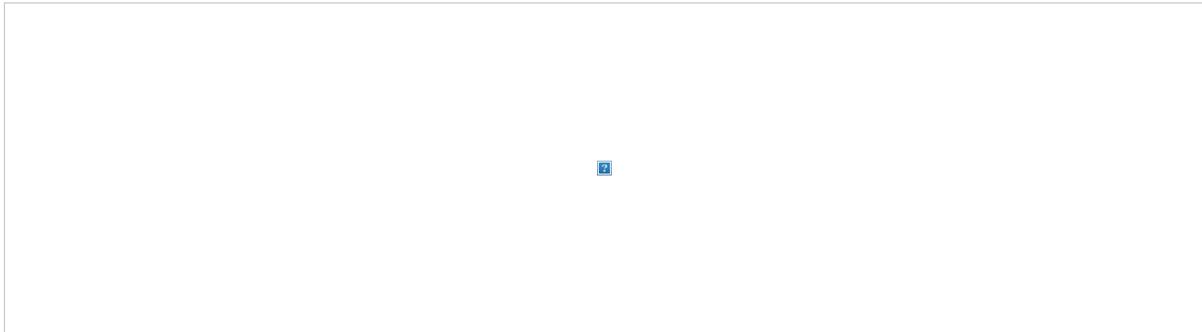
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<Price-Verma Letter to States - 3-14-17.pdf>

From: [Courcelle, Andre](#)
To: [Hill, Bard](#); [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
Cc: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: RE: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17
Date: Friday, January 20, 2017 11:40:40 AM

Hello,

I feel this survey would cover the areas we need for satisfaction as well as programmatic data and person centeredness for quality improvement. PCA and homemaker have an overlap in the LSA services. The LSA would be assisting the individual in both areas as part of the person's ISP. The home provider would also be involved in some of the homemaker areas. Case management is straight forward. Community and choice sections should work. If the vendor is aware of the specific areas and nuances it should work.

Andre'R Courcelle

Quality & Provider Relations Program Director

Adult Services Division

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

280 State Drive HC-2 South

Waterbury, VT 05671-2070

Office: 802 786-2516

Fax: 802 786-5055

andre.courcelle@vermont.gov

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:59 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Cc: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

My point is that the terms appear to be fluid. Look at the cahps hcbs vendor instructions not just the form...

I don't understand your comment re additional surveys.

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:43 AM
To: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>
Cc: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

I totally agree that the survey would allow us to insert our own names for the 4 types of staff/services mentioned below. Not knowing the details re: the types of services offered by each program (or the staff providing them) - I was wondering if asking CFC, DS, and TBI consumers about these 4 staff/services would be a good proxy for their overall experience of care. If not – my concern

is that we would need to administer additional surveys.

Shawn

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Sent: Friday, January 20, 2017 10:23 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Cc: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: MCE Quality Committee Agenda for 1/20/17

The survey would need to address specific names relevant to vt programs. I believe the italics are meant to communicate that.

Or we can delay cahps hcbs pending further implementation elsewhere.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 20, 2017, at 10:10 AM, Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov> wrote:

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- personal assistance
- behavioral health
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Eschew surplusage.
Samuel Clemens

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landline 802.241.0376

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From: Carmichael, Erin

Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 12:53 PM

To: Beck, Stephanie <Stephanie.Beck@vermont.gov>; Bilodeau, Cheryle <Cheryle.Bilodeau@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>; Dalley, Pam <Pam.Dalley@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Hoffman, Sandi <Sandi.Hoffman@vermont.gov>; Larkin, Robert <Robert.Larkin@vermont.gov>; Ochs, Walter <Walter.Ochs@vermont.gov>; Ross, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Ross@vermont.gov>; Simpatico, Tom <Tom.Simpatico@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>

Cc: Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>

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Erin Carmichael | Quality Improvement Administrator
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hcbs rules, as d scribed in the gc cqs. Roy is lead for dds and Megan for cfc and tbi
Bard

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2017, at 11:53 AM, Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov> wrote:

Hi Bard and Camille,

Am hoping you can let me know if the fed reg below is one DAIL has been
working on and where VT is with compliance? (attached is Verma-Price
letter for context).

Am asking so I can provide update to Cory asap (he has reporter coming in
for ACA repeal questions).

Thanks!

<image001.png>

Lindsay Parker, MPH

Health Access Policy & Planning Chief
Medicaid Policy, Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive, Building E-313
Waterbury, VT 05671

[p] 802-578-9427 | [f] 802-871-3001

[e] lindsay.parker@vermont.gov

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<Price-Verma Letter to States - 3-14-17.pdf>

From: Parker, Lindsay
To: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Hill, Bard](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [George, Camille](#); [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Hickman, Selina](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Subject: RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 3:24:36 PM

Thanks, All! I have what I need for today.

Lindsay Parker

Agency of Human Services
[p] 802-578-9427

From: Tierney-Ward, Megan
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 3:08 PM
To: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>
Cc: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

This is interesting. Though I believe our timeline is looking good for CFC on the HCBS rules compliance, we have not yet received the guidance we requested from CMS regarding case management and conflict of interest (unless we did while I was on vacation... Selina?). So more time is never a bad thing if we are faced with a potential big shift in how we deliver case management. Perhaps the statement "we will be examining ways in which we can improve our engagement with states on the implementation of the HCBS rule, including greater state involvement in the process of assessing compliance of specific settings" is a sign that CMS will be more flexible within the rules???

Megan

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:28 PM
To: Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>
Cc: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

I defer to roy and Megan in DAIL
Not sure who the dmh lead is

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2017, at 12:25 PM, Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov> wrote:

Sorry Bard sitting in ACA meeting.

Is it fair to say VT is on track to come into compliance by 2019?

Lindsay Parker

Agency of Human Services

[p] 802-578-9427

From: Hill, Bard

Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:24 PM

To: Parker, Lindsay <Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov>

Cc: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

Hi

Both DAIL and dmh are working on a hcbs rules, as d scribed in the gc cqs. Roy is lead for dds and Megan for cfc and tbi Bard

Sent from my iPhone

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<image001.png>

Lindsay Parker, MPH

Health Access Policy & Planning Chief

Medicaid Policy, Agency of Human Services

280 State Drive, Building E-313

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[p] 802-578-9427 | [f] 802-871-3001

[e] lindsay.parker@vermont.gov

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<Price-Verma Letter to States - 3-14-17.pdf>

From: Hamilton, Kathleen
To: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [O'Neill, Chris](#)
Subject: Re: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps
Date: Monday, July 10, 2017 3:07:32 PM

Hi Shawn and Roy. I reviewed the data on this chart and I find one error. UCS should only have 1 for Group CS. If I recall, the program froze when I did that service the 1st time and I had to re-do it. One of those surveys should only be a partial. Kathy

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Skaflestad, Shawn <shawn.skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 11:12 AM
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <roy.gerstenberger@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hamilton, Kathleen <kathleen.hamilton@vermont.gov>

Hi Roy,

The DDS HCBS provider survey results are attached. As you can see – there were 45 total survey responses from 17 DDS providers. The table below shows the setting types with responses for each provider.

	PROVIDER	STAFFED LIVING	SHARED LIVING	GROUP LIVING	GCS	TOTAL
	CAP	1	1	1	1	4
	CCS		1			1
	CSAC	1	1	1		3
	FAMILIES FIRST	1	1	1	1	4
	FORD FOUNDATION		1			1
	GMSS		1			1
	HCHS	1	1	4	1	7
	HCRS		1			1
	HEARTBEET		1			1
	LCMH		1			1
	LSI		1			1
	NCSS	1	1		1	3
	NKHS	1	1	1		3
	SCC	1	1			2
	UCS		1	1	2	4
	UVS		1	1		2
	WCMH	3	1	1	1	6

TOTAL	17	10	17	11	7	45
--------------	----	----	----	----	---	-----------

I have copied Kathy – to make sure that SG captured all of data for the providers and setting types that she entered.

Please let me know if you would like me to set up some time for you and your quality team to review the attached data.

Best,

Shawn

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hello Shawn,

Please send me information on how we can view the survey results data. This will help us prepare for the next meeting as we craft our approach to validation.

RG

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:03 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>
Cc: Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Subject: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hi All,

Below was the agenda for today's meeting. As you are probably aware, we received an informational bulletin (attached) from CMS on May 9th that changed 3/17/19 as the deadline for full compliance with the new federal regulations – to the deadline for final approval of the CQS/STP. 3/17/2022 becomes the new date to demonstrate full compliance. This gives us a bit more time to complete our provider assessments, validation activities, and document any corrective action plans. In addition, we get a bit more time to think about how ongoing monitoring and compliance fits in with our current practice.

This item segues nicely into the next – as we need to develop a work plan to help us get from

current state to final approval. CMS has proposed a set of milestones and end dates for this work (attached). The task at hand is for us to agree on the milestones and propose realistic end dates. Please take some time to do this between now and next meeting. We have some time after the 2019 deadline to worry about developing a full compliance work plan.

Next, I wanted to share the HCBS provider survey response rates with you and determine next steps.

	COMPLETE	PARTIAL	NOT STARTED	NEXT STEPS
CFC	11 (26%)	8	24	
TBI	5 (45%)	1	5	
DS	17 (100%)	0	0	Set up meeting with QM staff.
CRT	2 (20%)	0	8	

As you can see, DS providers have completed 100% of their self-assessments. Great work Roy and Kathleen! My anticipated next step for them would be to set up a meeting with their QM folks to share individual provider responses – and develop a template to document any necessary corrective action plans. As far as the other programs are concerned – please let me know how I can help encourage additional providers to respond.

Finally, I was going to let you know about the status of Vermont's geographic exception request – and discuss with you the current way Case Management and HCBS services are provided for each program in each of the geographic regions of the state. I wanted to have a conversation with you folks – before proposing a draft response to CMS.

*Agenda
June 12, 2017*

- [1. CMS Memo May 9, 2017](#)*
- [2. CMS Proposed Milestones and End Dates](#)*
- [3. HCBS Provider Survey – update](#)*
- [4. CMS Follow Up – case management conflict of interest issue](#)*

Thank you,

Shaun

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
To: [Murphy, Kirsten](#); [Barb Prine](#); [Max Barrows](#); [Karen Topper](#); [McCarthy, Pam](#); [Holsopple, Kathy](#); [Waller, Marlys](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Ashe, William](#); [Dawn Danner \(ddanner@ucsvt.org\)](#); [Dixie McFarland \(dmcfarland@nkhs.net\)](#); [Dylan Devlin \(ddevlin@hcrs.org\)](#); [Elizabeth Sightler](#); [Ellen Malone \(emalone@rmhscn.org\)](#); [Greg Mairs \(gmairs@csac-vt.org\)](#); [Jennifer Stratton \(jennifers@lamoille.org\)](#); [Josh Smith \(JoshS@gmssi.com\)](#); [Cunningham, Julie](#); [Juliet Martin \(juliem@wcmhs.org\)](#); [Kara Artus \(kara@transitionii.com\)](#); [Kathleen Brown \(kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org\)](#); [Marie Zura](#); [Hathaway, Ray](#); [Sherry Thrall \(cthrall@lincolnstreetinc.org\)](#); [Theresa Earle](#)
Cc: [AHS - DAIL DDSD Team](#)
Subject: Call In Option - RE: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy
Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 11:10:59 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Here is the call-in number:

Dial-In Number: 1-877-273-4202

Conference Room ID: 1262904

RG

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 2:38 PM
To: Murphy, Kirsten <Kirsten.Murphy@vermont.gov>; Barb Prine <BPrine@vtlegalaid.org>; Max Barrows <max@gmsavt.org>; 'Karen Topper' <topper@gmsavt.org>; Pam McCarthy (pam.mccarthy@vtfn.org) <pam.mccarthy@vtfn.org>; Kathy Holsopple (kholsoopple@vffcmh.org) <kholsoopple@vffcmh.org>; Waller, Marlys <Marlys@vermontcarepartners.org>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; 'Bill Ashe (billa@uvs-vt.org)' <billa@uvs-vt.org>; 'Dawn Danner (ddanner@ucsvt.org)' <ddanner@ucsvt.org>; 'Dixie McFarland (dmcfarland@nkhs.net)' <dmcfarland@nkhs.net>; 'Dylan Devlin (ddevlin@hcrs.org)' <ddevlin@hcrs.org>; 'Elizabeth Sightler' <esightler@ccs-vt.org>; 'Ellen Malone (emalone@rmhscn.org)' <emalone@rmhscn.org>; 'Greg Mairs (gmairs@csac-vt.org)' <gmairs@csac-vt.org>; 'Jennifer Stratton (jennifers@lamoille.org)' <jennifers@lamoille.org>; 'Josh Smith (JoshS@gmssi.com)' <JoshS@gmssi.com>; 'Julie Cunningham (juliecfamilies@myfairpoint.net)' <juliecfamilies@myfairpoint.net>; 'Juliet Martin (juliem@wcmhs.org)' <juliem@wcmhs.org>; 'Kara Artus (kara@transitionii.com)' <kara@transitionii.com>; 'Kathleen Brown (kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org)' <kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org>; 'Marie Zura' <mariez@howardcenter.org>; 'Ray Hathaway (rdhathaway@aol.com)' <rdhathaway@aol.com>; 'Sherry Thrall (cthrall@lincolnstreetinc.org)' <cthrall@lincolnstreetinc.org>; 'Theresa Earle' <tearle@hcrs.org>
Cc: AHS - DAIL DDSD Team <AHS.DAILDDSDTeam@vermont.gov>
Subject: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy

Hello Everyone,

An updated Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy has been posted for public comment through April 28, 2017. This is the document that summarizes how Vermont is planning the transition to align with the new HCBS Medicaid rules. A public hearing will be held on April 21, 2017. For information about the proposed policy change, the public hearing, and to find out how to submit a public comment, please [click here](#).

You'll find the posting announcement. If you follow the link to the strategy document, here's where you will find the transition information:

- HCBS Transition Plan Preface (pp. 3-15)
- The fourth part of Section III: State Standards (pp. 58-62)
- Appendix A-E VT HCBS Program Systemic Assessments and Work Plans (links on pp. 78-82)

The AHS site has links to several related documents.

ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director

Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: lisa.parro@vermont.gov
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
280 State Drive, HC 2 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030
802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell

 <https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

From: Allan Bergman
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [Murphy, Kirsten](#)
Subject: CQL POMs
Date: Monday, June 05, 2017 12:40:37 PM
Attachments: [CQL-CMS-HCBS-Rule-Crosswalk-8-2014.pdf](#)
[CQLPersonalOutcomes.21.htm](#)

Good morning Roy,

I am attaching a link to a one page summary of the CQL POMs if you think they should be part of the discussion for valued based purchasing/ACOs for a measure of performance outcomes. As you may know, CQL recently redefined the clusters, but the 21 measures remain the same with increased validity.

I also am attaching a wonderful cross walk between the HCBS rule and the CQL POMs for Wednesday's meeting.

Thanks.

See you soon.

Best regards.

Allan

Allan I.Bergman
CEO
HIGH IMPACT
Mission-based Consulting

From: [Coy, Jeff](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: CQS Hearing
Date: Friday, April 21, 2017 2:08:52 PM

Hi Roy,

Shawn Skaflestad asked that I share with you that Theresa Earle called in.

She was uncertain about the nature of the forum so Shawn explained, Bard Hill helped with some perspective about how the CQS fit with the HCBS Rules process and we basically asked Theresa to stay tuned for further information about how DS will be proceeding.

I think Shawn just wanted to "close the loop."

Jeff

Jeff Coy
Quality Management Reviewer
DDSD, State of VT
280 State Drive, HC 2 South
Waterbury VT 05671-2030

Cell 802-498-8915
Desk 802-241-0288
Fax 802-241-0410

From: Susan Yuan
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Subject: Fw: DD Network Webinar on Feb. 2: HCBS Settings Rule Update
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 2:05:45 PM

Hi, Roy,

I'll try to be on this webinar, but thought others might find it useful.

Susan

From: Administration for Community Living <acl@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 1:48 PM
To: Susan Yuan
Subject: DD Network Webinar on Feb. 2: HCBS Settings Rule Update



January 24, 2017

DD Network Webinar on Feb. 2: HCBS Settings Rule Update

Calling all UCEDDs, P&A agencies, and DD Councils! [Please join us on Thursday, February 2 from 3 – 4:30 p.m. \(Eastern\)](#) for an important update about implementation of the CMS Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Setting Rule.

The DD network is playing a critical role in the implementation of the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Setting Rule, which was issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in March 2014. In recognition of that role, and to help organizations who would like to be more involved in their states' process, ACL is collaborating with the National Disabilities Rights Network (NDRN), the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD), and the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) to provide coordinated and comprehensive technical assistance in 2017.

State transition plans to meet the requirements of the rule were due to CMS early last year. CMS is now in the process of reviewing these plans and providing states with feedback, initial approval, and final approval of their plans. This webinar will provide an update about state plans, as well as key issues states are working to address and how DD network programs can assist as states implement the new requirements.

Note: Participation in this webinar is limited to DD network entities (UCEDDs,

Protection & Advocacy agencies, and DD Councils) and staff from ACL, AUCD, NACDD, and NDRN. Other ACL grantees seeking technical assistance with the HCBS settings rule can contact Serena Lowe at serena.lowe@acl.hhs.gov for additional information.

