

State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Medical Assistance Program Oversight Council

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Chairs: Sen. Terry Gerratana and Rep. Catherine Abercrombie

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, June 12, 2015

9:30 AM in Room 1E of the LOB

Attendance is on Record with the Council.

I. The meeting was called to order at 9:35 PM by the Chair, Sen. Gerratana.

Introductions were made by Council Members and Agency Personnel.

II. Kate McEvoy started DSS's presentation with a preview of what next month's meeting would comprise of.

Kate went over the 3 main elements of health care reform in Medicaid and emphasized why integration was so important. She explained that she would share the context, structure and detail of the initiatives and how CT is unique in its approach to being person centered. Kate gave details on the work of integration the Department, other agencies and organizations are currently performing.

Sen. Gerratana asked Kate to explain how the integrated models interact with a person. Kate deferred to Sylvia Kelly, from CHN, who went over the Intensive Care Program and how it works with health care recipients. Sen. Gerratana and Sylvia started conversation on the plans that are established to address the needs of individuals.

Dr. Zavoski explained the importance of ICM and the text messages that are sent with the help from federal funds that seeks to prevent and manage problems now, to have benefits in the future.

Suzanne Lagarde asked if there were any clear points that a provider could use to identify who would qualify for the program benefits. Sylvia Kelly explained how people qualify and receive the benefits of the program. Dr. Zavoski added that the provider should make the referral because the protocol is to except the referral.

Sen. Gerratana received information on contacting specific ASO's. Deb Poerio asked how applicable the services were for children.

Sheila suggested that the council move on to the integrated efforts because the complex care committee would be covering more complex and high utilization health care issues at future meetings.

Ellen Andrews discussed that there is a lot of information out there and that it might be valuable to recirculate it to help members.

Dr. Geertsma talked about the including of a primary care physician in the process and the relationship that is shared with a patient.

Amy Gagliardi asked Sylvia about the care coordination model and reaching out to high risk patients. Sylvia explained the challenges of getting in touch with those considered high risk and what CHN does to contact them. Amy asked to talk later about more information.

Kate McEvoy expressed appreciation in being guided by the Council and Sheila's comments on complex care issues. She continued with an overview on the Affordable Care Act and its impacts on Medicare and opportunities it offers. Kate then gave an overview and walked through the materials presented, including an infographic:

http://cga.ct.gov/med/council/2015/0612/20150612ATTACH_Medicaid%20integration%20projects%20infographic%205-10-15.pdf

And documents referring and giving details on the integration projects:

http://cga.ct.gov/med/council/2015/0612/20150612ATTACH_Medicaid%20integration%20projects%20short%20form%20comparison%20chart%205-10-15.pdf

http://cga.ct.gov/med/council/2015/0612/20150612ATTACH_Medicaid%20integration%20projects%20detailed%20comparison%20chart%205-10-15.pdf

http://cga.ct.gov/med/council/2015/0612/20150612ATTACH_A%20Brief%20Primer%20on%20MQISSP%205-10-15.pdf

Colleen Harington talked about Behavioral Health Homes and the work DMHAS is doing on the integration project. She went over some important facts that were not included in the documents provided.

Jeff Walter asked about eligibility for the health homes and PCP identifiers and coordination. Colleen responded that the homes would not be giving primary care but rather making sure individuals have such and get a primary care physician if they don't.

Sheila expressed her concern that these homes do not cover some of the most needy mental health individuals and asked about the outreach of the program. Kate and Colleen discussed Sheila's comment and question.

Ellen Andrews asked for clarification on the start date and talked about a webinar that would be happening on June 22nd.

Matt Barrett asked about a bill that would eliminate the details in contracts with ASO's regarding ICMs. Kate explained that the provisions were started in a law that was put into place last year following a report from PRI. DSS advocated that these provisions should be revised.

Kate continued by moving to the duals demonstration and acknowledged Rep. Johnson and Sheila Amdur who have advocated for the work they have done on the program. She provided an overview and update on the initiative.

Rep. Johnson thanked Kate and Sheila for their work on the project. Sheila talked about the process and its importance and discussed the future of the complex care committee. Sen. Gerrataana asked if Complex Care could give the Council an update of their work at future meetings.

Stephen Frayne asked how those deemed as dually eligible had changed over the years and how many persons would be impacted by the current model 1 only approach. Kate went over the current numbers and how they have changed.

Kate moved to the third integration project, MQISSP and went over the work that had been going on within the Care Management Committee. She explained the history of the program. Ellen discussed MQISSP and what the Care Management Committee has been reviewing. Sheila asked for more clarification on some of the aspects of MQISSP.

Dr. Geertsma asked if there was a provider workforce analysis in the state and discussed the focus of Medicaid savings on adults. Kate discussed Dr. Geertsma's concerns.

Katherine Yacavone asked Kate for clarification on the timing of the program.

Rep. Johnson followed up with Dr. Geertsma's comments and asked Kate about the broad future of Medicaid.

Matt Barrett asked a question for a better understanding of the organizational model for ICM's.

Kate thanked the Council and referred to the materials being posted on the website from the Care Management Committee.

III.

Future Subcommittee meetings were discussed.

IV.

With no other business, Sen. Gerrataana thanked all the presenters and members.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 AM.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, July 10, 2015 at 9:30 AM

Richard Eighme
Council Clerk