

Rate Setting Meeting
311 W. Saratoga St., Room 508
Baltimore, MD 21201
2:00 – 3:00 pm
November 3, 2014

Minutes

Attendees:

WORKGROUP MEMBERSHIP			
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AGENCY	11/3/2014
Arriaza	Patricia E.	GOC	X
Ayer	David	DHR/SSA	X
Blake	Angela	Vision Quest/Morning Star Youth Academy	
Brown	Carmen	MSDE	X
Cabellon	Angela	DHR/OPP	
Crowder	Shanda	DHR/SSA	X
DiLorenzo	Paul	CASEY	
Ehirim	Godwin	DHR	
Flanigan	Patricia	DJS	X
Feller	Dan	GOC	X
Goodman	Laura	DHMH/Medicaid	X
Groves	Barbara	The way home- Mountain Manor	
Ham	Darlene	DHR/OLM	X
Howe	Steve	The Children's Guild	
Irvine	John	DJS	X
Jones	Caroline	DHMH/MHA	X
Keegan	Kevin	Catholic Charities	X
Kibret	Netsanet	DHR/OGA	
Kinion	Jeannette	DJS	
Leshko	Joe	Arrow	
Lyons	Danielle	DHMH/DDA	X
Marra	Molly	DHMH/Medicaid	
McEwen	Erwin	CASEY	
McHugh	Nina	DHMH/Medicaid	X
McLendon	Audrey	DHR/SSA	X
McLeod	Kevin	Silver Oak Academy	
Ramelmeier	Debbie	DHR/SSA	X
Sexton	Nadia	CASEY	
Spencer	Shane	DBM	X
Sterling-Garrett	Ertha	DJS	X
Thomas	Tennille	DHR/SSA	X
Tucker	Susan	DHMH/Medicaid	
White	Carnitra	DHR/SSA	X
Wilkins	Anita	DHR/SSA	X
Wisner	Lynn	DHR/OLM	
Zachik	Albert	DHMH/MHA	

GUESTS			
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	AGENCY	
Knebel	Carrie	CONCERN	X
Tinney	Shelley	MARFY	X
Anderson	Bruce	SanMar	X
Diaz	Emma	Vision Quest/Morning Star Youth Academy	X
Walker-Thomas	Colette	Mentor	X
Norman	Richard	Martin Polluck Project	X
Perez	Chloe	Hearts & Homes	X
Mittleman	Mark	New Pathways	X

Carnitra White welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their continued participation.

Summer Round Table Discussion

Shanda Crowder noted that the summer roundtable forum notes will be posted on the Governor's Office for Children's (GOC) website. During the forums, there were suggestions for the model changes, and connecting data to children's outcomes. The forums will be continued as a feedback loop for providers. Most providers were familiar with the rate reform; a few providers were not familiar. If anyone has suggestions for future forums, please contact Shanda.

Data Meeting Recap

The data presentations received positive feedback. The changes regarding rate structure are imminent; however the discussions have been very participatory and ongoing. The State collects a large amount of data; questions regarding the data:

- What does the data mean?
- How do we provide information in a meaningful way?
- How does the data impact the model?
- What gaps in services does the data show?
- How do we link data to outcomes for children?

MARFY Conference

Points and issues noted at the MARFY conference regarding the rate reform:

- Is Independent Living getting lost in the process?
- Define how we are getting to the end of the process

Provider Recommendations

The Provider Recommendations were reviewed (separate handout).

Recommendation 1:

It was noted that forecasting may be helpful in structuring the rates. The current system pays for children in beds; the goal is not to have children in beds. What does the next 1-3 years look like for the providers? It was suggested that a 3rd party assist with a Needs Assessment (i.e., University of Maryland). Review the services currently being reimbursed by Medicaid; look at funding streams to provide a continuum of care, what type of service delivery will be needed by providers. For example, what types of needs has Alternative Response created?

Forecasting could also review trends for the number of children in care, types of placements and also an analysis of the data.

Recommendation 2:

Review the fixed costs vs. variable costs to address the rate structure. In the short term, the providers would be able to cover fixed costs and be available to take children into their programs. In the long term, the services given to children in care would be separate from the fixed costs. This type of billing would require review of fair market costs, occupancy costs, types of providers and services offered.

Rates Reform Work-plan updates

The Revision Recommendations were reviewed. Element 1 was renamed and shifted to the Leadership Council. This would provide a forum to discuss bigger concepts of the rate reform, and engage Chief Executive Officers to program administrators in the discussion.

Element 2's work was begun in August. The goal is to look at the services and purposes of the services. This group will review the levels of intensity for possible revisions and will review documents with program definitions already included. Element 2's work is shorter and should be finished in December.

Element 3 will meet on November 10, 2014 from 10-12 at GOC. The group will review the fair market Values of services and will build on the current work. The current process for establishing rates will be reviewed as well as Washington, DC's process and other states. The providers' Chief Financial Officers should plan to attend.

Medicaid Billing Capability

Larger Providers know how to bill Medicaid for services, however it was noted that other providers should also be encouraged to develop the capability to bill Medicaid. Billing Medicaid has been a part of other states' success with rate reform. Carnitra White volunteered to contact other states to see how they were able to train on Medicaid billing. Shelly Tinney (MARFY) will also share information from other states.

Other items to review: costs in other states, review the re-entries for children in guardianships (Adoption re-entries are a small percentage).

The next meeting will be December 8th, 2:00 – 3:00 pm at 311 W. Saratoga St., Room 508, Baltimore, MD 21201. Element 2 and 3 will report out the results of their meetings.