Register for [DD Network Webinar: HCBS Settings Rule](#).



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From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Clark, Bill](#)
Cc: [Hickman, Selina](#)
Subject: FW: GCR Proposed Policy 17-017: Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:55:30 PM

Hi All,

The GC CQS was posted today. Please see announcement below for the details. The “how to submit public comment” link will take you to the actual announcement – which contains links to the document as well as other useful information. Please note that rather than adding the physical systemic assessments and work plans as appendices to the CQS – I inserted links. My hope is that this will make the document a bit more user friendly. If you open the posting announcement – you will also see that I added some information to call out the HCBS sections of the document. This is another attempt to make the document easier to navigate. Finally, in the body of the CQS, I inserted links to the site-specific provider assessment and consumer validation surveys. While this work has yet to be finalized – I thought it couldn’t hurt to let folks view the tools if they were interested.

The public comment period runs through April 28, 2017 (so a bit over 30 days). Please feel free to send me any comments you might have re: the content or orientation of material. Thanks for all your help putting this document together.

Have a great weekend!

Shawn

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.
Quality Improvement Manager
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive Center Building
3rd Floor – E310-1
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Office: (802) 241-0961
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410
Fax: 802-241-0450

Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).
(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: AHS - Medicaid Policy
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:13 PM
To: AHS - Medicaid Policy <AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov>
Subject: GCR Proposed Policy 17-017: Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy

Hello,

Global Commitment Register (GCR) proposed policy 17-017: Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy is open for public comment through April 28, 2017. A public hearing will be held on April 21, 2017. For information about the proposed policy change, the public hearing, and to find out how to submit a public comment, please [click here](#).

The GCR is a database of policy changes to and clarifications of existing Medicaid policy under Vermont's [1115 Global Commitment to Health waiver](#). To access the Global Commitment Register, [click here](#).

[NOTE: You have received this email because you are on an email distribution list for changes to Agency of Human Services (AHS) health care policies. If you no longer wish to receive email notifications for changes to AHS health care policies, such as administrative rule, Medicaid State Plan or the Global Commitment waiver, or if you would like someone added to this list, please email AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.]

Sincerely,

Medicaid Policy Unit

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)
Cc: [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Suzanne Santarcangelo \(ssantarcangelo@phpg.com\)](mailto:ssantarcangelo@phpg.com)
Subject: FW: HCBS follow-up
Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 2:53:12 PM

Hi Roy and Megan,

During our HCBS implementation team meeting this past Monday, I informed the group that PHPG would be finalizing the provider-self assessment and consumer validation survey for the DAIL programs next week. If you have any changes that were not addressed by the edits below – please be sure to forward them to Suzanne (w/copy to me) – by cob **Friday, January 13, 2017**.

If we do not receive any additional requests for changes by Friday – we will consider the current versions as final.

Thank you,

Shawn

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.
Quality Improvement Manager
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive Center Building
3rd Floor – E310-1
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Office: (802) 241-0961
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410
Fax: 802-241-0450

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(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: Suzanne Santarcangelo [mailto:ssantarcangelo@phpg.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 2:40 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: HCBS follow-up

Hi Shawn,

I am meeting with Bryan tomorrow to go over DMH edits – shall I consider the edits (below) for DAIL approved and final?

Suzanne
Senior Associate, PHPG
P. 802-882-8228

From: Suzanne Santarcangelo
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2017 1:21 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn (Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov) <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: FW: HCBS follow-up

Hi Shawn,

Please see below. If these final edits are OK, we can finish the DAIL survey and transfer the survey gizmo files to the AHS account. Let me know how you would like proceed.

Thanks very much.

Suzanne
Senior Associate, PHPG
P. 802-882-8228

From: Suzanne Santarcangelo
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2016 4:20 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn (Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov) <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Cc: Bryan Hamilton <bhamilton@phpg.com>; 'Scott Wittman' <swittman@phpg.com>
Subject: HCBS follow-up

Hi Shawn,

I am attaching the survey edits we discussed over the phone last week. Changes are highlighted using the 'track change' function. Please let me know if the edits reflect your notes. If so, Bryan will proceed with finalizing the DAIL surveys. Below please find follow-up to 3 items also discussed.

[VT Rental Law - Question 6.2](#) – The HCBS rule refers to the living unit or dwelling as a specific physical space that can be owned, rented or occupied under a legally enforceable agreement (e.g., rental lease, admissions agreement, home share contract, etc.) and at a minimum the HCBS enrollee must have the [same protections from eviction](#) as others under the tenant/landlord laws of the State or municipality. Thus the reference to Vermont's 'Residential Rental Agreement' law. The HCBS rule also requires that "for settings in which landlord tenant laws do not apply, the State must assure that a lease, admission or residency agreement or other form of written agreement will be in place and that the document provides protections that address evictions and appeals that [are comparable to those provided under the jurisdictions landlord tenant law](#)". An option to clarify the question is to include a link to the law as reference (see example below).

6.2 Does the setting offer the same responsibilities and protections from eviction for Medicaid HCBS members as for all tenants under Vermont's Residential Rental Agreement law? ([Click Here for 9 V.S.A. Chp 137 §4467](#))

[Private Unit v Privacy - Question 6.10](#) – The rule requires that HCBS enrollees have a choice of

settings ‘including the option of a private unit in a residential facility’ – thus question 6.10 is a separate construct from the previous questions in this section that are related to having privacy in your living situation regardless of setting. Proposed edit is below:

6.10 Do residents have the option of choosing a private unit (e.g., bedroom, apartment or assisted living unit), as appropriate?

Survey Methodology- Location versus Setting Type: I have reviewed a sample of approved transition plans from 4 states posted on the CMS website. CMS acknowledges the use of sampling techniques for consumer assessments and validation methodologies, however when referring to the provider self-assessment process, CMS commonly uses the phrase “*site-specific assessment*”. A quick review of CMS approval letters for these states supports a location specific methodology. For example: CMS Delaware feedback indicates that the state must ensure provider assessments for “*every site where services are offered*”; CMS Idaho feedback regarding Certified Family Homes (e.g., host family settings) indicates that the state “*needs to assure that they are including an approach to assessing and validating all homes for compliance*”. There are a total of 14 approved plans posted as of today, if you would like us to review additional plans or create a formal written analysis let me know.

Let me know your thoughts on finalizing the DAIL survey tools. Thanks very much.

Suzanne Santarcangelo

Suzanne Santarcangelo, Ph.D.

Senior Associate, Pacific Health Policy Group (PHPG)

P. 802-882-8228

From: [Bascom, June](#)
To: [AHS - DAIL DDS Team](#)
Subject: FW: January 2017 Issue of Federal Perspectives
Date: Monday, February 06, 2017 9:03:33 AM
Attachments: [FP 01-2017.pdf](#)

From: NASDDDS ListServ [mailto:NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM] **On Behalf Of** karol snyder
Sent: Friday, February 03, 2017 7:17 PM
To: NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM
Subject: January 2017 Issue of Federal Perspectives

The January 2017 issue of *Federal Perspectives* is attached.

The PDF document can be accessed via Adobe Acrobat Reader. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer or you want to update to the most recent release, you can download the program at no charge from www.adobe.com. The PDF file is best viewed with the most recent Reader release. You may experience viewing and/or printing problems using earlier releases.

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karol snyder

~~~~~  
katherine karol snyder ☺  
Director of Administrative Services  
National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services  
301 N Fairfax Street, Suite 101  
Alexandria, VA 22314-2633  
703.683.4202  
[www.nasddds.org](http://www.nasddds.org)

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June 8-10, 2017  
Hilton Minneapolis  
1001 S Marquette Avenue  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken...  
Oscar Wilde

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From: [Bascom, June](#)
To: [AHS - DAIL DDS Team](#)
Subject: FW: May 2017 Issue of Federal Perspectives
Date: Monday, May 15, 2017 9:02:56 AM
Attachments: [FP 05-2017.pdf](#)

From: NASDDDS ListServ [mailto:NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM] **On Behalf Of** karol snyder
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 6:42 PM
To: NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM
Subject: May 2017 Issue of Federal Perspectives

The May 2017 issue of *Federal Perspectives* is attached.

The PDF document can be accessed via Adobe Acrobat Reader. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer or you want to update to the most recent release, you can download the program at no charge from www.adobe.com. The PDF file is best viewed with the most recent Reader release. You may experience viewing and/or printing problems using earlier releases.

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karol snyder

~~~~~  
katherine karol snyder  
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Minneapolis, Minnesota

Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken...  
Oscar Wilde

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From: [Bascom June](#)
To: [AHS - DAIL DDSD Team](#)
Subject: FW: NASDDDS Federal News Briefs (Apr. 28, 2017)
Date: Monday, May 01, 2017 8:32:18 AM

From: NASDDDS ListServ [mailto:NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM] **On Behalf Of** Dan Berland
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 7:30 PM
To: NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM
Subject: NASDDDS Federal News Briefs (Apr. 28, 2017)



Federal News Briefs

April 28th, 2017

NASDDDS *Federal News Briefs* is a weekly series covering administrative activity, litigation, legislative activity, media issues, research initiatives, and national advocacy activity of interest to member state agencies.

Please feel free to contact Daniel Berland, Director of Federal Policy with comments, questions, or suggestions by email at dberland@nasddds.org or call (703) 683-4202.

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HIGHLIGHTS:

1. **AHCA Vote Could Come Next Week**
2. **CCD Letter to Congress Opposes Amended AHCA**
3. **Florida Among First States to Request Flexibilities from New HHS Leadership**
4. **House Passes Regulatory Accountability Act; Senate Version Introduced**
5. **Legislation Would Expand Right to Community Integration**
6. **GAO Includes Medicaid Recommendations in Report on Government Fragmentation, Overlap, and Duplication**
7. **Langevin Dear Colleague Letter Calls for DD Act Funding**
8. **House Members Sign Letter Supporting Lifespan Respite Care Programs**

AHCA Vote Could Come Next Week

House Republicans may attempt a floor vote on the American Health Care Act (AHCA) as early as next week, after Paul Ryan abruptly pulled the bill before it could be voted on last month due to a lack of support. The revived push for a floor vote was spurred by the approval by the 30-plus members of the conservative House Freedom Caucus of amendments to the legislation that would allow states the option to waive Essential Health Benefits (EHBs) requirements for insurers in their exchanges.

The amendments, developed by members of the Freedom Caucus in collaboration with Representative Tom McArthur (R-NJ), a co-chair of the moderate Tuesday Group. The amendments would permit states to seek waivers of the Affordable Care Act (ACA)-mandated EHBs and the ACA's limits on agebanding of premiums for older insureds. The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) would be required to approve such a waiver within 60 days if the state would need only asserted that the waiver would reduce average premiums, increase enrollment, stabilize the market for health insurance coverage, stabilize premiums for individuals with pre-existing conditions, or increase the choice of health plans. States that requested these waivers would be required to put in place protections to minimize cost increases for those with pre-existing conditions, such as high risk pools.

House Whip counts indicated on April 27 that there were at least 15 votes—but as many as 35—opposed to passage. However, even with House passage, the consensus of Hill pundits is that the Senate is highly unlikely to pass the bill in its current form.

CCD Letter to Congress Opposes Amended AHCA

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) sent a letter to Congress expressing its strong opposition to the amended American Health Care Act (AHCA).

According to CCD, the “amended American Health Care Act retains the original bill’s proposals to dramatically cut Medicaid services that are vital to people with disabilities and seniors through per capita caps.” The new amendments, the coalition says, makes “the amended AHCA even more harmful to people with disabilities.”

The new amendments, the letter indicates, “would allow states to easily obtain waivers that would allow them to charge higher premiums to people with pre-existing conditions, including people with disabilities,” and “would allow states to seek waivers from the Affordable Care Act’s requirement to provide essential health benefits, including crucial services for people with disabilities such as mental health and substance use disorder services, prescription drugs, rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices, preventative and wellness services and chronic disease management, and pediatric services.” The letter also reiterates CCD’s opposition to converting Medicaid to per capita caps, calling the proposal “a cap that is totally unrelated to the actual costs of needed care for enrollees” that “will force states to cut services and eligibility that put the health and wellbeing of people with disabilities at significant risk.”

FMI: The letter is available at [http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/4-27-17-draft-letter-to-the-Hill-re-amended-AHCA-\(final\)_DM-edits.pdf](http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/4-27-17-draft-letter-to-the-Hill-re-amended-AHCA-(final)_DM-edits.pdf).

Florida Among First States to Request Flexibilities from New HHS Leadership

Florida Governor Rick Scott’s Administration sent a letter to Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tom Price that may provide an early indication of the types of flexibilities states will seek in response to a letter Price and Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Seema Verma sent to governors in which the pair committed to “ushering in a new era for the federal and state Medicaid partnership where states have more freedom to design programs that meet the spectrum of diverse needs of their Medicaid population.” If approved by HHS, the requested changes will be added to the state’s current 1115 Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) waiver.

In the letter, Florida described its intention to submit requests to change its current 1115 MMA waiver, and asked CMS for other support. The requests include:

- A block grant of federal funds as a replacement for Florida’s various supplemental payment programs along with annual savings the state achieves through Florida’s current 1115 waiver.
- Flexibility to modify retroactive eligibility.
- HHS’s support to “strengthen the relationship between Medicaid beneficiaries and primary care providers” in order to reduce “uncoordinated and inappropriate ER visits.”
- HHS’s support to eliminate federal requirements that “lead to duplicative work at the state level and federal level for certified Medicaid managed care rates” and network adequacy requirements.
- HHS’s support to “remove the federal administrative burdens placed on the state by the ‘Access Rule.’”

FMI: The letter is available at <http://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/31717.pdf>.

House Passes Regulatory Accountability Act; Senate Version Introduced

The Regulatory Accountability Act has passed the House by a vote of 238-183. A Senate version has been introduced by Senators Rob Portman (R—OH), Orrin Hatch (R—UT), Heidi Heitkamp (D—ND) and Joe Manchin (D—WV).

The bill revises federal rulemaking procedures under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) to require a federal agency to “make all preliminary and final factual determinations based on evidence” and to consider: (1) the legal authority under which a rule may be proposed; (2) the specific nature and significance of the problem the agency may address with a rule; (3) whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency may address with a rule and whether such rules may be amended or rescinded; (4) any reasonable alternatives for a new rule; and (5) the potential costs and benefits associated with potential alternative rules, including impacts on low-income populations.

Rulemaking notice requirements are revised to require agencies to:

- “publish in the Federal Register advance notice of proposed rulemaking involving a major or high-impact rule, a negative-impact-on-jobs-and-wages rule, or a rule that involves a novel legal or policy issue arising out of statutory mandates;
- consult with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) before issuing a proposed rule and after the issuance of an advance notice of proposed rulemaking;
- provide interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making process;
- hold a hearing before the adoption of any high-impact rule;
- expand requirements for the adoption of a final rule, including requiring that the agency adopt a rule only on the basis of

the best evidence and at the least cost; and

- grant any interested person the right to petition for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of a rule.”

A "major rule" or "major guidance" is a rule or guidance that OIRA determines is likely to impose: (1) an annual cost on the economy of \$100 million or more, adjusted annually for inflation; (2) a major increase in costs or prices; (3) significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or the ability of U.S. enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises; or (4) significant impacts on multiple sectors of the economy. The bill defines "high-impact rule" as a rule that OIRA determines is likely to have an annual cost on the economy of \$1 billion or more, adjusted annually for inflation; and "negative-impact-on-jobs-and-wages rule" as any rule likely to reduce employment or wages in certain economic sectors or industry areas by specified amounts over specified periods.

The bill specifies the minimum amount of information that must be included in an advance notice of a proposed rulemaking. After notice or advance notice of a proposed rulemaking, the agency making the rule "is prohibited from: (1) advocating for the submission of information to form part of the record of review, (2) appealing to the public to undertake advocacy, or (3) communicating for publicity or propaganda within the United States in a manner not authorized by Congress." The agency may request comments or information in an impartial manner.

The notice of final rulemaking that agencies must publish when they adopt a final major rule shall include a report, to be revised every five years, on the benefits and costs to regulated entities. If an agency determines in a revised report that the cost to regulated entities has exceeded the anticipated cost at the time the final rule was issued, the agency must submit to Congress an assessment of whether the rule is accomplishing its regulatory objective; and whether it has been rendered unnecessary considering changes in the subject area, other government regulations, and alternatives that might impose smaller burdens or achieve lower costs. Upon delivery of such an assessment about a rule exceeding the anticipated cost, the agency must reopen the public docket to receive additional comments, and consider modifications or alternatives that reduce costs and increase benefits to regulated entities or individuals.

The bill revises standards for the scope of judicial review of agency rulemaking to "prohibit a court from deferring to an agency's determination of the costs and benefits or other economic or risk assessment if the agency failed to conform to guidelines on such determinations and assessments established by OIRA." Courts would also be prohibited from deferring to determinations made in the adoption of an interim rule, or guidance.

Title II of the bill modifies the scope of judicial review of agency actions to authorize courts reviewing agency actions to decide de novo (without giving deference to the agency's interpretation) all relevant questions of law, including the interpretation of constitutional and statutory provisions, and rules made by agencies. If the reviewing court "determines that a statutory or regulatory provision relevant to its decision contains a gap or ambiguity, the court shall not interpret or rely on that gap or ambiguity as an implicit delegation to the agency of legislative rulemaking authority, or a justification for interpreting agency authority expansively or for deferring to the agency's interpretation on the question of law."

