

MFP Stakeholders Committee Meeting Minutes May 13, 2010

Time: 1pm-4pm CST

Location: Pioneer Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

Information Provided:

1. PowerPoint Handout
2. CMS MFP Site Visit Protocol
3. ND Draft CMS Site Visit Protocol
4. MDS Section Q Question and Answer Sheet from 4/16/10 training

Press Present: ND Public Radio (Interview provided)

- A. The Stakeholders Meeting was called to order with introductions at approximately 1:10 pm
- B. The Committee discussed at length the CMS Site visit to ND scheduled for August 17th to August 19th 2010. The tentative schedule was reviewed along with the plan for the Committee to meet with CMS on 8/17/10 from 1:00pm to 2:30 pm. The Committee indicated that they would like to address the following issues with CMS Staff:
 - Future plans on flexibility to required housing arrangement for MFP transitions
 - Best practices from other states
 - Transportation
 - How does the ND MFP services/OP compare with the other MFP States
 - The characteristics of the persons moving in other states
 - What services are helping individuals remain in their homes
 - What is unique about ND efforts and barriers
 - MFP Eligibility
 - Participation in the closing session

The MFP eligibility change from 6 months to 3 months and the extension of the grant through 2016 were reviewed with additional information to be shared when written guidance from CMS is received.

Comments were made that the grant should focus more on “Keeping folks out of nursing homes” instead of so much emphasis on moving folks out of nursing facilities. The MFP Grants primary goal of improving access and availability of HCBS services was reviewed for the committee along with the role of the committee to direct the MFP Grant’s efforts to meet that goal.

- C. MDS training related to section Q was discussed with the committee including the results of the reports produced by the five states that have piloted section Q and established a Local Contact Agency as will be required by CMS to respond

to persons wishing to talk with someone about available services in the community.

The need for data was discussed with it being asked if a baseline of currently occurring discharges could be established using MDS data available to ND. This will be reviewed with the Director of Medical Services

The Section Q questions were reviewed along with the need for ND to designate Local Contact Agencies for nursing facilities to refer residents to that wish to talk with someone about community service options. The need to develop a collaborative process between NF and the LCA was outlined along with the need to assist with transition or refer for transitions services.

There were some comments expressing concern about potential conflict of interest issues existing for NF Social Services staff that will be completing this section of the MDS. These included the pressure to maintain NF census and lack of information about community services.

Concerns about barriers to community transition were also discussed including lack of follow-up by a case manager for private pay individuals, need for more QSPs, limited services in rural areas of the state, differences of opinion with family members, emotional adjustment for persons that attempt transition but are ultimately unable to transition. The Q process has skip patterns that should not interfere with the ongoing transitions NF do now or require persons to be repeatedly asked about transition if this is not feasible.

The Planning Committee established to develop the referral process was discussed with the committee with several MFP Committee members participating. It was also communicated that no contact agency has yet been designated.

- D. Kristin Moch, Fiscal Agent for the MFP Grant Project provided information and an overview of the MFP Rebalancing Fund. The fund is estimated to be at approximately \$150,000 at this time. In addition the funds spent on all services funded by the MFP grant were reviewed and a written report was provided to committee members. Kristin noted that as transitions have increased so has the spending from the grant. The Committee requested that ongoing financial information be provided at future meetings in a similar fashion. This will become a routine part of the reporting and review process for the committee.
- E. Keith Vavrovsky of the Developmental Center provided an update on the population and transition plans for the Center. He noted that the current census of the facility is 120. This includes 114 adults in ICF services. Three adolescents and 3 persons in ISLA services. The goal is to reduce this number to 100 by July of this year. An additional 12 individuals are currently being served at the NDSH including 2 children and 10 adults

The report also included that 3 of the 4 Behavior Modification Specialists have been hired including one in Bismarck, one in Fargo, and one in Jamestown. The Behavior Modification Specialists will be providing ongoing assistance to providers to enable them to provide the support necessary for consumers to remain in the community. The CARES team will also continue to provide both onsite supports to consumers at community facilities and at the DC for crisis intervention as that is needed.

Five persons are in the active discharge planning process with 2 of the 5 eligible for MFP. Additional future transitions were discussed in relationship to projects being developed at this time by HIT Inc, Development Homes, REM, Red River Human Services, and MVA.

- F. The Committee was made aware of the Sole Source Contract development in process for the completion of MFP Quality of Life Surveys with DLN Consulting and the Request for Proposal (RFP) that has been issued for 24 Hour backup nursing services to add the follow-up call services recommended by the Stakeholder Committee. The contract efforts for Transition Coordination service currently being prepared for continuation of service through the four ND CILs was also reviewed.
- G. Transitions-The committee was made aware that 7 transitions have occurred to date for persons with a developmental disability in 2010 with a goal of 8 for the year. It was also noted that 4 older adults or persons with a physical disability have transitioned to date in 2010 with a goal of 12 set for the year.
- H. The Benchmark Two amendment request that was submitted on 1/29/10 to CMS was approved in April 2010 along with the other amendments that had been requested. The updated OP will be posted on the MFP website for review.
- I. The work on direct work force development was reviewed with the committee including the development of Realistic Job Previews for both DSPs and QSPs. The schedule shared with the committee included the Issue/Script Development on June 2rd for QSPs and June 3rd for DSPs. An RFP will be issues for the filming and RJP development that will follow. In addition the assistance the NDACF is being provided by the DSW Resource Center was also reviewed.
- J. The NOFA offered by HUD for additional housing choice vouchers to assist with transitioning persons from institutions to the community was again reviewed with the committee including efforts being made with ND PHA to make application for these vouchers.

K. MFP 100% Administrative Funding available to MFP States was reviewed again with the committee including that efforts are being made within the Department of Human Services to request funding for five housing positions to support the MFP effort to transition

L. The four regional consumer stakeholder meetings held around the State were reviewed with the committee including the discussion of issues such as lack of timely transportation, difficulty getting community support services at the times of day that are most preferred by the consumer, the challenge of getting additional services when needs increase or needs change on non-scheduled days or hours. It was agreed that these meetings will continue around the state two times per year to provide increased opportunities for consumers and their family members to provide input for MFP Grant activities and system change.

The dates of these meetings were:

- Bismarck- 1/21/2010 (3 consumers)
- Minot- 2/3/2010 (2 consumers/1 family member)
- Grand Forks-4/6/2010
- Fargo-3/11/20

M. The MFP and LTC Association Regional Meeting Schedules were reviewed with the committee. The meetings were recommended by the NF Transitions Work group for the purpose of updating NF about grant changes, education about community services, the Olmstead decision, and MDS Section Q issues. The meeting dates are as follows:

- May 20, 2010 at 11am at Rolette Community nursing home
- June 15th at 10am at Elm Crest Manor in New Salem
- June 16th at 10am at the Baptist Home in Bismarck
- July 14th at 11am at Hi-Acres in Jamestown
- July 21st at 2pm at Eventide in West Fargo
- July 28th at 11am at Maple Manor Care Center in Langdon

N. The approved Transition Review Process discussed at the last meeting is noted to not be in use at this time. The intent is to begin using the process for future transitions

O. The next Committee meeting will be on August 17, 2010 from 1pm to 2:30 pm as part of the CMS site visit. The committee will meet in October 2010 and before the end of the year. 2011 is a legislative year so meeting schedules will be adjusted accordingly during the last meeting of 2010.