

Minutes

Health and Long Term Care Committee Governor's Commission on Senior Services May 27, 2004 Keizer, Oregon

Attendees: Mary Lawrence, Chair; Elton Greeley; Jack Ewing; Linda Miller; Maria Smith; Helen Liere; and Mary Harvey

Staff: Jane-ellen Weidanz and Sherry L. Whitehead
Absent: Estill Deitz; Bob White; and Dolores Hubert

Called Meeting to Order

Approved April 2004 Minutes.

Announcements

April 2004 Certificate of Need Update states that Avamere Health Services, Wilsonville, proposes to relocate 29 nursing facility beds from Clackamas Rehab & Specialty Care to Lake Oswego heal Center, a new facility to be located in Lake Oswego.

June 15, 2004 is the Health Care Policy Summit at Portland Sate University from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

June 2, 2004 there is a forum, "Helping the Elderly Manage Their Medications," being held at the Providence St. Vincent Medical Center.

A possibility for the Fall Research Trip is a tour of the new Loaves and Fishes meal preparation facility in the Portland/Metro area.

OHP Standard Cuts Ostomy Supplies

Helen raised concerns with the recent cuts in OHP Standard. Ostomy (removal of a significant portion of your intestines) supplies have been cut from services. Inevitably people with this condition will be hospitalized due to lack of proper supplies.

MOTION: Recommend to the full Commission that we send a letter to the Legislature regarding the needs for OHP Standard to cover the cost of ostomy supplies. (Mary Harvey) *Passed*

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Send a letter to Legislators regarding ostomy supplies.	Helen	6/15/04

OMAP Update (via email – Joan Kapowich)

OMAP lost a court case and have to stop co-payments for OHP Standard clients on June 19th. They are waiting for approvals for the new OHP Standard benefits package and three-line movement (more restrictive on what is covered) from CMS. CMS has approved managed care taxes. If they do not approve hospital taxes Oregon will only be able to cover 17,000 OHP Standard clients instead of 24,000.

Medicare Prescription Drug Discount Card Discussion

There is a lot of confusion with the Prescription Drug Discount Card benefits. The card providers (insurance companies) have made deals with pharmaceutical companies to discount their prescriptions, supposedly making it less expensive for the client. However, the card providers can change the price and products available to the client within seven days of the client's decision to obtain their card. After the seven days if their prescriptions are no longer covered by the discount card, they are out of luck; they are locked into that particular card for the entire calendar year. Discussed the May 12, 2004 press release, "The Governor announces three-part effort to help Oregonians afford Prescription Drugs."

Planning Days

Discussed the process for developing issues for Planning Days.

Service Priority Level Workgroup Update

Reviewed Dolores Hubert's liaison report. Discussed the "Timed Up and Go" test (TUG) that has been proposed to measure functional ability when determining Service Priority eligibility and the other changes to mobility, meal preparation, and medical concerns.

RCF Rules Workgroup Update

Linda gave us an update regarding the May 4, 2004 meeting. We discussed two of the six proposals made by the workgroup. 1) The minimum direct care staffing for a Class II facility went from 1.75 to 2.00 caregiver hours per resident per day. 2) When the direct caregiver's primary duties include tasks such as housekeeping, meal preparations or laundry, a minimum number of hours will be added (this will be determined later).

Wellness Committee Update

Discussed Place Mat project.