Title IV prohibits a final agency rule from being published or taking effect until OIRA makes a determination as to whether the rule is a high-impact rule that may impose an annual cost on the economy of at least \$1 billion. Further, agencies must "postpone the effective date of a high-impact rule until the final disposition of all actions seeking judicial review of the rule."

Title V requires each federal agency to submit a monthly report to OIRA for each rule the agency expects to propose or finalize during the following 12 months. The reports must include a summary of the nature of the rule, the objectives of and legal basis for issuance of the rule, the stage of the rulemaking as of the date of submission, and whether the rule is subject to periodic review as a rule with a significant economic impact. Each agency must also submit a monthly report for any rule expected to be finalized during the following 12 months for which the agency has issued a general notice of proposed rulemaking, which must include an approximate schedule for completing action on the rule; estimates of its cost, economic effects, and any imposition of unfunded mandates; and a list of influential scientific information disseminated by the agency relating to the rule, including any peer review plans for the information.

Title VI requires the general notice of proposed rulemaking by a federal agency to include the Internet address of a plain-language summary, not exceeding 100 words, of the proposed rule, which shall be posted on the regulations.gov website.

FMI: To read the bill or track its progress, go to <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5/text>.

Legislation Would Expand Right to Community Integration

Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer (D—NY) has reintroduced the Disability Integration Act (DIA). The legislation, modeled on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act, expresses in law an explicit civil right for people with disabilities to receive Long Term Supports and Services (LTSS) in the community. It reads: "No public entity or LTSS insurance provider shall deny an individual with an LTSS disability who is eligible for institutional placement, or otherwise discriminate against that individual in the provision of, community-based long-term services and supports that enable the individual to live in the community and lead an independent life."

Under the Act, discrimination by a public entity or LTSS insurance provider includes:

- "the imposition or application of eligibility criteria or another policy that prevents ...an individual with an LTSS disability, or any class of individuals with LTSS disabilities, from receiving a community-based long-term service or support;

- the imposition or application of a policy or other mechanism, such as a service or cost cap, that prevents...an individual with an LTSS disability, or any class of individuals with LTSS disabilities, from receiving a community-based long-term service or support;
- a failure to provide a specific community-based long-term service or support or a type of community-based long-term service or support needed for an individual with an LTSS disability, or any class of individuals with LTSS disabilities;
- the imposition or application of a policy, rule, regulation, or restriction that interferes with the opportunity for an individual with an LTSS disability, or any class of individuals with LTSS disabilities, to live in the community and lead an independent life, which may include a requirement that an individual with an LTSS disability receive a service or support (such as day services or employment services) in a congregate or disability-specific setting;
- the imposition or application of a waiting list or other mechanism that delays or restricts access of an individual with an LTSS disability to a community-based long-term service or support;
- a failure to establish an adequate rate or other payment structure that is necessary to ensure the availability of a workforce sufficient to support an individual with an LTSS disability in living in the community and leading an independent life;
- a failure to provide community-based services and supports, on an intermittent, short-term, or emergent basis, that assist an individual with an LTSS disability to live in the community and lead an independent life;
- the imposition or application of a policy, such as a requirement that an individual utilize informal support, that restricts, limits, or delays the ability of an individual with an LTSS disability to secure a community-based long-term service or support to live in the community or lead an independent life;
- a failure to implement a formal procedure and a mechanism to ensure that individuals with LTSS disabilities are offered the alternative of community-based long-term services and supports prior to institutionalization...
- a failure to ensure that each institutionalized individual with an LTSS disability is regularly notified of the alternative of community-based long-term services and supports...; and
- a failure to make a reasonable modification in a policy, practice, or procedure, when such modification is necessary to allow an individual with an LTSS disability to receive a community-based long-term service or support.”

The bill also includes “a failure to ensure that there is sufficient availability of affordable, accessible, and integrated housing to allow an individual with an LTSS disability to choose to live in the community and lead an independent life, including the availability of an option to live in housing where the receipt of LTSS is not tied to tenancy” as a part of its definition of discrimination.

The legislation defines an “individual with an LTSS disability” as an individual with a disability who requires assistance in accomplishing activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, or health-related tasks in order to live in the community, who is currently in an institutional placement or is at risk of institutionalization if that person does not receive community based long term services and supports.

The bill's definition of community is quite similar to the language in the definition of HCBS settings issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in the HCBS rule, with a couple of key differences, especially that no more than four unrelated individuals with an LTSS disability may reside in the same group or shared residence. This definition would not supersede the CMS regulation—rather, Medicaid policy would still allow for states to provide HCBS in settings that meet the CMS definition, but they may not satisfy the DIA's requirements, in much the same way that Medicaid policy allows for activity that does not meet Olmstead requirements. Also similar to the relationship between Medicaid policy and the Olmstead mandate is the fact that under the Disability Integration Act, the Attorney General has the authority to enforce this law in a manner that is consistent with ADA enforcement. In other words, CMS would continue to determine whether a state Medicaid HCBS action is consistent with Medicaid policy; meanwhile, the US Department of Justice (DOJ) would determine whether such an action (along with non-Medicaid and even non-state-related actions) are consistent with DIA requirements.

The legislation requires that all public entities and LTSS insurance providers must complete a self-evaluation within six months after implementing regulations are released. Within one year of completing the self-evaluation, public entities must submit a transition plan for addressing the issues identified in the self-evaluation and achieving the purpose of this legislation. The plan must address these issues as soon as practicable, but public entities have up to 10 years to complete the plan. The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Administration on Community Living (ACL), is charged with reviewing and approving state transition plans.

The prospects for passage of this bill are uncertain. The legislation is currently before the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP).

FMI: To read the bill or track its progress, go to <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/910?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22congressId%3A115+AND+billStatus%3A%5C%22Introduced%5C%22%22%5D%7D&r=37>.

GAO Includes Medicaid Recommendations in Report on Government Fragmentation, Overlap, and Duplication

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has released its annual report to Congress on “Additional Opportunities to Reduce Fragmentation, Overlap, and Duplication and Achieve Other Financial Benefits.” The report contains three areas of recommendations regarding Medicaid.

GAO suggests that “federal spending on Medicaid demonstrations could be reduced by billions of dollars if the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) improved the process for reviewing, approving, and making transparent the basis for spending limits approved for Medicaid demonstrations, including better ensuring that valid methods are used to demonstrate budget neutrality and implemented other actions and recommendations, such as establishing specific criteria for assessing whether demonstration spending furthers Medicaid objectives.” The watchdog agency also believes that “CMS should take steps to improve the oversight of state Medicaid payments to institutional providers and better ensure that the federal government does not provide funds for excessive state payments made to certain providers, which could result in savings of hundreds of millions of dollars annually.” Both of these recommendations are holdovers from previous years. This year’s report adds a recommendation regarding Medicaid Personal Care Services Data: “CMS needs timely, complete, and consistent data on Medicaid personal care services so it can effectively monitor these services, which could lead to savings of tens of millions of dollars annually.”

FMI: The report is available at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/690/684304.pdf>.

Langevin Dear Colleague Letter Calls for DD Act Funding

Thirty-four Members of the House of Representatives signed onto a Dear Colleague letter authored by Representative James Langevin (D-RI) in support of the Developmental Disabilities Act programs: \$40 million for University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, \$42 million for Protection and Advocacy Systems, and \$76 million for Councils on Developmental Disabilities. The letter points out that current funding levels have not kept pace with inflation.

Langevin and his colleagues cite the longer lifespans of individuals with developmental disabilities as introducing “new issues around aging and caregiving that must be met by the three programs.” The letter also references the need for adequate funding for DD Act entities to “drive programs and policies that move people with developmental disabilities into competitive, integrated employment.”

FMI: The letter can be found at <http://www.aucd.org/docs/Final%20LHHS%20Approps%20Letter%20--%20DD%20Councils-PADD-UCEDDs.pdf>.

House Members Sign Letter Supporting Lifespan Respite Care Programs

Twenty-six Members of the House of Representatives have signed on to a bipartisan letter written by Representatives Jim Langevin (D-RI) and Gregg Harper (R-MS) in support of funding for the Lifespan Respite Care Act program. The letter points out that “the Lifespan Respite Care Act was authorized in 2006 as the only federal program to address respite issues for families regardless of age or disability.”

The letter underlines the need for respite care in the US, and indicates that the lack of coordination between various programs that offer respite “continues to impede access to these crucial supports.” The Representatives point out that the Lifespan Respite program, which “has already provided grants to 35 states and the District of Columbia,” helps grantees to “coordinate federal, state and local resources and streamline the delivery of planned and emergency respite services.” The signatories urge appropriators to include \$5 million for the program in the FY18 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

FMI: The letter is available at https://archrespite.org/images/Lifespan_Appropriations/FY_2018/House_Member_Letter__FY18.pdf.

[Back to: HIGHLIGHTS](#)

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**From:** karol snyder  
**To:** [Alex Bartolic](#); [Angella Pinna](#); [Barb Ramsey](#); [Barbara Palmer](#); [Bernie Simons](#); [Beth Morrison](#); [Beverly Buscemi](#); [Cameron Gilliland](#); [Christine Santaniello](#); [Claudia Johnson](#); [Connie Cochran](#); [Courtney Miller](#); [Courtney Tarver](#); [Curtis Cunningham](#); [Daniel Sylvester](#); [Darryl Millner](#); [Debbie Payne](#); [Duane Mayes](#); [Eddie Ableser](#); [Elin Howe](#); [Elizabeth Shea](#); [Evelyn Perez](#); [Greg Fenton](#); [Jason Vogler](#); [Jill Rogers](#); [Jim Copeland](#); [John Martin](#); [Jordan Scheff](#); [Kerri Zanchi](#); [Kerry Delaney](#); [Kylee Hope](#); [Laura Love](#); [Lee Grossman](#); [Lilia Teninty](#); [Lynda Zeller](#); [Marie Moore](#); [Mark Thomas](#); [Mary Brogan](#); [Melissa Stone](#); [Nancy Bargmann](#); [Nancy Thaler](#); [Novelene Martin](#); [Renee Brett](#); [Rick Shults](#); [Ronald Wakefield](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Sonja Gaines](#); [Thomas Morriss](#); [Tim Keck](#); [Tina Bay](#); [Valerie Huhn](#)  
**Cc:** [Mary Sowers](#); [Barbara Brent](#); [Mary Lou Bourne](#); [Laura Vegas](#); [Jeanine Zlockie](#); [Mary Lee Fay](#)  
**Subject:** FW: power point slides from the director forum  
**Date:** Friday, June 09, 2017 7:50:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [NASDDDS Directors Forum\\_06072017\\_Medicaid Restructure.pptx](#)  
[Critical Incident Scan draft 060617 final.pptx](#)  
[NASDDDS Business Acumen\\_06.07.17 v2.pptx](#)

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Hello all, We had a very busy few days at the NASDDDS mid-year conference and I was pleased to see to many of you there. Attached are the slides that were used at the Directors Forum. One is on the background of per-capita caps, one is on the scan NASDDDS is working on regarding program integrity re abuse and mortality reporting and the last is on the Business Acumen work for disability providers engaging in MCO's. Please connect with us if you have any questions on these documents. Also, all of the power point slides from the conference are now on the NASDDDS website. I look forward to seeing you at the November conference (Nov 8-10, Crystal City VA)

Mary Lee Fay

**From:** Mary Sowers  
**To:** [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)  
**Cc:** [Mary Lee Fay](#); [Dan Berland](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Section 12006 of the Cures Act  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017 9:05:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[FP 01-2017.pdf](#)

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Roy,

Thank you so much for reaching out on this. NASDDDS did publish some information on the EVV requirements in the attached version of Federal Perspectives. While we are awaiting (and expecting) additional guidance from CMS on the bill's implementation, many states are moving forward with exploring their options for EVV. The statute notes that the *"term 'personal care services' means personal care services provided under a State plan under this title (or under a waiver of the plan), including services provided under section 1905(a)(24), 1915(c), 1915(i), 1915(j), or 1915(k) or under a wavier under section 1115."*

In other recent activities related to the work of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), the term 'personal care' has had a broad interpretation to include any service under those authorities that may include some element of personal care or personal assistance services. Consequently, we believe that the statute does include many services provided by our members.

We will be discussing this in some detail during our upcoming Directors forum, including discussing some challenges with some of the existing technology related to autonomy, choice and flexibility and how states are working to ameliorate those issues.

If a discussion would be helpful, we'd be glad to pull a call together. While we await specific guidance from CMS, we recognize that the date for implementation/FMAP implications will rapidly approach.

Thanks so much, as always, for great questions!  
Mary

---

**From:** Gerstenberger, Roy [<mailto:Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017 12:04 PM  
**To:** karol snyder <[ksnyder@nasddds.org](mailto:ksnyder@nasddds.org)>  
**Subject:** Section 12006 of the Cures Act

Hello Kathy,

Has NASDDDS provided any guidance on the Cures Act mandate for implementation of electronic visit verification systems? We're trying to determine the application to our DS community systems.

-

Sec. 12006. Electronic visit verification system required for personal care services and home health care services under Medicaid.

- **Requires electronic visit verification system for personal care and home health to verify:**

1. Type of service performed
2. Individual receiving the service
3. Date of service
4. Location of service delivery
5. Individual providing the service
6. Time the service starts and ends

- Applies to state plan and waiver services.
- 90% match for development, 75% for implementation
- If not implemented a state's federal match is reduced by decreasing percentage points over time.
- **States shall consult with providers of personal care and home health to ensure system is:**
  1. Minimally burdensome
  2. Takes into account existing best practices and electronic verification systems in use
  3. HIPPA compliant

**States also must**

1. Conduct stakeholder engagement
2. Provide training

Personal care-effective January 1, 2019

Home Health-effective January 1, 2023

**ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director**

*Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: [lisa.parro@vermont.gov](mailto:lisa.parro@vermont.gov)*

**Developmental Disabilities Services Division**

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<https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

**From:** Nicole Leblanc  
**To:** [Bryan.Dague@uvm.edu](mailto:Bryan.Dague@uvm.edu); [nbreiden@vtlegalaid.org](mailto:nbreiden@vtlegalaid.org); Bart Mair; [vtsilcpeter@gmail.com](mailto:vtsilcpeter@gmail.com); [bprine@vtlegalaid.org](mailto:bprine@vtlegalaid.org); Ashe, William; Gerstenberger, Roy  
**Subject:** Fwd: DD Network Webinar on Feb. 2: HCBS Settings Rule Update  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 24, 2017 1:51:45 PM

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Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Administration for Community Living" <[acl@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:acl@public.govdelivery.com)>  
**Date:** January 24, 2017 at 1:48:20 PM EST  
**To:** [nleblanc677@gmail.com](mailto:nleblanc677@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** DD Network Webinar on Feb. 2: HCBS Settings Rule Update  
**Reply-To:** [acl@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:acl@public.govdelivery.com)



**January 24, 2017**

## **DD Network Webinar on Feb. 2: HCBS Settings Rule Update**

Calling all UCEDDs, P&A agencies, and DD Councils! [Please join us on Thursday, February 2 from 3 – 4:30 p.m. \(Eastern\)](#) for an important update about implementation of the CMS Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Setting Rule.

The DD network is playing a critical role in the implementation of the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Setting Rule, which was issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in March 2014. In recognition of that role, and to help organizations who would like to be more involved in their states' process, ACL is collaborating with the National Disabilities Rights Network (NDRN), the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD), and the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) to provide coordinated and comprehensive technical assistance in 2017.

State transition plans to meet the requirements of the rule were due to CMS early last year. CMS is now in the process of reviewing these plans and providing states with feedback, initial approval, and final approval of their plans. This webinar will provide an update about state plans, as well as key issues states are working to address and how DD network programs can assist as states implement the new requirements.

**Note:** Participation in this webinar is limited to DD network entities (UCEDDs, Protection & Advocacy agencies, and DD Councils) and staff from ACL, AUCD, NACDD, and NDRN. Other ACL grantees seeking technical assistance with the HCBS settings rule can contact Serena Lowe at [serena.lowe@acl.hhs.gov](mailto:serena.lowe@acl.hhs.gov) for additional information.

Register for [DD Network Webinar: HCBS Settings Rule.](#)



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Massachusetts Avenue Washington, D.C. 20001



**From:** Hamilton, Kathleen  
**To:** [Gerstenberger, Roy](mailto:Gerstenberger.Roy)  
**Subject:** Fwd: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones Meeting on Monday March 13th  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 2:20:00 PM

---

Hi Roy. I talked to Shawn just now after he sent this email. This is what we're thinking we need to do, and you tell me if this is your vision for how it would go:

I will provide Shawn with a spreadsheet of the contact names and email addresses. When the contact person receives the email invite to complete the survey, they will forward the email to me, as I will need their link to go in and enter their survey information. ( I think, because the questions have been tweaked, it would be best if I entered everyone's - even if they felt they had the manpower to do it - but that's up to you.) The hard copy DS Survey Tool will be sent out to the DS contacts about the same time as the email invite goes out, with a cover letter/ email.

Does this process work for you? Anything you would like to change?

