



SENIOR CARE[®]

OF CONNECTICUT

Human Services Committee Public Hearing

Testimony of SENIOR CARE ADULT DAY CARE

SB 254 AAC PRESUMPTIVE MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY FOR THE CONNECTICUT HOME-CARE PROGRAM FOR THE ELDERLY

March 4, 2014

Good morning Senator Slossberg, Representative Abercrombie and Members of the Human Services Committee, my name is Patricia Rockwell and I am the Regional Director for Senior Care Adult Day Care Center in Middlebury.

We have seen many families over the last several years successfully keep their loved ones at home and out of institutional care with just a bit of support from Adult Day Care and other community based services, but without a significant reinvestment into those community services like Adult Day, demand will exceed capacity in the very near future and many families will be left without a choice. SB 254 – AAC The Presumptive Medicaid Eligibility for the Connecticut Home-Care Program for the Elderly is an important step in making such an investment and we urge the committee's support. Presumptive eligibility would allow providers to begin servicing clients they believe will ultimately meet the eligibility requirements. Granted, there may be some bumps in the road if ultimately a client is determined ineligible and therefore the dollars must be returned to the state, but having said that we think that would be the exception rather than the rule and far more people would benefit.

Establishment of presumptive eligibility would benefit a number of providers within the continuum of care in addition to Adult Day including occupational therapy, homemaker and companions, Meals on Wheels and assisted living among others.

The state has set up a wonderful program, Money Follows the Person (MFP). But, without reinvestment into the community, the safety net will be ill prepared to handle not only the influx of MFP clients, but the generational influx expected over the next decade.

Thank you for your time, I would be happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Rockwell

Patricia Rockwell,
Regional Director