

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Review
Provider & Family Suggestion Session



STATE OF ALASKA
SENIOR & DISABILITIES SERVICES
ALASKA COMMISSION ON AGING
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON
DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Purpose of the Session



An opportunity for provider, family and other stakeholder input, suggestions and ideas for solutions as SDS develops a Corrective Action Plan (CAP)

Plan for the Session



- **Review priority items for improvement as identified by CMS**
- **Review SDS response to date**
- **Brainstorm ideas for improvement**

Purpose of the Session



Priority items for improvement as identified by CMS – the focus of our work together today

- **A comprehensive quality assurance plan**
- **A program to monitor the health and welfare of waiver participants**
- **Implementation of a system for oversight of providers by the State**
- **Implementation of a system which will assure avoidance of conflict of interest**



SDS RESPONSE

Negotiation
with CMS –
Clarification
and
Concession

- Moratorium on PCA services lifted effective August 12th 2009
- Applicants for waiver services who were found financially and functionally eligible prior to June 26th may be enrolled for services
- Recipients “aging out” of CCMC or APD waivers may transition to more appropriate waiver



SDS RESPONSE

Staffing for
reassessment
backlog

- Implemented new assessment scheduling system
- Solicited Attorney General's opinion regarding regulations
 - Not necessary for RNs to complete assessments, only to certify level of care (LOC).
- Seven non-perm assessor positions posted to Workplace Alaska
 - Health Program Manager II
 - Four in Anchorage, one each in Homer, Fairbanks and Kenai



SDS RESPONSE

Mortality Review

- SDS staff researching processes used by other states
- Policy and procedures in process of development



SDS RESPONSE

PCA Services

- Program changes to promote access and equity:
 - De-link from waiver programs
 - Eligibility changes to comply with Medicaid State Plan
 - ✦ *Was:* Need for assistance with two Activities of Daily Living (ADL), one of which was “extensive assistance.”
 - ✦ *Now:* Need for assistance with either one ADL (limited assistance) or one Instrumental Activity of Daily Living (IADL).
 - Modified assessment process to determine need
 - Elimination of “time for task” planning



SDS RESPONSE

What else
SDS has done

- Implemented E-CAT assessment tool statewide
- Developing new DS3 tracking capacity
- Identifying additional efficiencies in assessment process
- Staffing and management changes, efficiencies
- Negotiated ability to transition CCMC waiver children to Adults with Physical Disabilities waiver



YOUR TURN

Priority Items for Improvement

- **The focus of our work together today**
 - **A comprehensive quality assurance plan**
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YOUR TURN

Provider and Family Suggestions

- **A comprehensive quality assurance plan**
 - Structure and processes for ensuring quality services
 - Discovery of problems
 - Remediation of identified problems
 - Qualified providers



YOUR TURN

Provider and Family Suggestions

- **Monitoring the health and welfare of waiver participants**
 - Timely waiver reassessments
 - Periodic review of service plan
 - In-person contact
 - Role of the Care Coordinator



YOUR TURN

Provider and Family Suggestions

- **Provider oversight**
 - Enrollment processes
 - Services provided in accordance with POC
 - Performance standards and oversight for service providers
 - Remedial action



YOUR TURN

Provider and Family Suggestions

- Preventing conflicts of interest
 - Person-centered planning
 - Service Plan development safeguards
 - Assuring freedom of choice



YOUR
TURN

Provider
and Family
Suggestions

*OTHER
IDEAS WE
SHOULD
CONSIDER?*

To Contribute Additional Ideas:



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