Questions for you:

1. I don't have contact info for anyone outside the DS Director group, such as Ray Hathaway, Heartbeat, others?? Will they do the online tool, or will they get the DS tool? Either way, Shawn will need their contact info. - and I will need it if I will be entering DS Survey answers for them.
2. I'm assuming that you want to send out the Survey with a cover letter from you - I can cc the contact spreadsheet to you - but let me know if you want me to do that. Included in the cover letter/email will need to be the info to forward the invite email to me.
3. Let me know when you want the final version of the survey. All I need to confirm is that you still want them sent to Tammi. I'll need the hard copies. They're 18 pages or so and I don't want to have to print out over 200 pages to enter the data. It would save time if they were sent directly to me, but that's your call.

I will call in for the meeting on Monday.

Thanks Roy. Kathy

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From: Skaflestad, Shawn <[shawn.skaflestad@vermont.gov](mailto:shawn.skaflestad@vermont.gov)>  
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2017 1:34 PM  
Subject: HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones Meeting on Monday March 13th  
To: Harrigan, Emma <[emma.harrigan@vermont.gov](mailto:emma.harrigan@vermont.gov)>, Reed, Frank <[frank.reed@vermont.gov](mailto:frank.reed@vermont.gov)>, Hawes, Emily <[emily.hawes@vermont.gov](mailto:emily.hawes@vermont.gov)>, Hamilton, Kathleen <[kathleen.hamilton@vermont.gov](mailto:kathleen.hamilton@vermont.gov)>, Tierney-Ward, Megan <[megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov](mailto:megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov)>, Omland, Laurel <[laurel.omland@vermont.gov](mailto:laurel.omland@vermont.gov)>, Gerstenberger, Roy <[roy.gerstenberger@vermont.gov](mailto:roy.gerstenberger@vermont.gov)>, Courcelle, Andre <[andre.courcelle@vermont.gov](mailto:andre.courcelle@vermont.gov)>  
Cc: Clark, Bill <[bill.clark@vermont.gov](mailto:bill.clark@vermont.gov)>

Hi All,

The DAIL program surveys have been successfully transferred to the AHS SurveyGizmo (SG) account and the DMH survey transfer was initiated today. We expect the DMH surveys to be in our account by this Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. As far as provider survey next steps are concerned – we need to do the following:

- Create personalized messages (both content and look) that you would like to send to providers. SG offers customizable messages for invites, reminders, and thank yous. I can send you a template that you can modify. **As a group, we will need to determine the most efficient way to customize the look of your messages.**
- Upload a spreadsheet containing provider contact information. In order to do this, **I will need a spreadsheet from you with provider contact information (specifically emails).** To date, I have set up 3 DAIL email campaigns (i.e., CFC providers, DS providers, and TBI providers). As a result, I will need a spreadsheet with provider contact information for each. I have also set up 3 DMH email campaigns (i.e., CRT providers, EFT providers, and EFT Parents/Guardians). Similar to DAIL – each will need a spreadsheet with contact information. I set up the email campaigns – so if these don't make sense – we can make adjustments.
- **Determine survey open and close dates.** I propose Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> as the day that DAIL provider surveys should be sent out – and Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> as the closing date. As far as DMH is concerned – I propose May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup> OR June 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>. These dates are flexible – but we need to agree on dates ahead of the Comprehensive Quality Strategy (CQS – aka Vermont's State Transition Plan) public posting next Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- **Clarify a monitoring plan.** SG has numerous statistics that track message/survey delivery and completion. We need to determine how best to use the information available via the application to enhance response rates, flag concerns, and monitor any corrective actions.

Please keep in mind that these items relate to provider self-assessments only. We have an update meeting scheduled for this coming Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 3:30pm-4:30pm. I would like to use some of this meeting to review this email, make some decisions, and determine next steps – including the administration of the consumer validation survey. If you would like to talk before our meeting, please feel free to email, call, or stop by.

Speak with you soon,

*Shawn*

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.  
Quality Improvement Manager  
Agency of Human Services  
280 State Drive Center Building  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – E310-1  
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000  
Office: (802) 241-0961

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Fax:802-241-0450

**Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).**

(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

**From:** [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)  
**To:** [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Hawes, Emily](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Reed, Frank](#)  
**Cc:** [Clark, Bill](#)  
**Subject:** HCBS CQS/STP Work Plan Milestones Meeting on Monday March 13th  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 1:34:21 PM

---

Hi All,

The DAIL program surveys have been successfully transferred to the AHS SurveyGizmo (SG) account and the DMH survey transfer was initiated today. We expect the DMH surveys to be in our account by this Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. As far as provider survey next steps are concerned – we need to do the following:

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Speak with you soon,

*Shawn*

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.

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Agency of Human Services  
280 State Drive Center Building  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – E310-1  
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**From:** Fetty, Kim A  
**To:** [nancy.bargmann@dds.ca.gov](mailto:nancy.bargmann@dds.ca.gov); [barbara.ramsey@state.co.us](mailto:barbara.ramsey@state.co.us); [morna.murray@ct.gov](mailto:morna.murray@ct.gov); [thomas.morris@dc.gov](mailto:thomas.morris@dc.gov); [barbara.palmer@apdcares.org](mailto:barbara.palmer@apdcares.org); [dhowell1@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:dhowell1@dhr.state.ga.us); [mary.brogan@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:mary.brogan@doh.hawaii.gov); [gilliliac@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:gilliliac@dhw.idaho.gov); [greg.fenton@illinois.gov](mailto:greg.fenton@illinois.gov); [kylee.hope@fssa.in.gov](mailto:kylee.hope@fssa.in.gov); [rshults@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:rshults@dhs.state.ia.us); [tim.keck@kdads.ks.gov](mailto:tim.keck@kdads.ks.gov); [wendy.morris@ky.gov](mailto>wendy.morris@ky.gov); [mark.thomas@la.gov](mailto:mark.thomas@la.gov); [gary.wolcott@maine.gov](mailto:gary.wolcott@maine.gov); [bernard.simons@maryland.gov](mailto:bernard.simons@maryland.gov); [elin.howe@state.ma.us](mailto:elin.howe@state.ma.us); [zeller12@michigan.gov](mailto:zeller12@michigan.gov); [alex.e.bartolic@state.mn.us](mailto:alex.e.bartolic@state.mn.us); [renee.brett@dmh.state.ms.us](mailto:renee.brett@dmh.state.ms.us); [valerie.huhn@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:valerie.huhn@dmh.mo.gov); [nomartin@mt.gov](mailto:nomartin@mt.gov); [courtney.miller@nebraska.gov](mailto:courtney.miller@nebraska.gov); [jgruner@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:jgruner@adsd.nv.gov); [lorene.reagan@dhhs.state.nh.us](mailto:lorene.reagan@dhhs.state.nh.us); [liz.shea@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:liz.shea@dhs.state.nj.us); [cathy.stevenson@state.nm.us](mailto:cathy.stevenson@state.nm.us); [kerry.a.delaney@opwdd.ny.gov](mailto:kerry.a.delaney@opwdd.ny.gov); [jason.vogler@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:jason.vogler@dhhs.nc.gov); [tbay@nd.gov](mailto:tbay@nd.gov); [john.martin@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:john.martin@dodd.ohio.gov); [lilia.teninty@state.or.us](mailto:lilia.teninty@state.or.us); [nthaler@pa.gov](mailto:nthaler@pa.gov); [rebecca.boss@bhddh.ri.gov](mailto:rebecca.boss@bhddh.ri.gov); [bbuscemi@ddsn.sc.gov](mailto:bbuscemi@ddsn.sc.gov); [debbie.payne@tn.gov](mailto:debbie.payne@tn.gov); [kristi.jordan@dads.state.tx.us](mailto:kristi.jordan@dads.state.tx.us); Gerstenberger, Roy; [connie.cochran@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:connie.cochran@dbhds.virginia.gov); [pereze@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:pereze@dshs.wa.gov); [curtis.cunningham@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:curtis.cunningham@dhs.wisconsin.gov); [chris.newman@wyo.gov](mailto:chris.newman@wyo.gov); [jill.rogers@state.de.us](mailto:jill.rogers@state.de.us); [marie.moore@okdhs.org](mailto:marie.moore@okdhs.org); [John.New@state.sd.us](mailto:John.New@state.sd.us); [Colin.Hutchison@state.sd.us](mailto:Colin.Hutchison@state.sd.us); [dan.lusk@state.sd.us](mailto:dan.lusk@state.sd.us)  
**Subject:** IDWW Survey Results  
**Date:** Thursday, May 25, 2017 4:36:46 PM  
**Attachments:** [20170523 kf IDWW Results Spreadsheet.xlsx](#)

---

Dear All,

Here is the spreadsheet with the answers you and your colleagues provided last fall for the research I conducted on each state's IDWW. Thank you very much for your participation.

Sincerely,

Kim Fetty, MPA, Director

Project Management Office

WV Bureau for Medical Services

Department of Health & Human Resources

350 Capitol St., Room 251

Charleston, WV 25301

**From:** NASDDDS ListServ  
**To:** [NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM](mailto:NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM)  
**Subject:** January 2017 Issue of Federal Perspectives  
**Date:** Friday, February 03, 2017 7:18:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [FP\\_01-2017.pdf](#)

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The January 2017 issue of *Federal Perspectives* is attached.

The PDF document can be accessed via Adobe Acrobat Reader. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer or you want to update to the most recent release, you can download the program at no charge from [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com). The PDF file is best viewed with the most recent Reader release. You may experience viewing and/or printing problems using earlier releases.

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Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken...
Oscar Wilde

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**From:** NASUAD  
**To:** [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)  
**Subject:** Learn from Subject Matter Experts at the National HCBS Conference!  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 12:20:52 PM

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HCBS Conference Registration Now Open! Register Today!



**Register today for the National HCBS  
Conference!**



**Join us for the National Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Conference  
held in Baltimore, MD, August 28 - August 31.**

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## **Join us for the 2017 National HCBS Conference**

The National HCBS Conference - August 28-August 31st in Baltimore, MD, has become the go-to conference for all local, state, managed care, and federal partners who are delivering long-term services and supports.

We are excited to announce that the 2017 National HCBS Conference will be held at the Marriott Waterfront Baltimore, in Baltimore, MD.

The conference rate is \$140/per day. [Click here](#) to book your room today.

- The National HCBS Conference includes federal, state, and local policymakers and those who administer, manage, and deliver waiver and other HCBS programs.



- The conference begins with a day of intensives included in your conference cost!
- Learn from subject matter experts on one of the following topics:
  - Medicaid Managed Long-Term Services and Supports;
  - Everything you wanted to know about Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports but were afraid to ask;
  - Everything you wanted to know about Aging & Disability Programs but were afraid to ask;
  - CMS Final HCBS Rule;
  - Information & Referral/Assistance;
  - and CMS meetings for TEFT and MFP Grantees

The robust agenda brings states and partners together to share promising practices, and innovative strategies for overcoming challenges.

The last year's conference was the largest to date, with over 1,400 attendees traveling from all 50 states, as well as Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. You will want to be a part of the action in 2017!

[Click here](#) to learn more about the conference and register!

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## Sponsorship Opportunities

Gain visibility at the premier event for professionals who work within the field of home and community-based services, the National HCBS Conference draws over 1,300 participants, and puts your brand in front of targeted and influential professionals.

The exhibit hall is a major attraction where our participants come to learn about products and services and to network with industry leaders. Exhibiting will give you access key influencers and leaders working to improve HCBS programs throughout the country.

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National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities, 1201 15th St. NW,  
Suite 350, 1201 15th St. NW, Washington, DC 20005

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**From:** NASDDDS ListServ  
**To:** [NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM](mailto:NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM)  
**Subject:** May 2017 Issue of Federal Perspectives  
**Date:** Friday, May 12, 2017 6:42:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [FP\\_05-2017.pdf](#)

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The May 2017 issue of *Federal Perspectives* is attached.

The PDF document can be accessed via Adobe Acrobat Reader. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer or you want to update to the most recent release, you can download the program at no charge from [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com). The PDF file is best viewed with the most recent Reader release. You may experience viewing and/or printing problems using earlier releases.

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Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken...
Oscar Wilde

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leave the ListServ, please contact the ListServ administrator ([ksnyder@nasdds.org](mailto:ksnyder@nasdds.org)).

From: NASDDDS ListServ  
To: [NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM](mailto:NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM)  
Subject: NASDDDS Federal News Briefs (Apr. 28, 2017)  
Date: Friday, April 28, 2017 7:30:40 PM

## NASDDDS

National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services

# Federal News Briefs

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017

NASDDDS *Federal News Briefs* is a weekly series covering administrative activity, litigation, legislative activity, media issues, research initiatives, and national advocacy activity of interest to member state agencies.

Please feel free to contact Daniel Berland, Director of Federal Policy with comments, questions, or suggestions by email at [dberland@nasddd.org](mailto:dberland@nasddd.org) or call (703) 683-4202.

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## HIGHLIGHTS:

1. **AHCA Vote Could Come Next Week**
2. **CCD Letter to Congress Opposes Amended AHCA**
3. **Florida Among First States to Request Flexibilities from New HHS Leadership**
4. **House Passes Regulatory Accountability Act; Senate Version Introduced**
5. **Legislation Would Expand Right to Community Integration**
6. **GAO Includes Medicaid Recommendations in Report on Government Fragmentation, Overlap, and Duplication**
7. **Langevin Dear Colleague Letter Calls for DD Act Funding**
8. **House Members Sign Letter Supporting Lifespan Respite Care Programs**

### AHCA Vote Could Come Next Week

House Republicans may attempt a floor vote on the American Health Care Act (AHCA) as early as next week, after Paul Ryan abruptly pulled the bill before it could be voted on last month due to a lack of support. The revived push for a floor vote was spurred by the approval by the 30-plus members of the conservative House Freedom Caucus of amendments to the legislation that would allow states the option to waive Essential Health Benefits (EHBs) requirements for insurers in their exchanges.

The amendments, developed by members of the Freedom Caucus in collaboration with Representative Tom McArthur (R-NJ), a co-chair of the moderate Tuesday Group. The amendments would permit states to seek waivers of the Affordable Care Act (ACA)-mandated EHBs and the ACA's limits on agebanding of premiums for older insureds. The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) would be required to approve such a waiver within 60 days if the state would need only asserted that the waiver would reduce average premiums, increase enrollment, stabilize the market for health insurance coverage, stabilize premiums for individuals with pre-existing conditions, or increase the choice of health plans. States that requested these waivers would be required to put in place protections to minimize cost increases for those with pre-existing conditions, such as high risk pools.

House Whip counts indicated on April 27 that there were at least 15 votes—but as many as 35—opposed to passage. However, even with House passage, the consensus of Hill pundits is that the Senate is highly unlikely to pass the bill in its current form.

### CCD Letter to Congress Opposes Amended AHCA

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) sent a letter to Congress expressing its strong opposition to the amended American Health Care Act (AHCA).

According to CCD, the “amended American Health Care Act retains the original bill’s proposals to dramatically cut Medicaid services that are vital to people with disabilities and seniors through per capita caps.” The new amendments, the coalition says,

makes “the amended AHCA even more harmful to people with disabilities.”

The new amendments, the letter indicates, “would allow states to easily obtain waivers that would allow them to charge higher premiums to people with pre-existing conditions, including people with disabilities,” and “would allow states to seek waivers from the Affordable Care Act’s requirement to provide essential health benefits, including crucial services for people with disabilities such as mental health and substance use disorder services, prescription drugs, rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices, preventative and wellness services and chronic disease management, and pediatric services.” The letter also reiterates CCD’s opposition to converting Medicaid to per capita caps, calling the proposal “a cap that is totally unrelated to the actual costs of needed care for enrollees” that “will force states to cut services and eligibility that put the health and wellbeing of people with disabilities at significant risk.”

**FMI:** The letter is available at [http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/4-27-17-draft-letter-to-the-Hill-re-amended-AHCA-\(final\)\\_DM-edits.pdf](http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/4-27-17-draft-letter-to-the-Hill-re-amended-AHCA-(final)_DM-edits.pdf).

## Florida Among First States to Request Flexibilities from New HHS Leadership

Florida Governor Rick Scott’s Administration sent a letter to Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tom Price that may provide an early indication of the types of flexibilities states will seek in response to a letter Price and Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Seema Verma sent to governors in which the pair committed to “ushering in a new era for the federal and state Medicaid partnership where states have more freedom to design programs that meet the spectrum of diverse needs of their Medicaid population.” If approved by HHS, the requested changes will be added to the state’s current 1115 Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) waiver.

In the letter, Florida described its intention to submit requests to change its current 1115 MMA waiver, and asked CMS for other support. The requests include:

- A block grant of federal funds as a replacement for Florida’s various supplemental payment programs along with annual savings the state achieves through Florida’s current 1115 waiver.
- Flexibility to modify retroactive eligibility.
- HHS’s support to “strengthen the relationship between Medicaid beneficiaries and primary care providers” in order to reduce “uncoordinated and inappropriate ER visits.”
- HHS’s support to eliminate federal requirements that “lead to duplicative work at the state level and federal level for certified Medicaid managed care rates” and network adequacy requirements.
- HHS’s support to “remove the federal administrative burdens placed on the state by the ‘Access Rule.’”

