OOOO Legislation

Workgroup Minutes

May 2, 2011, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Attendees:

Andrea McMahon
Angela Valentine
Beth Rafferty
Betty Etzler
Bill Elwood
Bill O'Bier
Carolyn Wood
Catherine Hancock
Catherine Harrison
Dawn Howard
Deborah Sikes
Janet Lung
Jennifer Fidura
Jessica Branch
John Pezzoli
Karen Lawson
Les Saltzberg
Margaret Nimmo Crowe
Mary Ann Bergeron
May Fox
Mike Carlin
Mike Fidgeon
Mira Signer
Molly Cheek
Nancy Toscano
Pat Smith
Paul Lawrence
Stacie Fisher
Steve Jurentkuff
Terri Tuck
Teshana Henderson
Vena Duncan

Welcome by Catherine Hancock and Self Introductions

Catherine Hancock chaired the meeting. She reviewed the Implementation Plan and explained each item in further detail; with emphasis on concepts such as strengthening the MCO network, Freedom of Choice reassurance, and the pilot program being a statewide system consisting of the 5 geographical regions.

The floor was then opened to include the following discussions:

1. Jennifer Fidura offered feedback based on an informal survey she conducted and shared a graph showing that most referral sources come from DSS and DJJ.

2. Required content for the assessments was presented and discussed. CSB/BHAs will make a recommendation to KePRO. Questions about the process of conducting the assessment and time frames were reviewed. This included new services and assessments for re-authorizations.

3. In response to questions, a discussion about DMAS having a monitor for the program was discussed. The group was asked for further suggestions as to preferred methods of such communications.

4. Issues related to time frames for responsibilities was discussed.

5. The need to begin implementation during the summer was discussed so that the majority of services would be reviewed.

6. Time allowed for advance notice for re-authorizations was discussed. Providers requested closer to 45 days rather than 30 days.

7. Providers were reassured that DMAS supports freedom of choice and this is not an attempt to refer children to CSBs. It was noted that the vast majority of these services are provided in the private sector and the CSBs do not have the capacity to provide all the services.

8. It was also mentioned that there is nothing saying that assessments cannot be conducted in the client's home. It was stated that the main intent and purpose of the assessment was that it be given before services begin.

9. It was asked what the goals would be focused on as part of the assessment. DMAS will expect just basic goals to be presented to begin to map out the services requested.

10. DMAS was asked for a distinction between assessments of current clients versus new ones. DMAS will ask for copies of previous assessments for current clients and encourages and prefers that families be advised to provide as much previous documentation as they may have available to be included in assessment submission documentation.

11. If a child switches providers in the middle of receiving services, DMAS will not require a new assessment for the same service.

12. Margaret Nimmo Crowe reminded the group that there should be plenty of clients to go around for all providers concerned because there were currently 20% of kids needing these types of services not receiving them because of a lack of area providers.

13. Providers were informed that the current assessment must still be done by the service provider.

Wrap up:

- Group members reiterated
    - the independent assessment is a recommendation;

    - there are differences between OOOO and FAPT standards for assessments; and
    - there are concerns related to finding qualified and eligible assessors.

- After a consensus from the group, the next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 19th, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned