

Alaska
FASD Waiver Demonstration Project
Status Update
October 31, 2008

General information:

More than 100 people attended the Oct 7-10 '3-M' training. More would have attended if space had been available. Attendees included representatives from Community Mental Health Centers, Home and Community Based agencies, parents, school representatives, state staff and UAA contractors. Approximately 20 attended the stakeholder meeting held in connection with the meeting. A full-day session was conducted for providers who wanted to learn about how the waiver works. Approximately 30 attended this session.

Provider Enrollment

Progress:

Letters of attestation for the FASD waiver were sent out this week to Hope, ACS, South Central Foundation, Juneau Youth Services and Denali Family Services. This is the first step toward enrolling these providers.

The Bring the Kids Home Summit was held this week in Dillingham. Kevin Murphy, Director of Behavioral Health in Dillingham, expressed an interest in becoming a provider for the Waiver.

According to Bill Streur, HCS can handle adding up to five new FASD Waiver providers right now, who would be paid under the manual process. Per Bill's instructions, DBH will refer providers to Cindy Christensen in HCS for instructions about the manual process. HCS continues to move forward on making changes to MMIS. (status the same 10-31-08)

What's next?

Inform providers that they should contact Cindy Christensen at HCS to instructions regarding reimbursement for waiver services.

DBH will create a work order for First Health and attach letters of attestation from providers who wish to enroll. This will complete the enrollment process for providers. DBH will then notify providers of their enrollment status.

Set up stakeholder quarterly meetings. The time-line on progress regarding their concerns will be added to the FASD Waiver website.

DBH will follow up with Kevin Murphy regarding becoming a provider for the waiver.

Waiver candidate recruitment (youth)

Progress:

Active planning for discharge to the waiver is occurring for 4 youth. Alaska providers are being included in this planning as needed. As providers agree to work with a youth, they are given instructions regarding how to enroll, and how to learn about the reimbursement process.

A meeting was held at ACS regarding discharge plans for a youth identified as a possible candidate for the waiver. Discharge plans for this youth are currently scheduled for March of 2009.

A meeting was held with OCS and DJJ in Dillingham this week, where they were able to identify a couple of additional candidates for the waiver.

We expect to be able to move some youth into the waiver in the near future.

What's next?

The letters for parents/guardians of youth identified as possible candidates for the waiver were revised so that only one letter is being sent. This letter includes information about the waiver and the informed consent, which shows a confirmation of interest.

This will speed up the process of identifying youth for the waiver. It will also make the process more 'user-friendly' for families. Information about how to contact parent/peer navigators will be included with the letters. Letters should be released by the end of the first week in November.

Cost Neutrality (the average cost of RPTC care that cannot be exceeded by aggregate waiver average costs.)

Progress:

Jill Lewis recalculated the cost of care based on a list of youth with FASD in RPTCs. The recalculated cost of care is lower than the initial report.

What's next?

Michelle Lyons-Brown and Jill Lewis have agreed to meet with the implementation team to discuss implications of the recalculated rate, and what must happen next. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 14, 2008, at 10:00 a.m.

Plan of Care

Progress:

The Plan of Care template was distributed at the Waiver training. Providers were told that they do not need to use the form, but all of the elements in the form must be included in their plan of care.

What's next:

The Plan of Care will be left without procedure codes for the time being.

Procedure codes can be added when the MMIS system is complete.

The Plan of Care will be put in a final, user-friendly format and distributed to providers. We will be working to include the Plan of Care on the website so that providers may access it through the website by typing the information directly onto the form.

Evaluation

Progress:

CHD has nearly completed the source-book listing sources and methods of retrieval for evaluation data. Status is the same (10-31-08)

What's next?

Mark Haines Simeon will work with state partners to create a system for extracting the data we need from AKAIMS and MMIS.

We have begun discussions with ACS regarding their involvement as a comparison group site. A meeting needs to occur with the CEO of ACS.

Stakeholder involvement:

The minutes from the stakeholder meeting on October 8 have been typed. The minutes will be sent to the stakeholders and posted on the website.

Waiver application amendments

The list of possible waiver application changes has been reviewed and posted to Sharepoint. We are working on the Quality Assurance plan which is still under review. 10/31/08: Status is the same.

Communications

Waiver website changes have been drafted. Mark will pass them on to the webmaster for posting. Status is the same (10/31/08)

The DBH Initiatives web-page now has a site for the Waiver. This site will be designed as the repository for project documents, to be drawn on by providers and the public. Shannon and Maureen will post updates, regulations, minutes and other documents for public access through this site. This site will be linked to UAA/CHD and to the Commissioner's FASD project site. Status is the same 10/31/08.

Project Officer Hendler sent a letter to Bill Hogan, following up on his site visit. BH has drafted a response and is waiting on approval.

Waiver Staff positions

The MAA IV position for the waiver has been posted and closed. Four applicants will be interviewed during the week of Nov. 3, 2008.