**FMI:** The letter is available at <http://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/31717.pdf>.

## House Passes Regulatory Accountability Act; Senate Version Introduced

The Regulatory Accountability Act has passed the House by a vote of 238-183. A Senate version has been introduced by Senators Rob Portman (R—OH), Orrin Hatch (R—UT), Heidi Heitkamp (D—ND) and Joe Manchin (D—WV).

The bill revises federal rulemaking procedures under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) to require a federal agency to “make all preliminary and final factual determinations based on evidence” and to consider: (1) the legal authority under which a rule may be proposed; (2) the specific nature and significance of the problem the agency may address with a rule; (3) whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency may address with a rule and whether such rules may be amended or rescinded; (4) any reasonable alternatives for a new rule; and (5) the potential costs and benefits associated with potential alternative rules, including impacts on low-income populations.

Rulemaking notice requirements are revised to require agencies to:

- “publish in the Federal Register advance notice of proposed rulemaking involving a major or high-impact rule, a negative-impact-on-jobs-and-wages rule, or a rule that involves a novel legal or policy issue arising out of statutory mandates;
- consult with the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) before issuing a proposed rule and after the issuance of an advance notice of proposed rulemaking;
- provide interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making process;
- hold a hearing before the adoption of any high-impact rule;
- expand requirements for the adoption of a final rule, including requiring that the agency adopt a rule only on the basis of the best evidence and at the least cost; and
- grant any interested person the right to petition for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of a rule.”

A “major rule” or “major guidance” is a rule or guidance that OIRA determines is likely to impose: (1) an annual cost on the economy of \$100 million or more, adjusted annually for inflation; (2) a major increase in costs or prices; (3) significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or the ability of U.S. enterprises to compete with

foreign-based enterprises; or (4) significant impacts on multiple sectors of the economy. The bill defines "high-impact rule" as a rule that OIRA determines is likely to have an annual cost on the economy of \$1 billion or more, adjusted annually for inflation; and "negative-impact-on-jobs-and-wages rule" as any rule likely to reduce employment or wages in certain economic sectors or industry areas by specified amounts over specified periods.

The bill specifies the minimum amount of information that must be included in an advance notice of a proposed rulemaking. After notice or advance notice of a proposed rulemaking, the agency making the rule "is prohibited from: (1) advocating for the submission of information to form part of the record of review, (2) appealing to the public to undertake advocacy, or (3) communicating for publicity or propaganda within the United States in a manner not authorized by Congress." The agency may request comments or information in an impartial manner.

The notice of final rulemaking that agencies must publish when they adopt a final major rule shall include a report, to be revised every five years, on the benefits and costs to regulated entities. If an agency determines in a revised report that the cost to regulated entities has exceeded the anticipated cost at the time the final rule was issued, the agency must submit to Congress an assessment of whether the rule is accomplishing its regulatory objective; and whether it has been rendered unnecessary considering changes in the subject area, other government regulations, and alternatives that might impose smaller burdens or achieve lower costs. Upon delivery of such an assessment about a rule exceeding the anticipated cost, the agency must reopen the public docket to receive additional comments, and consider modifications or alternatives that reduce costs and increase benefits to regulated entities or individuals.

The bill revises standards for the scope of judicial review of agency rulemaking to "prohibit a court from deferring to an agency's determination of the costs and benefits or other economic or risk assessment if the agency failed to conform to guidelines on such determinations and assessments established by OIRA." Courts would also be prohibited from deferring to determinations made in the adoption of an interim rule, or guidance.

Title II of the bill modifies the scope of judicial review of agency actions to authorize courts reviewing agency actions to decide de novo (without giving deference to the agency's interpretation) all relevant questions of law, including the interpretation of constitutional and statutory provisions, and rules made by agencies. If the reviewing court "determines that a statutory or regulatory provision relevant to its decision contains a gap or ambiguity, the court shall not interpret or rely on that gap or ambiguity as an implicit delegation to the agency of legislative rulemaking authority, or a justification for interpreting agency authority expansively or for deferring to the agency's interpretation on the question of law."

Title IV prohibits a final agency rule from being published or taking effect until OIRA makes a determination as to whether the rule is a high-impact rule that may impose an annual cost on the economy of at least \$1 billion. Further, agencies must "postpone the effective date of a high-impact rule until the final disposition of all actions seeking judicial review of the rule."

Title V requires each federal agency to submit a monthly report to OIRA for each rule the agency expects to propose or finalize during the following 12 months. The reports must include a summary of the nature of the rule, the objectives of and legal basis for issuance of the rule, the stage of the rulemaking as of the date of submission, and whether the rule is subject to periodic review as a rule with a significant economic impact. Each agency must also submit a monthly report for any rule expected to be finalized during the following 12 months for which the agency has issued a general notice of proposed rulemaking, which must include an approximate schedule for completing action on the rule; estimates of its cost, economic effects, and any imposition of unfunded mandates; and a list of influential scientific information disseminated by the agency relating to the rule, including any peer review plans for the information.

Title VI requires the general notice of proposed rulemaking by a federal agency to include the Internet address of a plain-language summary, not exceeding 100 words, of the proposed rule, which shall be posted on the regulations.gov website.

**FMI:** To read the bill or track its progress, go to <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5/text>.

## Legislation Would Expand Right to Community Integration

Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer (D—NY) has reintroduced the Disability Integration Act (DIA). The legislation, modeled on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act, expresses in law an explicit civil right for people with disabilities to receive Long Term Supports and Services (LTSS) in the community. It reads: "No public entity or LTSS insurance provider shall deny an individual with an LTSS disability who is eligible for institutional placement, or otherwise discriminate against that individual in the provision of, community-based long-term services and supports that enable the individual to live in the community and lead an independent life."

Under the Act, discrimination by a public entity or LTSS insurance provider includes:

- "the imposition or application of eligibility criteria or another policy that prevents ...an individual with an LTSS disability, or any class of individuals with LTSS disabilities, from receiving a community-based long-term service or support;
- the imposition or application of a policy or other mechanism, such as a service or cost cap, that prevents...an individual with an LTSS disability, or any class of individuals with LTSS disabilities, from receiving a community-based long-term service or support;
- a failure to provide a specific community-based long-term service or support or a type of community-based long-term service or support needed for an individual with an LTSS disability, or any class of individuals with LTSS disabilities;
- the imposition or application of a policy, rule, regulation, or restriction that interferes with the opportunity for an individual

with an LTSS disability, or any class of individuals with LTSS disabilities, to live in the community and lead an independent life, which may include a requirement that an individual with an LTSS disability receive a service or support (such as day services or employment services) in a congregate or disability-specific setting;

- the imposition or application of a waiting list or other mechanism that delays or restricts access of an individual with an LTSS disability to a community-based long-term service or support;
- a failure to establish an adequate rate or other payment structure that is necessary to ensure the availability of a workforce sufficient to support an individual with an LTSS disability in living in the community and leading an independent life;
- a failure to provide community-based services and supports, on an intermittent, short-term, or emergent basis, that assist an individual with an LTSS disability to live in the community and lead an independent life;
- the imposition or application of a policy, such as a requirement that an individual utilize informal support, that restricts, limits, or delays the ability of an individual with an LTSS disability to secure a community-based long-term service or support to live in the community or lead an independent life;
- a failure to implement a formal procedure and a mechanism to ensure that individuals with LTSS disabilities are offered the alternative of community-based long-term services and supports prior to institutionalization...
- a failure to ensure that each institutionalized individual with an LTSS disability is regularly notified of the alternative of community-based long-term services and supports...; and
- a failure to make a reasonable modification in a policy, practice, or procedure, when such modification is necessary to allow an individual with an LTSS disability to receive a community-based long-term service or support.”

The bill also includes “a failure to ensure that there is sufficient availability of affordable, accessible, and integrated housing to allow an individual with an LTSS disability to choose to live in the community and lead an independent life, including the availability of an option to live in housing where the receipt of LTSS is not tied to tenancy” as a part of its definition of discrimination.

The legislation defines an “individual with an LTSS disability” as an individual with a disability who requires assistance in accomplishing activities of daily living, instrumental activities of daily living, or health-related tasks in order to live in the community, who is currently in an institutional placement or is at risk of institutionalization if that person does not receive community based long term services and supports.

The bill's definition of community is quite similar to the language in the definition of HCBS settings issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in the HCBS rule, with a couple of key differences, especially that no more than four unrelated individuals with an LTSS disability may reside in the same group or shared residence. This definition would not supersede the CMS regulation—rather, Medicaid policy would still allow for states to provide HCBS in settings that meet the CMS definition, but they may not satisfy the DIA's requirements, in much the same way that Medicaid policy allows for activity that does not meet Olmstead requirements. Also similar to the relationship between Medicaid policy and the Olmstead mandate is the fact that under the Disability Integration Act, the Attorney General has the authority to enforce this law in a manner that is consistent with ADA enforcement. In other words, CMS would continue to determine whether a state Medicaid HCBS action is consistent with Medicaid policy; meanwhile, the US Department of Justice (DOJ) would determine whether such an action (along with non-Medicaid and even non-state-related actions) are consistent with DIA requirements.

The legislation requires that all public entities and LTSS insurance providers must complete a self-evaluation within six months after implementing regulations are released. Within one year of completing the self-evaluation, public entities must submit a transition plan for addressing the issues identified in the self-evaluation and achieving the purpose of this legislation. The plan must address these issues as soon as practicable, but public entities have up to 10 years to complete the plan. The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Administration on Community Living (ACL), is charged with reviewing and approving state transition plans.

The prospects for passage of this bill are uncertain. The legislation is currently before the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP).

**FMI:** To read the bill or track its progress, go to <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/910?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22congressId%3A115+AND+billStatus%3A%5C%22Introduced%5C%22%22%5D%7D&r=37>.

## **GAO Includes Medicaid Recommendations in Report on Government Fragmentation, Overlap, and Duplication**

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has released its annual report to Congress on “Additional Opportunities to Reduce Fragmentation, Overlap, and Duplication and Achieve Other Financial Benefits.” The report contains three areas of recommendations regarding Medicaid.

GAO suggests that “federal spending on Medicaid demonstrations could be reduced by billions of dollars if the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) improved the process for reviewing, approving, and making transparent the basis for spending limits approved for Medicaid demonstrations, including better ensuring that valid methods are used to demonstrate budget neutrality and implemented other actions and recommendations, such as establishing specific criteria for assessing

whether demonstration spending furthers Medicaid objectives.” The watchdog agency also believes that “CMS should take steps to improve the oversight of state Medicaid payments to institutional providers and better ensure that the federal government does not provide funds for excessive state payments made to certain providers, which could result in savings of hundreds of millions of dollars annually.” Both of these recommendations are holdovers from previous years. This year’s report adds a recommendation regarding Medicaid Personal Care Services Data: “CMS needs timely, complete, and consistent data on Medicaid personal care services so it can effectively monitor these services, which could lead to savings of tens of millions of dollars annually.”

**FMI:** The report is available at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/690/684304.pdf>.

## Langevin Dear Colleague Letter Calls for DD Act Funding

Thirty-four Members of the House of Representatives signed onto a Dear Colleague letter authored by Representative James Langevin (D-RI) in support of the Developmental Disabilities Act programs: \$40 million for University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, \$42 million for Protection and Advocacy Systems, and \$76 million for Councils on Developmental Disabilities. The letter points out that current funding levels have not kept pace with inflation.

Langevin and his colleagues cite the longer lifespans of individuals with developmental disabilities as introducing “new issues around aging and caregiving that must be met by the three programs.” The letter also references the need for adequate funding for DD Act entities to “drive programs and policies that move people with developmental disabilities into competitive, integrated employment.”

**FMI:** The letter can be found at <http://www.aucd.org/docs/Final%20LHHS%20Approps%20Letter%20--%20DD%20Councils-PADD-UCEDDs.pdf>.

## House Members Sign Letter Supporting Lifespan Respite Care Programs

Twenty-six Members of the House of Representatives have signed on to a bipartisan letter written by Representatives Jim Langevin (D-RI) and Gregg Harper (R-MS) in support of funding for the Lifespan Respite Care Act program. The letter points out that “the Lifespan Respite Care Act was authorized in 2006 as the only federal program to address respite issues for families regardless of age or disability.”

The letter underlines the need for respite care in the US, and indicates that the lack of coordination between various programs that offer respite “continues to impede access to these crucial supports.” The Representatives point out that the Lifespan Respite program, which “has already provided grants to 35 states and the District of Columbia,” helps grantees to “coordinate federal, state and local resources and streamline the delivery of planned and emergency respite services.” The signatories urge appropriators to include \$5 million for the program in the FY18 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

**FMI:** The letter is available at [https://archrespite.org/images/Lifespan\\_Appropriations/FY\\_2018/House\\_Member\\_Letter\\_\\_FY18.pdf](https://archrespite.org/images/Lifespan_Appropriations/FY_2018/House_Member_Letter__FY18.pdf).

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From: julie@familiesfirstvt.com
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Murphy, Kirsten](#); [Barb Prine](#); [Max Barrows](#); [Karen Topper](#); [McCarthy, Pam](#); [Holsopple, Kathy](#); [Waller, Marlys](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Ashe, William](#); [Dawn Danner \(ddanner@ucsvt.org\)](#); [Dixie McFarland \(dmcfarland@nkhs.net\)](#); [Dylan Devlin \(ddevlin@hcrs.org\)](#); [Elizabeth Sightler](#); [Ellen Malone \(emalone@rmhscn.org\)](#); [Greg Mairs \(gmairs@csac-vt.org\)](#); [Jennifer Stratton \(jennifers@lamoille.org\)](#); [Josh Smith \(JoshS@gmssi.com\)](#); [Cunningham, Julie](#); [Juliet Martin \(juliem@wcmhs.org\)](#); [Kara Artus \(kara@transitionii.com\)](#); [Kathleen Brown \(kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org\)](#); [Marie Zura](#); [Hathaway, Ray](#); [Sherry Thrall \(cthrall@lincolnstreetinc.org\)](#); [Theresa Earle](#)
Cc: [AHS - DAIL DDSD Team](#)
Subject: RE: Call In Option - RE: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka ComprehensiveQuality Strategy
Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 12:11:23 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Wonderful, thank you Roy!

Julie Cunningham, LICSW
Executive Director
Families First
(802) 464-9633

From: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 11:11 AM
To: [Murphy, Kirsten](#); [Barb Prine](#); [Max Barrows](#); [Karen Topper](#); [McCarthy, Pam](#); [Holsopple, Kathy](#); [Waller, Marlys](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Ashe, William](#); [Dawn Danner \(ddanner@ucsvt.org\)](#); [Dixie McFarland \(dmcfarland@nkhs.net\)](#); [Dylan Devlin \(ddevlin@hcrs.org\)](#); [Elizabeth Sightler](#); [Ellen Malone \(emalone@rmhscn.org\)](#); [Greg Mairs \(gmairs@csac-vt.org\)](#); [Jennifer Stratton \(jennifers@lamoille.org\)](#); [Josh Smith \(JoshS@gmssi.com\)](#); [Cunningham, Julie](#); [Juliet Martin \(juliem@wcmhs.org\)](#); [Kara Artus \(kara@transitionii.com\)](#); [Kathleen Brown \(kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org\)](#); [Marie Zura](#); [Hathaway, Ray](#); [Sherry Thrall \(cthrall@lincolnstreetinc.org\)](#); [Theresa Earle](#)
Cc: [AHS - DAIL DDSD Team](#)
Subject: Call In Option - RE: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka ComprehensiveQuality Strategy

Here is the call-in number:

Dial-In Number: 1-877-273-4202
Conference Room ID: 1262904

RG

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 2:38 PM
To: Murphy, Kirsten <Kirsten.Murphy@vermont.gov>; Barb Prine <BPrine@vtlegalaid.org>; Max Barrows <max@gmsavt.org>; 'Karen Topper' <topper@gmsavt.org>; Pam McCarthy (pam.mccarthy@vtfn.org) <pam.mccarthy@vtfn.org>; Kathy Holsopple (kholsopple@vffcmh.org) <kholsopple@vffcmh.org>; Waller, Marlys <Marlys@vermontcarepartners.org>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; 'Bill Ashe (billa@uvs-vt.org)' <billa@uvs-vt.org>; 'Dawn Danner (ddanner@ucsvt.org)' <ddanner@ucsvt.org>; 'Dixie McFarland

(dmcfarland@nkhs.net)' <dmcfarland@nkhs.net>; 'Dylan Devlin (ddevlin@hcrs.org)' <ddevlin@hcrs.org>; 'Elizabeth Sightler' <esightler@ccs-vt.org>; 'Ellen Malone (emalone@rmhscn.org)' <emalone@rmhscn.org>; 'Greg Mairs (gmairs@csac-vt.org)' <gmairs@csac-vt.org>; 'Jennifer Stratton (jennifers@lamoille.org)' <jennifers@lamoille.org>; 'Josh Smith (JoshS@gmssi.com)' <JoshS@gmssi.com>; 'Julie Cunningham (juliecfamilies@myfairpoint.net)' <juliecfamilies@myfairpoint.net>; 'Juliet Martin (juliem@wcmhs.org)' <juliem@wcmhs.org>; 'Kara Artus (kara@transitionii.com)' <kara@transitionii.com>; 'Kathleen Brown (kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org)' <kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org>; 'Marie Zura' <mariez@howardcenter.org>; 'Ray Hathaway (rdhathaway@aol.com)' <rdhathaway@aol.com>; 'Sherry Thrall (cthral@lincolnstreetinc.org)' <cthral@lincolnstreetinc.org>; 'Theresa Earle' <tearle@hcrs.org>

Cc: AHS - DAIL DDS Team <AHS.DAILDDSDTeam@vermont.gov>

Subject: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy

Hello Everyone,

An updated Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy has been posted for public comment through April 28, 2017. This is the document that summarizes how Vermont is planning the transition to align with the new HCBS Medicaid rules. A public hearing will be held on April 21, 2017. For information about the proposed policy change, the public hearing, and to find out how to submit a public comment, please [click here](#).

