

**New York State Department of Health
Long Term Care Restructuring Initiative Advisory Council
March 27, 2007
One Commerce Plaza, Albany, NY**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Bob Sherman, Project Director, opened the Advisory Council meeting at 12:40pm, by extending his appreciation for everyone's attendance and acknowledged the new positions of Michael Burgess, the Executive Director of New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) and Mark Kissinger, the Deputy Commissioner of the Office of Long Term Care.

2. Discussion of Ongoing Initiatives:

Updates on the Long Term Care Restructuring Process – Bob Sherman provided a brief update on the ongoing initiatives of the Long Term Care Restructuring Team which includes the assistance in the successful MFP grant application, the Request for Information (RFI) analysis and preparation, Workgroup planning, Symposium planning and ongoing research in Best Practices in NYS and in other states.

Staff identified progress in the restructuring work plan as follows:

- Money Follows the Person Application (MFP): Tracie Crandall, NHTD Waiver provided an update on the Money Follows the Person Demonstration Grant. In January 2007, CMS approved New York's application for the Money Follows the Person Demonstration program. MFP will provide New York with approximately \$27 million in an enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) reimbursement. The additional FMAP revenue is to be used to offset the cost of projects designed to rebalance New York's long-term care system. Bruce Rosen, DOH / Bureau of Long Term Care (BLTC) has been named the Director of the MFP program. In February 2007, a Pre-Implementation timeline and Work Plan were both submitted and approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Currently, the MFP team is working on establishing a Housing Task Force and a MFP Work Group. A council member voiced concerns on whether the Medicaid budgeting on the NHTD waiver would impact the MFP grant.
- Request for Information (RFI): Bob Sherman provided an update on the RFI document. Two hundred and eighteen responses, representing all but five counties, were received from local governments, service providers, consumers and advocate groups. Bob Sherman presented the group with certain themes and findings resulting from the RFI. The executive summary is in its final draft form and should be released soon.
- Options for Restructuring Long Term Care: Steve Fisher reviewed a list of various options for Long Term Care reform that will be discussed by the workgroups which are scheduled to begin in April 2007. A council member raised a question on what type of mechanism would be used for evaluating each option. In response, the

Council was informed that the standard agenda developed to draw out pros and cons of each option from the various workgroups would result in an option paper.

- Workgroups: Steve Fisher provided an update on the first series of workgroups which will be conducted via teleconference beginning in April 2007. The initial sessions will include Consumer Concerns, Provider Concerns, Local Government and Implementation. The agenda will be the same for each workgroup. Individual call-in information, agenda and additional documentation will all be sent out via email prior to the workgroup sessions. The second series of workgroup which includes Regulation, Technology, Managed Long Term Care and Workforce Issues will be scheduled in the future. The dates and times for the first series of workgroups are as followed:

Local Government	4/11/07	10:30am – 12:30pm
Provider Concerns	4/16/07	10:00am – 12:00pm
Consumer Concerns	4/17/07	1:00pm – 3:00pm
Implementation	4/18/07	1:00pm – 3:00pm

- Gap Analysis: Bob Sherman advised council members that due to numerous concerns regarding the Gap Analysis survey, which would have been used in development of recommendations for rebalancing the statewide service system, would not be pursued. There are plans to work with local Long Term Care Councils to determine local needs and gaps.
- LTC Symposium: Kelly Hull presented plans for the LTC symposium scheduled to be held on June 21st, 2007 at the Empire State Plaza. Kelly reviewed a tentative schedule for concurrent workshops and possible speakers.

“NYConnects” aka Point of Entry (POE) – Michael Burgess, Council member and Director of the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA), provided an update on the status of the statewide POE implementation effort. To date, 46 contracts are in process with participating counties. A request for proposal will be released in the near future to contract with a vendor to create a database of LTC services available within the State. NYConnects website (www.NYConnect.org) is currently up and running which will take a consumer oriented approach. Council members voiced concerns regarding the future of Phase II of POE and the role it will play in restructuring. Other concerns were raised regarding a database platform for each county to use to collect data. The RFP which is in its final stage of approval will address this issue by satisfying AIRS taxonomy requirements. Gail Koser of NYSOFA addressed issues that were raised regarding credentials of staff in POE offices and indicated that the POE RFA includes a set of standards describing minimum competencies for POE staff.

3. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next Council meeting is scheduled for May 2007 via teleconference.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 pm.

**Long Term Care Restructuring Initiative Advisory Council
March 27, 2007 Meeting Attendees**

Council Member Attendees/Representatives:

Berry, Michelle, Broome County CASA
Burgess, Michael, New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA)
Cardillo, Al, Home Care Association of New York State
Darling, Bruce, Center for Disability Rights
Hasslinger, Catherine, Visiting Nurse Services of New York (representing Carol Raphael)
Herrick, Richard, NY State Health Facilities Association
Hilliard, Tom, Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy (representing Karen Schimke)
LeBarron, Debbie, Healthcare Association of New York State (representing Robin Frank)
Salchli, Jane, Sick Kids Need Involved People of New York
Shaw, Melanie, New York Association on Independent Living
Smith, Pat/Harper, Mary, NYC Human Resources Administration (representing Verna Eggelston)
Wilson, Lois, Consumer
Young, Carl, NY Association of Homes & Services for the Aging

Guests:

Crandall, Tracie, NHTD
Koser, Gail, NYSOFA
Koski, Andrew, Home Care Association of New York State
Olsen, Greg, New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA)
Pferr, Laurie, NYSOFA

LTC Restructuring Staff:

Bob Sherman
Stephen Fisher
Steve Riordan
David Spaulding
David Bacheldor
Aaron Tripp
Charlotte Mason
Kelly Hull
L'eryn Jones
Michael Gunn
Jennifer Lee
Patricia Leece