

Consumer Task Force  
Michigan Quality Community Care Council  
December 9, 2008 10:00 am - noon

MINUTES

ATTENDEES: Roanne Chaney, Jacqui Day, Laura Hall, Sharon Hall, Sara Harrison, Sharon Hold, Kristy List, Leah March, Suanne McBrien, Cathy McRae, Susan Steinke, Tammy Yeomans, Rob Curtner, Wendi Middleton, Jackie Tichnell, Drew Walker

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - Minutes were approved.

LAURA'S MEETING WITH CHAIR OF LTC SUPPORTS AND SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL - Meeting was a good first communication. Both parties provided information on what their group was and what it was meant to do. Andy Farmer, Chair of the LTC Supports and Services Advisory Council, indicated that many of the Commission workgroups needed consumer representation. Both parties agreed to continue to meet.

The consumer interest form was distributed. This will provide information on what the Consumer Task Force wants, what other groups members may be part of, what topics members would like to pursue. Please return the forms to Jackie.

MISSION STATEMENT CONTINUED - there was good discussion on the mission statement, vision, and guiding principles.

- Mission statement
  - Who We Are
    - Majority of the group uses LTC services
    - Represent across the State
    - Knowledgeable
    - Not led by bureaucrats
    - Vested interest by all members in improving LTC
    - Come together as a community

- Bridge between persons with disabilities and elderly
  - Advisory partners with the State
- Purpose
  - Advising each other and the public
  - Advocating for all people who use, or may use the LTC system
  - Unified vision
  - Information sharing with each other and the public
  - Evaluate and guide programs and policies
  - Broaden participation of consumers
  - Speaking up for ourselves or other people
  - Self-actualization
  - Shared experiences
  - Strengths and hopes
  - Tested
  - Track record
  - Link to the field
- Vision
  - Strong voice impacting policy and decision makers
  - Promoting system changes resulting in.....
  - Person-centered planning system that meets future needs
  - Become more diversified - geographically/culturally
  - Provide real world perspective
  - Be recognized as a resource for advocacy
  - Highly visible
- Guiding Principles (the glue that holds us together)
  - We are committed to:
    - Person-centered thinking
    - Self-direction
    - Culture change
    - Continual improvement
    - Creating positive change
    - Changing the system altogether
    - Educating everyone on life's continuum

- Value aging and disability process and educating on it
- Changing the perspective of the LTC system
- Inclusive group process
- Basic respect for human life and choices
- Fund people not programs

The Executive Committee will meet in early January to flesh out these concepts to present to the Consumer Task Force as a whole in February.

### SYSTEM CHANGE IDEAS

- Susan Steinke noted that Chris Chesny was unavailable to meet with us today, but will gladly do so in February. This will be the Consumer Task Force chance to provide the Commission Finance workgroup with their recommendations.

There was much discussion regarding spenddown, nursing facilities, MI Choice, and home help. It was suggested that a neutral party (MMAF) provide a brief introduction to nursing home eligibility and spenddown before Chris Chesny talks to us. It was also suggested that Jackie distribute the recommendations for the Commission Finance workgroup.

Members should bring personal financial stories to share with Chris Chesny.

The following recommendations were made:

- Allow spenddown or patient-pay amount in MIChoice (which ever is legal)
- Change the protected income level for home help. It is way too little
- Require financial parity between programs
- Raise the income level of home help
- Hire more adult services workers. The ratio between worker and consumers is way too high
- Expand funding methodologies to expand the array of services

## OTHER

### NEXT MEETINGS:

FEBRUARY 24, MICHIGAN QUALITY COMMUNITY CARE COUNCIL, 3186 PINE TREE ROAD, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48911

APRIL 28, 2009 MICHIGAN QUALITY COMMUNITY CARE COUNCIL, 3186 PINE TREE ROAD, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48911

JUNE 23, 2009 MICHIGAN QUALITY COMMUNITY CARE COUNCIL, 3186 PINE TREE ROAD, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48911

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