You'll find the posting announcement. If you follow the link to the strategy document, here's where you will find the transition information:

- HCBS Transition Plan Preface (pp. 3-15)
- The fourth part of Section III: State Standards (pp. 58-62)
- Appendix A-E VT HCBS Program Systemic Assessments and Work Plans (links on pp. 78-82)

The AHS site has links to several related documents.

ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director

Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: lisa.parro@vermont.gov

Developmental Disabilities Services Division

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

280 State Drive, HC 2 South

Waterbury, VT 05671-2030

802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell



<https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

From: [Harrigan, Emma](#)
To: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Hill, Bard](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Clark, Bill](#); [McFadden, Clare](#)
Cc: [Hickman, Selina](#); [Carmichael, Erin](#)
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses
Date: Monday, August 07, 2017 3:43:38 PM

Apologies for the late reply. I don't see anything MH-specific so I don't have much feedback.

<p>The document does not specifically address the issue of conflict free case management.</p>	<p>Vermont's rules and statutes currently require person-centered planning for all populations. The person-centered planning provisions of the HCBS rules at 42 CFR§441.301(c)(1), (2) and (3) became effective on March 17, 2014. These requirements are not subject to a phase in or transition period. Compliance with these requirements is being addressed by the ongoing monitoring and compliance requirements of the CQS. Each specialized program will address the conflict free case management element in its own HCBS Compliance Plan.</p>
---	---

Perhaps I'm mis-remembering, but aren't we approaching an AHS-level solution to conflict-free case management since it touches all programs?

Emma Harrigan
Quality Management Director
Department of Mental Health
802-241-0098

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 10:31 AM
To: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Thanks for your comments Bard – very helpful!

Shawn

From: Hill, Bard
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 5:17 PM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>; McFadden, Clare <Clare.McFadden@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Hi-
Not sure if the additions (using track changes) are helpful...
Thanks Shawn.
Bard

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hickman, Selina <Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov>; Carmichael, Erin <Erin.Carmichael@vermont.gov>
Subject: CQS Public Comment and Draft State Responses

Hi All,

As you may recall, a formal public hearing for the attached Comprehensive Quality Strategy (CQS)/State Transition Plan (STP) was held on Thursday, April 21, 2017 from 1pm - 2pm at the Waterbury State Office Complex (WSOC). While no individuals from the community attended the hearing – I did receive three pieces of written feedback during the public comment period. I have attached a Word file that contains a summary of the public comments from these documents – along with draft State responses. As you will notice – not all comments have responses.

I am asking that you edit my draft responses – as well as suggest language for those comments w/o responses - by cob this Friday, July 28th. Once this document is complete – I will modify the CQS/STP accordingly – and submit it to CMS for review. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Shawn

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.

Quality Improvement Manager
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive Center Building
3rd Floor – E310-1
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Office: (802) 241-0961
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410
Fax: 802-241-0450

Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).

(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

From: [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)
To: [Hutt, Monica](#); [George, Camille](#); [Kelly, Bill](#); [Hill, Bard](#); [George, Camille](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Clark, Clayton](#)
Cc: [Dalmasse, Diane](#); [Bradshaw, Hugh](#); [Jones, Fred](#); [Fleurrey, Joanne](#)
Subject: RE: DAIL HHS Testimony
Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 9:04:47 AM
Attachments: [ASD_Division_Page.vF.docx](#)

I'm sorry I was not available yesterday.

I see two corrections needed for the slides:

1. DAIL Org Chart: Replace Dave Yacovone with Angela Smith-Dieng in the ASD section
2. Slide 22: Remove SASH as ASD does not manage the SASH program or grants.

I'd like to use the ASD annual report section to summarize our division. I understand this is an overview. Will the in-depth reviews be set up at a later date?

Car pooling?

Megan

From: Hutt, Monica
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 9:09 PM
To: George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>; Kelly, Bill <Bill.Kelly@vermont.gov>; Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Clark, Clayton <Clayton.Clark@vermont.gov>
Cc: Dalmasse, Diane <Diane.Dalmasse@vermont.gov>; Bradshaw, Hugh <hugh.bradshaw@vermont.gov>; Jones, Fred <Fred.Jones@vermont.gov>; Fleurrey, Joanne <Joanne.Fleurrey@vermont.gov>
Subject: DAIL HHS Testimony

Hello all,

Please take a look at the attached testimony presentation. As we discussed today at our 4 pm meeting, Roy, Megan and Clayton should plan to join Camille, Bill and I from 2:45-4:30 for this testimony on Wednesday. This will be the overview and then each of the three divisions will present a more in-depth review of their divisions, answering the questions that the committee originally sent. Roy has a one page document that he will send to Megan and to Clayton as a potential model for handouts from each of you.

As Joanne indicated, we need our handouts by the end of the day tomorrow so we can submit to the Agency and the Committee.

Joanne, please give Kendal in the Governor's office a heads up that we will be testifying – I am not sure that that will remain the process but until it changes, let's follow it.

Bard, I am stuck on what to say briefly regarding RBA- can you please suggest a few summative

bullets?

Thanks all,
Monica

Monica Caserta Hutt
Commissioner
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

From: [Dragon, Paul](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Hutt, Monica](#); [George, Camille](#)
Cc: [Sullivan, Allan](#); [Bailey, Melissa](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS and the Master Grant
Date: Thursday, May 11, 2017 1:08:32 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Paul

Paul Dragon, Ed.D.
Director of Policy and Program Integration
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000
Paul.dragon@vermont.gov
Office Line: 802-241-0422
Cell: 802- 585-9188
<http://humanservices.vermont.gov>

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2017 11:35 AM
To: Hutt, Monica <Monica.Hutt@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
Cc: Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Bailey, Melissa <Melissa.Bailey@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: HCBS and the Master Grant

Hello Monica,

[Redacted]

RG

From: Hutt, Monica
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2017 9:30 AM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; George, Camille <Camille.George@vermont.gov>
Cc: Sullivan, Allan <Allan.Sullivan@vermont.gov>; Dragon, Paul <Paul.Dragon@vermont.gov>; Bailey, Melissa <Melissa.Bailey@vermont.gov>; Hutt, Monica <Monica.Hutt@vermont.gov>
Subject: HCBS and the Master Grant
Importance: High

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Thanks, Monica

Monica Caserta Hutt, Commissioner
Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
Commissioner's Office
HC 2 South
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671-2020
Telephone: 802.241.2401
E-mail: monica.hutt@vermont.gov
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.



May is a time to recognize the importance of Older Americans Act programs in keeping more than 60,000 Vermonters healthy and at home as they age and honor the older Vermonters in our communities whose hard work, years of experience and energy are helping build momentum for a strong and vibrant Vermont. If you have questions about services to age well in your community, call the Vermont Senior Helpline at 1-800-642-5119.

-

From: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
To: [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)
Cc: [O'Neill, Chris](#)
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 4:08:55 PM

Thanks Kathy – and nice catch on the foundation typo. Must have been too much PBS with my 7-year old this past weekend!

Shawn

From: Hamilton, Kathleen
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 11:43 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>; Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>
Cc: O'Neill, Chris <Chris.ONeill@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hi Shawn. One correction on your list - Ford Foundation should say Francis Foundation. It's correct in your data report. (At 1st I thought it was an auto correct from my computer that I didn't catch.) This should be a complete list of all surveys entered, but I will cross reference with my pile of forms next week when I am home from vacation and confirm. Kathy

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From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 11:12:38 AM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy
Cc: Hamilton, Kathleen
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hi Roy,

The DDS HCBS provider survey results are attached. As you can see – there were 45 total survey responses from 17 DDS providers. The table below shows the setting types with responses for each provider.

	PROVIDER	STAFFED LIVING	SHARED LIVING	GROUP LIVING	GCS	TOTAL
	CAP	1	1	1	1	4
	CCS		1			1
	CSAC	1	1	1		3
	FAMILIES FIRST	1	1	1	1	4
	FRANCIS		1			1

	FOUNDATION					
	GMSS		1			1
	HCHS	1	1	4	1	7
	HCRS		1			1
	HEARTBEET		1			1
	LCMH		1			1
	LSI		1			1
	NCSS	1	1		1	3
	NKHS	1	1	1		3
	SCC	1	1			2
	UCS		1	1	2	4
	UVS		1	1		2
	WCMH	3	1	1	1	6
TOTAL	17	10	17	11	7	45

I have copied Kathy – to make sure that SG captured all of data for the providers and setting types that she entered.

Please let me know if you would like me to set up some time for you and your quality team to review the attached data.

Best,

Shawn

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: RE: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hello Shawn,

Please send me information on how we can view the survey results data. This will help us prepare for the next meeting as we craft our approach to validation.

RG

From: Skaflestad, Shawn
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:03 PM
To: Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma

<Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>

Cc: Clark, Bill <Bill.Clark@vermont.gov>

Subject: HCBS Implementation Team Next Steps

Hi All,

Below was the agenda for today’s meeting. As you are probably aware, we received an informational bulletin (attached) from CMS on May 9th that changed 3/17/19 as the deadline for full compliance with the new federal regulations – to the deadline for final approval of the CQS/STP. 3/17/2022 becomes the new date to demonstrate full compliance. This gives us a bit more time to complete our provider assessments, validation activities, and document any corrective action plans. In addition, we get a bit more time to think about how ongoing monitoring and compliance fits in with our current practice.

This item segues nicely into the next – as we need to develop a work plan to help us get from current state to final approval. CMS has proposed a set of milestones and end dates for this work (attached). The task at hand is for us to agree on the milestones and propose realistic end dates. Please take some time to do this between now and next meeting. We have some time after the 2019 deadline to worry about developing a full compliance work plan.

Next, I wanted to share the HCBS provider survey response rates with you and determine next steps.

	COMPLETE	PARTIAL	NOT STARTED	NEXT STEPS
CFC	11 (26%)	8	24	
TBI	5 (45%)	1	5	
DS	17 (100%)	0	0	Set up meeting with QM staff.
CRT	2 (20%)	0	8	

As you can see, DS providers have completed 100% of their self-assessments. Great work Roy and Kathleen! My anticipated next step for them would be to set up a meeting with their QM folks to share individual provider responses – and develop a template to document any necessary corrective action plans. As far as the other programs are concerned – please let me know how I can help encourage additional providers to respond.

Finally, I was going to let you know about the status of Vermont’s geographic exception request – and discuss with you the current way Case Management and HCBS services are provided for each program in each of the geographic regions of the state. I wanted to have a conversation with you folks – before proposing a draft response to CMS.

*Agenda
June 12, 2017*

[1.CMS Memo May 9, 2017](#)

[2.CMS Proposed Milestones and End Dates](#)

[3.HCBS Provider Survey – update](#)

[4.CMS Follow Up – case management conflict of interest issue](#)

Thank you,

Shawn

From: [Hill, Bard](#)
To: [Gerstenberger, Roy](#); [Fuoco, Danielle](#); [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#); [Harrigan, Emma](#); [Omland, Laurel](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)
Cc: [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)
Subject: RE: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs
Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 8:59:31 AM

Hi-

I suspect that the totals have been addressed by now- please let me know if that is not the case. Dani do you have what you need from DAIL for #9 and #12 (for Choices for Care, Developmental Disability Services, and Traumatic Brain Injury)?

Cheers-
Bard

[The emphasis should be on why we do a job.](#)

[W. Edwards Deming](#)

Bard Hill

bard.hill@vermont.gov

landline 802.241.0376

mobile 802.760.0852

From: Gerstenberger, Roy
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 8:47 AM
To: Fuoco, Danielle <Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov>; Harrigan, Emma <Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov>; Omland, Laurel <Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov>; Courcelle, Andre <Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov>
Cc: Hill, Bard <Bard.Hill@vermont.gov>; Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Hello Danielle,

I've copied Bard Hill as he may be able to offer the totals for DAIL divisions. We can also get you the DAIL Annual Report that includes numbers for divisions.

Developmental Services does not have an Ombudsman role. We participate in the National Core Indicators project and track system outcomes with that methodology.

Question #12 relates to our state HCBS Transition Plan and asks for conclusions regarding a phase of the plan that Vermont has not reached as of this date. Therefore, the answer to all of

the questions would be "No". I've copied Shawn Skaflestad as he has the AHS Comprehensive Quality Strategy Plan.

Roy Gerstenberger

From: Fuoco, Danielle

Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 4:09 PM

To: Tierney-Ward, Megan; Gerstenberger, Roy; Harrigan, Emma; Omland, Laurel; Courcelle, Andre

Subject: Input Needed - Kaiser Survey on HCBS Waiver Programs

Hello,

I coordinate external surveys on Medicaid for AHS and am hoping to get your input for each of your respective programs on a few specific questions on a survey from the Kaiser Family Foundation. The scope of the attached survey is all of the HCBS programs under our 1115 Global Commitment to Health Demonstration waiver. Programs included are:

- Choices for Care
- Developmental Disability Services
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Community Rehabilitation and Treatment
- Children's Mental Health

I am specifically requesting your input on **Question # 9 – *Quality Measures*** and **Question #12 – *HCBS Setting Rules Transition***.

Please respond to me directly by the end of this week (COB Friday, 6/16).

Also, please let me know if you have any questions!

Thank you for your assistance.

Dani Fuoco, MPA

Program Consultant

Medicaid Policy Unit

Agency of Human Services

280 State Drive, Center Building

Waterbury, Vermont 05671-1000

[P] (802) 585-4265

[F] (802) 241-0958

Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov

From: NASDDDS ListServ
To: NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM
Subject: Re: inquiry on behalf of the state of New Mexico
Date: Friday, September 08, 2017 5:09:12 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image001.jpg](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[RFP 0128-B \(5\).docx](#)

Attached is an RFP from Wyoming, released earlier this year, on a comprehensive rate analysis and setting project for our three 1915(c) waivers serving individuals with I/DD and TBI. Feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Lee Grossman, MPA
Administrator
Developmental Disabilities Section, Behavioral Health Division
Wyoming Department of Health
6101 Yellowstone Rd, Ste. 220
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Phone: (307)777-7460
Fax: (307)777-8685

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 2:45 PM, Santaniello, Christine <Christine.Santaniello@dhhs.nh.gov> wrote:

NH would love to see that as well 😊

Christine L. Santaniello

Director

Bureau of Developmental Services

[603.271.5023](tel:603.271.5023)- direct line

[603.931.0344](tel:603.931.0344)- cell

From: NASDDDS ListServ [mailto:NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM] **On Behalf Of** Rodriguez, Jennifer, DOH
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2017 4:24 PM
To: NASDDDS@PEACH.EASE.LSOFT.COM
Subject: Re: inquiry on behalf of the state of New Mexico

Good afternoon,

New Mexico's Developmental Disabilities Supports Division is embarking on a comprehensive rate study for our three HCBC waivers. We are wondering if other states have RFPs they would be willing to share, for us to review and learn from, when writing our RFP. An RFP for a comprehensive rate study *or* an RFP for core HCBS service rates (residential, day and employment services) would be very helpful. If you need any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your assistance and have a great weekend! Jen



Accredited since 2015

Jennifer Rodriguez

Community Programs Bureau Chief

Developmental Disabilities Supports Division
810 San Mateo Road, Suite 106
P O Box 26110

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

ph: [\(505\) 476-8840](tel:5054768840)

fax: (505) 476-8894
www.nmhealth.org



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From: Jeanine Zlockie [<mailto:jzlockie@nasddd.org>]

Sent: Friday, August 25, 2017 12:41 PM

To: NASDDDS ListServ <NASDDDS@PEACHEASE.LSOFT.COM>
Cc: Rodriguez, Jennifer, DOH <Jennifer.Rodriguez@state.nm.us>
Subject: RE: inquiry on behalf of the state of New Mexico

Hello Colleagues – Please find an inquiry on behalf of New Mexico. Thank you in advance of your responses. Have a nice weekend.

“New Mexico would like to query other states to see if and how they do the following:

1. NM Human Services Department (HSD) and Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) want to explore the possibility of extending the frequency of Level of Care (LOC) evaluations beyond 12-months. Do any states allow the frequency of LOC evaluations beyond 12 months? And if so, how does that work? Also, do any states have a LOC re-evaluation process that differs from the initial evaluation process. And if so, how does that work?
2. Can we get an update on the status of the Department of Labor Rule?”

Jeanine Zlockie

Director of Communications and Educational Programs

National Association of State Directors of

Developmental Disabilities Services

301 N Fairfax Street, Suite 101

Alexandria, VA 22314-2633

[570-868-6320](tel:570-868-6320)

www.NASDDDS.org

~~~~~

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**From:** [Hill\\_Bard](#)  
**To:** [Skaflestad\\_Shawn](#)  
**Cc:** [Gerstenberger\\_Roy](#); [McFadden\\_Clare](#); [Tierney-Ward\\_Megan](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Milestone Submission & Monitoring Training Call Reminder with Slide Deck  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 1:31:05 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)

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Ah thanks! It's not clear if use of the website is required.

Bard

---

**From:** Skaflestad, Shawn  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** Hill, Bard <[Bard.Hill@vermont.gov](mailto:Bard.Hill@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Milestone Submission & Monitoring Training Call Reminder with Slide Deck

We have been submitting our STP/CQS via our 1115 waiver website and/or directly to CMS...I need to ask if our information has been transferred to the hcbs stp website.

*Shawn*

---

**From:** Hill, Bard  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 1:19 PM  
**To:** Skaflestad, Shawn <[Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov](mailto:Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Milestone Submission & Monitoring Training Call Reminder with Slide Deck

Hi-

Are you the 'primary contact' for VT for this hcbs rules website?

THX!

Bard

---

**From:** Fuoco, Danielle  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 1:07 PM  
**To:** Hill, Bard <[Bard.Hill@vermont.gov](mailto:Bard.Hill@vermont.gov)>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <[megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov](mailto:megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov)>; Skaflestad, Shawn <[Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov](mailto:Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Milestone Submission & Monitoring Training Call Reminder with Slide Deck

Hello,

I shared the call below previously but this is updated with slide deck (I think it's the not well marked pdf links at the very bottom).

Thank you,

Dani Fuoco, Program Consultant  
AHS Medicaid Policy Unit  
(802) 585-4265

---

**From:** Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) [<mailto:Medicaid.gov@subscriptions.cms.hhs.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 12:20 PM  
**To:** Fuoco, Danielle <[Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov](mailto:Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** Milestone Submission & Monitoring Training Call Reminder with Slide Deck

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**Milestone Submission & Monitoring Training - Part 2 of a 2 Part Series-  
Wednesday, June 14th at 1:30 pm ET:**

The objective of this training is to teach states how to utilize the milestone feature added to the Home and Community-Based Settings Statewide Transition Plan website (HCBS STP website) in order to facilitate the tracking of state milestones. NORC is currently the training lead through the HCB Settings Characteristics Contract overseen by the Division of Long Term Services & Supports (DLTSS). NORC will present the training and Ralph Lollar, DLTSS Division Director, and the DLTSS Team will support the training and lead the Q&A Session.

**To join the call (via computer or WebEx app) and webinar:**

1. Go to <https://meetings-cms.webex.com/meetings-cms/k2/j.php?MTID=t2d9157544fba65236cefe851838e17b4>
2. Enter your name and email address (or registration ID).
3. Enter the session password: This session does not require a password.
4. Click "Join Now".
5. Follow the instructions that appear on your screen.

**Option #2” To join Toll Free and follow along with slide deck:**

1. Dial: 1-844-396-8222 Your WebEx Meeting Number: 908 621 799
2. Follow the instructions you hear on the phone.

---

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|

**From:** Hamilton, Kathleen  
**To:** [Gerstenberger, Roy](mailto:Gerstenberger.Roy)  
**Subject:** Re: No Meeting on Monday - Next Steps  
**Date:** Monday, January 09, 2017 12:20:52 PM

---

Yes - the concern was that all of the agencies - or at least most - have secured facilities, as well as confidentiality issues. So someone off the street may not be able to easily access someone who is at the agency office building, particularly if other consumers are present. I will leave the questions in.

Also....were you able to find out if DS agencies who are providing CFC or TBI services will utilize this survey tool, or need to do the online survey? Or is this a question for the meeting today? That's the last edit - hopefully- that needs to be done to the DS Survey Tool. Kathy

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**From:** Gerstenberger, Roy <[roy.gerstenberger@vermont.gov](mailto:roy.gerstenberger@vermont.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 9, 2017 12:12 PM  
**Subject:** RE: No Meeting on Monday - Next Steps  
**To:** Hamilton, Kathleen <[kathleen.hamilton@vermont.gov](mailto:kathleen.hamilton@vermont.gov)>

Thank you, Kathy.

Forgive me for not remembering all of the details of our conversation about settings and visitors. I think that we want these for daytime supports when people are not in the community but actually at a setting; either temporarily or through the day. Perhaps we need to identify if a setting is used and, if yes, for how long and then ask for these details. Since the purpose is to provide us with basic data and not as a form of assessment (that happens later) then having this detail for later is important.

3.11\*

Does the setting encourage visitors or other people from the greater community (other than paid staff) to be present, and is there evidence that visitors have been present at regular frequencies?

3.12\*

Are visiting hours unrestricted?

RG

---

**From:** Hamilton, Kathleen  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 05, 2017 4:21 PM  
**To:** Gerstenberger, Roy <[Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov](mailto:Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: No Meeting on Monday - Next Steps

Hi Roy. Happy New Year! Although the attached document from Shawn isn't really within the scope

of what you hired me for, I would caution about using negative words such as Corrective Action Plan, remedial.....We were clear to say that it wasn't an audit, but an assessment to determine what we needed to do to come into compliance with the new Regs. Since these are new, agencies would of course not be in compliance with all of it. I think agencies will have a negative feeling/response to a Corrective Action Plan. Just my 2 cents.....

I have made all of the changes to the survey we discussed at the last meeting, and received the feedback from Chris on Supervised Living and Staffed Living ( no to Supervised and only yes to Staffed Apt's if they are under staff control, such as for Act 248 folks.) You were going to look into questions 3.11 and 3.12 to see if we needed to include them. Not sure if you have had time, with the holidays.

I'll wait to hear from you on how you want to proceed with the survey. I will attend the 3:30 meeting on Monday through conference call. Kathy

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: "**Skaflestad, Shawn**" <[Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov](mailto:Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov)>  
Date: Wed, Dec 21, 2016 at 1:41 PM -0500  
Subject: RE: No Meeting on Monday - Next Steps  
To: "Tierney-Ward, Megan" <[megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov](mailto:megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov)>, "Gerstenberger, Roy" <[Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov](mailto:Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov)>, "Courcelle, Andre" <[Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov](mailto:Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov)>, "Harrigan, Emma" <[Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov](mailto:Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov)>, "Omland, Laurel" <[Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov](mailto:Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov)>, "Hawes, Emily" <[Emily.Hawes@vermont.gov](mailto:Emily.Hawes@vermont.gov)>, "Clark, Bill" <[Bill.Clark@vermont.gov](mailto:Bill.Clark@vermont.gov)>, "Hamilton, Kathleen" <[Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov)>  
Cc: "Hickman, Selina" <[Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov](mailto:Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov)>

Hi All,

I am attaching a document that contains current CQS language that addresses the following STP elements:

- Site Specific Settings Assessment (p1)
- Site Specific Settings Validation Plan (p2)
- Remediation Strategies (for systemic assessment, site-specific provider assessment, and validation activities) (p3-4)
- Heightened Scrutiny Plan and Process (p5)
- Relocation Plan and Process (p6)
- Ongoing Monitoring & Compliance Plan and Process (p7-8)

At the bottom of each section, I have also included a suggestion for additional text.

Please review the document and determine if the current or suggested text makes sense for your program. Make any modifications to the language using tracked changes. Please forward me your edits ahead of our next implementation team meeting on **Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. I hope this approach makes your review of these sections in the CQS a little less painful.

If I don't speak with you before Thursday – have great holiday season!

Best,

–

*Shawn*

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.  
Quality Improvement Manager  
Agency of Human Services  
280 State Drive Center Building  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – E310-1  
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000  
Office: (802) 241-0961  
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410  
Fax: 802-241-0450

**Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).**  
(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

---

**From:** Skaflestad, Shawn

**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2016 4:05 PM

**To:** Tierney-Ward, Megan <[megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov](mailto:megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov)>; Gerstenberger, Roy <[Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov](mailto:Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov)>; Courcelle, Andre <[Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov](mailto:Andre.Courcelle@vermont.gov)>; Harrigan, Emma <[Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov](mailto:Emma.Harrigan@vermont.gov)>; Omland, Laurel <[Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov](mailto:Laurel.Omland@vermont.gov)>; Hawes, Emily <[Emily.Hawes@vermont.gov](mailto:Emily.Hawes@vermont.gov)>; Clark, Bill <[Bill.Clark@vermont.gov](mailto:Bill.Clark@vermont.gov)>; Hamilton, Kathleen <[Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov)>

**Cc:** Hickman, Selina <[Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov](mailto:Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov)>

**Subject:** No Meeting on Monday - Next Steps

Hi Everyone,

I cancelled our meeting on Monday – but I am hoping that you could use this time to look over the most recent versions of the site specific settings assessment and consumer validation surveys. The DAIL tools are attached to this message. This version contains all of the edits that folks provided during our October meeting. Changes are highlighted using the 'track change' function. Please let me know if the edits reflect your notes. Also please review PHPG's follow-up to 3 issues that were raised during our October review below – and let me know your thoughts. DMH folks have received their assessment/survey via a separate email directly from PHPG – but the review/feedback request is identical.

*VT Rental Law - Question 6.2*– The HCBS rule refers to the living unit or dwelling as a specific physical space that can be owned, rented or occupied under a legally enforceable agreement (e.g., rental lease, admissions agreement, home share contract, etc.) and at a minimum the HCBS enrollee must have the same protections from eviction as others under the tenant/landlord laws of the State or municipality. Thus the reference to Vermont’s ‘Residential Rental Agreement’ law. The HCBS rule also requires that “for settings in which landlord tenant laws do not apply, the State must assure that a lease, admission or residency agreement or other form of written agreement will be in place and that the document provides protections that address evictions and appeals that are comparable to those provided under the jurisdictions landlord tenant law”. **An option to clarify the question is to include a link to the law as reference (see example below).**

6.2 Does the setting offer the same responsibilities and protections from eviction for Medicaid HCBS members as for all tenants under Vermont’s Residential Rental Agreement law?[\(Click Here for 9 V.S.A. Chp 137 §4467\)](#)

*Private Unit v Privacy - Question 6.10*– The rule requires that HCBS enrollees have a choice of settings ‘including the option of a private unit in a residential facility’ – thus question 6.10 is a separate construct from the previous questions in this section that are related to having privacy in your living situation regardless of setting. **Proposed edit is below:**

6.10 Do residents have the option of choosing a private unit (e.g., bedroom, apartment or assisted living unit), as appropriate?

*Survey Methodology- Location versus Setting Type:* I have reviewed a sample of approved transition plans from 4 states posted on the CMS website. CMS acknowledges the use of sampling techniques for consumer assessments and validation methodologies, however when referring to the provider self-assessment process, CMS commonly uses the phrase “site-specific assessment”. A quick review of CMS approval letters for these states supports a location specific methodology. For example: CMS Delaware feedback indicates that the state must ensure provider assessments for “every site where services are offered”; CMS Idaho feedback regarding Certified Family Homes (e.g., host family settings) indicates that the state “needs to assure that they are including an approach to assessing and validating all homes for compliance”. There are a total of 14 approved plans posted as of today, if you would like us to review additional plans or create a formal written analysis let me know. **Looks as though we can sample during validation – but not during the provider assessments.**

Finally - looking over my notes from last month – I also need to send you the following sections of the CQS/STP for your program-specific edits:

- \*Site Specific Settings Assessment
- \*Site Specific Settings Validation Plan
- \*Relocation Plan and Process
- \*Heightened Scrutiny Plan and Process
- \*Ongoing Monitoring & Compliance Plan and Process

I will be sure to get this to you when I am back in the office on Tuesday. Enjoy the weekend!

*Shawn*

Shawn E. Skaflestad, Ph.D.  
Quality Improvement Manager  
Agency of Human Services  
280 State Drive Center Building  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – E310-1  
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000  
Office: (802) 241-0961  
Cell Phone: (802) 585-4410  
Fax: 802-241-0450

**Find out how Vermonters are doing with the [AHS Results Scorecard](#).**  
(Access through Internet Explorer 10, Firefox, or Google Chrome).

**From:** [Skaflestad, Shawn](#)  
**To:** [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Public Hearing on Comprehensive Quality Strategy - Question  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 18, 2017 10:38:03 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

No video – but conference call information is as follows:

Dial-In Number: 1-877-273-4202  
Conference Room ID: 1262904

*Shawn*

---

**From:** Gerstenberger, Roy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 18, 2017 8:28 AM  
**To:** Skaflestad, Shawn <Shawn.Skaflestad@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Hearing on Comprehensive Quality Strategy - Question

Hello Shawn,

Will there be video conference or call in opportunities for the hearing on April 21?

**ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director**

*Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant:* [lisa.parro@vermont.gov](mailto:lisa.parro@vermont.gov)  
Developmental Disabilities Services Division  
Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living  
280 State Drive, HC 2 South  
Waterbury, VT 05671-2030  
802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell

 <https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

**From:** Hamilton, Kathleen  
**To:** [Gerstenberger, Roy](mailto:Gerstenberger.Roy)  
**Subject:** Re: Survey  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 12:24:57 PM

---

Ok - will note the questions. Kathy

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Gerstenberger, Roy <[roy.gerstenberger@vermont.gov](mailto:roy.gerstenberger@vermont.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 11:59 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Survey  
**To:** Hamilton, Kathleen <[kathleen.hamilton@vermont.gov](mailto:kathleen.hamilton@vermont.gov)>

Hello Kathy,

These are interesting questions about next steps. Please keep track of them so that we can create some Frequently Asked Questions documents. Much of the evidence around alignment with the new rules will come down to what is contained in the Individual Service Agreement. That's where there needs to be confirmation that the person was offered choice and continues to choose current services and providers. The guidance that we will provide on these type of questions is that they need to be address on a person-by-person basis. They also need to reflect "presumed competence". If the person is determined to not be able to take advantage of one or more of the provisions for rights then the Vermont Comprehensive Quality Strategy document clarifies how modifications can be made:

*Under Certain Conditions a Residential Provider can modify some of these Additional Requirements. Additional requirements may be changed only when a member's Person Centered Plan describes:*

- (1) Identify a specific and individualized assessed need.*
- (2) Document the positive interventions and supports used prior to any modifications to the person-centered service plan.*
- (3) Document less intrusive methods of meeting the need that have been tried but did not work.*
- (4) Include a clear description of the condition that is directly proportionate to the specific assessed need.*
- (5) Include regular collection and review of data to measure the ongoing effectiveness of the modification.*
- (6) Include established time limits for periodic reviews to determine if the modification is still necessary or can be terminated.*
- (7) Include the informed consent of the individual.*
- (8) Include an assurance that interventions and supports will cause no harm to the individual.*

(page 62)

<http://dvha.vermont.gov/global-commitment-to-health/vt-gc-cqs-march-24-2017-public-posting-final.pdf>

RG

---

**From:** Hamilton, Kathleen

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:59 AM

**To:** Gerstenberger, Roy <Gerstenberger, Roy <Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov>

**Subject:** Survey

Hi Roy. I have been getting questions on the survey so if you see small amounts of time on my timesheet, that is what it is.

I did get one question that I could use your feedback on. There are a few compliance questions that I believe might be best addressed system-wide. An example would be locks on the bathroom doors, when this would be not advisable or safe for some. Compliant, unless otherwise indicated in the ISA in the safety section, would be one way to address it across agencies. Another issue may be that of the tenant agreement and what it contains so that it doesn't jeopardize Difficulty of Care status. For these type of questions, that may require coordination and/or discussion with peers or DDSD staff, what would you expect to see as a plan?

Thanks. Hope you are well. Kathy

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**From:** [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)  
**To:** [Hill, Bard](#); [Parker, Lindsay](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)  
**Cc:** [George, Camille](#); [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Hickman, Selina](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 3:07:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [Price-Verma Letter to States - 3-14-17.pdf](#)

---

This is interesting. Though I believe our timeline is looking good for CFC on the HCBS rules compliance, we have not yet received the guidance we requested from CMS regarding case management and conflict of interest (unless we did while I was on vacation... Selina?). So more time is never a bad thing if we are faced with a potential big shift in how we deliver case management. Perhaps the statement "we will be examining ways in which we can improve our engagement with states on the implementation of the HCBS rule, including greater state involvement in the process of assessing compliance of specific settings" is a sign that CMS will be more flexible within the rules???

Megan

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**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** Parker, Lindsay <[Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov](mailto:Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov)>; Gerstenberger, Roy <[Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov](mailto:Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov)>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <[megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov](mailto:megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov)>  
**Cc:** George, Camille <[Camille.George@vermont.gov](mailto:Camille.George@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

I defer to roy and Megan in DAIL  
Not sure who the dmh lead is

Sent from my iPhone

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Sorry Bard sitting in ACA meeting.

Is it fair to say VT is on track to come into compliance by 2019?

---

**Lindsay Parker**  
Agency of Human Services  
[p] 802-578-9427

---

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**Cc:** George, Camille <[Camille.George@vermont.gov](mailto:Camille.George@vermont.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

Hi

Both DAIL and dmh are working on a hcbs rules, as d scribed in the gc cqs. Roy is lead for dds and Megan for cfc and tbi Bard

Sent from my iPhone

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Hi Bard and Camille,

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Am asking so I can provide update to Cory asap (he has reporter coming in for ACA repeal questions).

Thanks!

<image001.png>

---

**Lindsay Parker, MPH**

Health Access Policy & Planning Chief  
Medicaid Policy, Agency of Human Services  
280 State Drive, Building E-313  
Waterbury, VT 05671  
[p] 802-578-9427 | [f] 802-871-3001  
[e] [lindsay.parker@vermont.gov](mailto:lindsay.parker@vermont.gov)

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<Price-Verma Letter to States - 3-14-17.pdf>

**From:** Kara Artus  
**To:** [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:00:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Thanks Roy!

*Kara*

Kara Artus  
Executive Director  
Transition II  
346 Shelburne Road  
Burlington, Vermont 05401  
Phone: 802-846-7281  
Fax: 802-846-7282  
Website: [www.transitionii.com](http://www.transitionii.com)

---

**From:** Gerstenberger, Roy [mailto:Roy.Gerstenberger@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 2:38 PM  
**To:** Murphy, Kirsten <Kirsten.Murphy@vermont.gov>; Barb Prine <BPrine@vtlegalaid.org>; Max Barrows <max@gmsavt.org>; Karen Topper <topper@gmsavt.org>; McCarthy, Pam <pam.mccarthy@vtfn.org>; Holsopple, Kathy <kholsopple@vffcmh.org>; Waller, Marlys <Marlys@vermontcarepartners.org>; Hamilton, Kathleen <Kathleen.Hamilton@vermont.gov>; Ashe, William <billa@uvs-vt.org>; Dawn Danner (ddanner@ucsvt.org) <ddanner@ucsvt.org>; Dixie McFarland (dmcfarland@nkhs.net) <dmcfarland@nkhs.net>; Dylan Devlin (ddevlin@hcrs.org) <ddevlin@hcrs.org>; Elizabeth Sightler <esightler@ccs-vt.org>; Ellen Malone (emalone@rmhscn.org) <emalone@rmhscn.org>; Greg Mairs (gmairs@csac-vt.org) <gmairs@csac-vt.org>; Jennifer Stratton (jennifers@lamoille.org) <jennifers@lamoille.org>; Josh Smith (JoshS@gmssi.com) <JoshS@gmssi.com>; Cunningham, Julie <juliec families@myfairpoint.net>; Juliet Martin (juliem@wcmhs.org) <juliem@wcmhs.org>; Kara Artus (kara@transitionii.com) <kara@transitionii.com>; Kathleen Brown (kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org) <kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org>; Marie Zura <mariez@howardcenter.org>; Hathaway, Ray <rdhathaway@aol.com>; Sherry Thrall (cthral@lincolnstreetinc.org) <cthral@lincolnstreetinc.org>; Theresa Earle <tearle@hcrs.org>  
**Cc:** AHS - DAIL DDS Team <AHS.DAILDDSDTeam@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy

Hello Everyone,

An updated Global Commitment to Health Comprehensive Quality Strategy has been posted for public comment through April 28, 2017. This is the document that summarizes how Vermont is planning the transition to align with the new HCBS Medicaid rules. A public hearing will be held on

April 21, 2017. For information about the proposed policy change, the public hearing, and to find out how to submit a public comment, please [click here](#).

You'll find the posting announcement. If you follow the link to the strategy document, here's where you will find the transition information:

- HCBS Transition Plan Preface (pp. 3-15)
- The fourth part of Section III: State Standards (pp. 58-62)
- Appendix A-E VT HCBS Program Systemic Assessments and Work Plans (links on pp. 78-82)

The AHS site has links to several related documents.

**ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director**

*Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant:* [lisa.parro@vermont.gov](mailto:lisa.parro@vermont.gov)

[Developmental Disabilities Services Division](#)

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

280 State Drive, HC 2 South

Waterbury, VT 05671-2030

802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell



<https://www.facebook.com/vtdsd/>

**From:** risp Residential Information Systems Project  
**To:** [Bascom, June](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)  
**Subject:** RISP FY 2014 report  
**Date:** Thursday, April 20, 2017 9:21:57 PM  
**Attachments:** [2014\\_RISP\\_WEB.pdf](#)

---

Dear State Directors and RISP State contacts,

We are pleased to send you the FY2014 Residential Information Systems Project (RISP) report. This report will be posted to [risp.umn.edu](http:// risp.umn.edu) on April 25th (Tuesday). State profiles are currently online at <https:// risp.umn.edu/state-profiles>. Thank you for the investment of time you made providing and clarifying data for this report. Our goal is for the report to be an accurate reflection of the IDD system in each state.

As always, if you notice data elements that need to be updated or corrected, please let us know so we can update the database. While this technical report is the main format we use to share the information you provide, we also analyze and share the data in a variety of formats for products published to the RISP website, the Community Services Reporter, presentations, other publications, and in special reports prepared upon request. Please let us know if you would like a customized analysis based on FY 2014, or historical data.

We are now working on the FY 2015 report and will be contacting you soon if we have any additional questions.

Thank you for your responses to the FY 2016 survey. Our analysis of those data will begin once we have responses from all of the states.

Thank you for your partnership in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

The RISP team,

Sheryl Larson  
Lynda Anderson  
Heidi Eschenbacher  
Brittany Taylor

--

Residential Information Systems Project  
Research and Training Center on Community Living  
Institute on Community Integration  
University of Minnesota  
[risp.umn.edu](http:// risp.umn.edu)

**From:** Gerstenberger, Roy  
**To:** [Murphy, Kirsten](#); [Barb Prine](#); [Max Barrows](#); [Karen Topper](#); [McCarthy, Pam](#); [Holsopple, Kathy](#); [Waller, Marlys](#); [Hamilton, Kathleen](#); [Ashe, William](#); [Dawn Danner \(ddanner@ucsvt.org\)](#); [Dixie McFarland \(dmcfarland@nkhs.net\)](#); [Dylan Devlin \(ddevlin@hcrs.org\)](#); [Elizabeth Sightler](#); [Ellen Malone \(emalone@rmhscn.org\)](#); [Greg Mairs \(gmairs@csac-vt.org\)](#); [Jennifer Stratton \(jennifers@lamolle.org\)](#); [Josh Smith \(JoshS@gmssi.com\)](#); [Cunningham, Julie](#); [Juliet Martin \(juliem@wcmhs.org\)](#); [Kara Artus \(kara@transitionii.com\)](#); [Kathleen Brown \(kathleen.brown@ncssinc.org\)](#); [Marie Zura](#); [Hathaway, Ray](#); [Sherry Thrall \(cthrall@lincolnstreetinc.org\)](#); [Theresa Earle](#)  
**Cc:** [AHS - DAIL DDSD Team](#)  
**Subject:** Vermont HCBS Transition Plan - aka Comprehensive Quality Strategy  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 2:38:28 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Hello Everyone,

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### ROY GERSTENBERGER, Director

*Lisa Parro, Executive Assistant: [lisa.parro@vermont.gov](mailto:lisa.parro@vermont.gov)*

Developmental Disabilities Services Division

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

280 State Drive, HC 2 South

Waterbury, VT 05671-2030

802-241-0295 office/802-798-2000 cell



<https://www.facebook.com/vtddsd/>

**From:** [Marinelli, Nancy](#)  
**To:** [Hill, Bard](#)  
**Subject:** RE: TIMELY - NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 04, 2017 2:09:40 PM  
**Attachments:** [NAMD Response to HCBS RFI DRAFT NM.docx](#)

---

Hi Bard,

I only have time to read the NAMD feedback (not the full CMS doc they are responding to) so my comments are limited as such but in case they are of any value I am forwarding them to you. What or if you do with them is up to you. Please see the attachment.

Thanks,  
Nancy

---

**From:** Hill, Bard  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** Marinelli, Nancy ; Gerstenberger, Roy ; McFadden, Clare ; Courcelle, Andre  
**Cc:** George, Camille ; Hutt, Monica ; Tierney-Ward, Megan  
**Subject:** FW: TIMELY - NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response  
**Importance:** High  
Hi- You may also be interested in this...  
Bard

---

**From:** Fuoco, Danielle  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2017 9:27 AM  
**To:** Hickman, Selina <[Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov](mailto:Selina.Hickman@vermont.gov)>; Hill, Bard <[Bard.Hill@vermont.gov](mailto:Bard.Hill@vermont.gov)>; Tierney-Ward, Megan <[megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov](mailto:megan.tierney-ward@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** TIMELY - NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response  
**Importance:** High

Hello,

The NAMD is seeking comments/feedback on their response to a CMS RFI on Medicaid HCBS by **COB Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>** – see email below.

If you have comments I'm happy to collect those **by 1pm on Thursday, 1/5** and compile them into a single document for NAMD.

Please feel free to share this with anyone who would be interested that I missed.

Thank you,

Dani Fuoco, Program Consultant  
AHS Medicaid Policy Unit  
(802) 585-4265

---

**From:** Parker, Lindsay  
**Sent:** Friday, December 30, 2016 9:01 AM  
**To:** Fuoco, Danielle <[Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov](mailto:Danielle.Fuoco@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response  
Dani, Can you please treat this as survey and work on response? Thanks

---

**Lindsay Parker**  
Agency of Human Services

[p] 802-578-9427

---

**From:** McPherson, Darcy  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 29, 2016 3:08 PM  
**To:** Parker, Lindsay <[Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov](mailto:Lindsay.Parker@vermont.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jack Rollins <[jack.rollins@medicaiddirectors.org](mailto:jack.rollins@medicaiddirectors.org)>  
**Date:** December 29, 2016 at 1:27:40 PM EST  
**Cc:** Jack Rollins <[jack.rollins@medicaiddirectors.org](mailto:jack.rollins@medicaiddirectors.org)>, Lindsey Browning <[lindsey.browning@medicaiddirectors.org](mailto:lindsey.browning@medicaiddirectors.org)>, Cornelia LLuberes <[cornelia.lluberes@medicaiddirectors.org](mailto:cornelia.lluberes@medicaiddirectors.org)>  
**Subject: NAMD: State feedback on HCBS RFI response**

Good afternoon Medicaid Directors,  
We hope you are enjoying the holiday season and look forward to a pleasant new year. NAMD is writing to request your review and feedback on the attached document, containing draft NAMD comments on a [CMS Request for Information on Medicaid home and community-based services \(HCBS\)](#). We would most appreciate your feedback by **COB Thursday, January 5**; this timeline will allow us to incorporate your comments into the document in time for the RFI closing date of January 9. We apologize for the brief comment period and its falling across the holidays, but will work diligently to accept feedback for as long as possible.

The RFI is expansive and address four key areas of Medicaid HCBS:

- Methods to support continued rebalancing of Medicaid long-term services and supports towards the community;
- Strategies to ensure the provision of high-quality HCBS and ensure beneficiary safety;
- Program integrity in HCBS, particularly in personal care services; and
- Enhancing the HCBS workforce, primarily via enhanced federal review of rates.

In each of these areas, NAMD draws upon input from a group of our core HCBS state experts and previous NAMD comments on HCBS issues to provide a response. We welcome any additional examples or nuance you and your staff are able to provide to further solidify our comments and maximize their utility.

Thank you, and please don't hesitate to contact NAMD with questions.

Best,

Jack

Jack Rollins

Policy Analyst

The National Association of Medicaid Directors

444 North Capitol Street, Suite 524  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 403-8628  
[jack.rollins@medicaidirectors.org](mailto:jack.rollins@medicaidirectors.org)

**From:** [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)  
**To:** [Hill, Bard](#); [Parker, Lindsay](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)  
**Cc:** [George, Camille](#); [Skaflestad, Shawn](#); [Hickman, Selina](#); [Courcelle, Andre](#)  
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**Cc:** George, Camille  
**Subject:** Re: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg  
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Agency of Human Services  
[p] 802-578-9427

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**Subject:** Re: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg

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**Lindsay Parker, MPH**

Health Access Policy & Planning Chief  
Medicaid Policy, Agency of Human Services  
280 State Drive, Building E-313  
Waterbury, VT 05671

[p] 802-578-9427 | [f] 802-871-3001

[e] [lindsay.parker@vermont.gov](mailto:lindsay.parker@vermont.gov)

This email message may contain privileged and/or confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient(s), you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this email message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete this email message from your computer. CAUTION: The Agency of Human Services cannot ensure the confidentiality or security of email transmissions.

**From:** [Tierney-Ward, Megan](#)  
**To:** [Hill, Bard](#); [Parker, Lindsay](#); [Gerstenberger, Roy](#)  
**Cc:** [George, Camille](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:36:57 PM

---

I can't see the attachment.

M

---

**From:** Hill, Bard  
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Agency of Human Services  
[p] 802-578-9427

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[e] [lindsay.parker@vermont.gov](mailto:lindsay.parker@vermont.gov)

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**From:** [Camille George](#)  
**To:** [Parker, Lindsay](#); [Hill, Bard](#)  
**Cc:** [Gerstenberger, Papp](#); [Tierney, Ward](#); [Therese Schurr, Stuart](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:33:36 PM  
**Attachments:** [image01.png](#)

Hi Lindsay -- I have cc'd Roy Gerstenberger (DS) and Megan Tierney-Ward (CFC and TBI) as I know they are working on compliance for these 3 programs at DAIL, I am not sure where DMH is with this. Also, Vermont had a different timeline than the other states as our clock was different and tied to the 1115 waiver renewal, whereas most other states were expected to implement sooner. Where DAIL is concerned, I think DS, CFC and TBI are at different points in the development, but would say we are cognizant of our timelines and intend to comply. That said, we would be interested to hear about any further flexibility with regards to either the timeline or the interpretation/implementation of some of the specifics. I would add that I think in many regards Vermont was farther along than many states because of our shift to HCBS so many years ago. I hope this much additional information is of help. I'm around this afternoon if you want to talk further.

**Camille George, Deputy Commissioner**  
**Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living**  
**Commissioner's Office**

**HC 2 South**  
**280 State Drive**  
**Waterbury, VT 05671-2020**  
**Telephone:** 802.241.2401 or 802.241.0359  
**E-mail:** [camille.george@vermont.gov](mailto:camille.george@vermont.gov)  
<http://www.dail.vermont.gov/>

*The mission of the Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living is to make Vermont the best state in which to grow old or to live with a disability - with dignity, respect and independence.*

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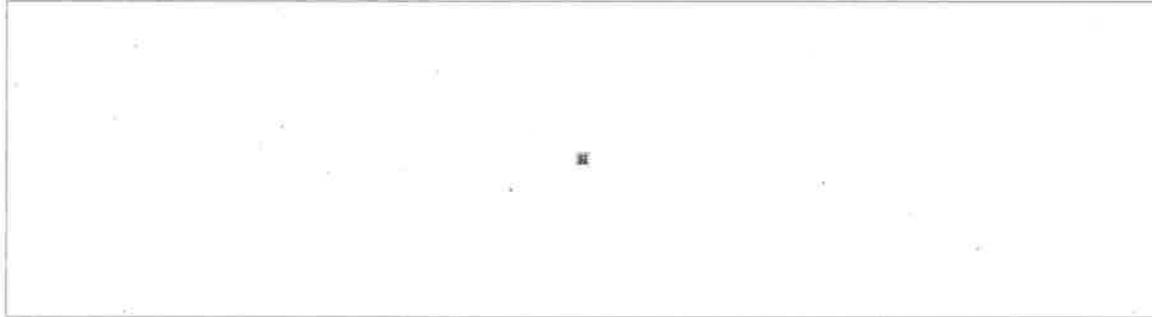
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**From:** Parker, Lindsay  
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**Subject:** RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:25:26 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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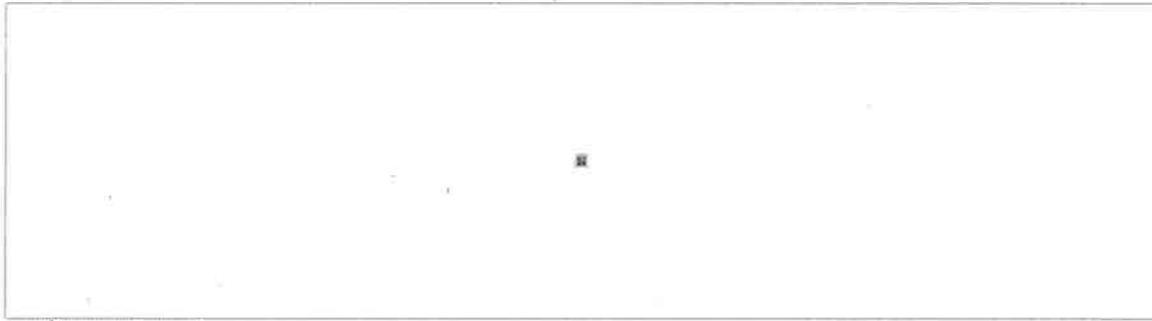
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**Subject:** RE: Timely questions - HCBS fed reg  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 3:24:35 PM

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Thanks, All! I have what I need for today.

---

**Lindsay Parker**

Agency of Human Services

[p] 802-578-9427

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**From:** Tierney-Ward, Megan  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 3:08 PM  
**To:** Hill, Bard ; Parker, Lindsay ; Gerstenberger, Roy  
**Cc:** George, Camille ; Skaflestad, Shawn ; Hickman, Selina ; Courcelle, Andre  
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