Payment in Adult Services Workgroup
February 28, 2018
Meeting Summary

Members Present: Chris Filler (OCALI), Scott Marks (OACB), Ed Stark (SEC) Karen Blumhorst (Capabilities/We Can Too/OPRA Member), Tom Rickels (OWN), Mary Thompson Hufford (The Fuse Network), Lisa Mathis (OPRA), Sarah Zimmerman (SEC), Ed Stark (SEC), Jan Dougherty (APSE), Melissa Morelli (OAAS/OPRA), Pennie Chappell (OSDA), Kraig Walker (People First of Ohio), Cecilia King (ResCare), Tiffany Martin (Goodwill Columbus), Shannon Komisarek (OOD), Kristen Henry ((APSI), Celia King (Viaquest), Stephanie Barber Maynard (OSDA), Dennis DeYoung (ViaQuest)

Participating by Phone: Debbie Jenkins (OCHA/OCID)

Members Absent: Gary Tonks (Arc of Ohio)

DODD and ODM Attendees: Steve Beha, Kim Hauck, Stacy Collins, Vanessa Prather, and Laurel Steedman (DODD), Laura Leach (ODM)

Facilitator: Jo Krippenstapel

1. Welcome and Agenda Review

Stacy Collins welcomed participants and reviewed the agenda and materials. Participants introduced themselves. Workgroup materials can be found [here](#).

2. Timeline Review

Stacy provided an overview of a draft workgroup timeline for March 2019 – March 2020. The items in the timeline address tasks corresponding to the grey, blue and green columns in the Framework document. There are additional items that will be added to the timeline, including waiver amendment and rule dates.

The group engaged in a discussion of the draft timeline. Comments included:
- Future guidance needs to include clear expectations about:
    o Where we are now
    o When to start taking action
    o What to do now (how to get ready)
    o Transition dates
- People who want to work should be encouraged and supported to work
- Offer one guidance document for all audiences
- Add training for families to the timeline
- Remove the word "changes" from the line referencing SSA training

Stacy will address the issue of LEA training with the Employment First Taskforce and ask them to create their own training timeline. This will include county board operated schools.

3. Framework for Aligning Vocational Habilitation Service Delivery with State and Federal Requirements

Stacy provided an overview of a draft document entitled "Vocational Habilitation Talking Points". This document can be used by workgroup members as they share information and updates with constituents.

The group engaged in a discussion of the draft Talking Points. Comments and questions included:

- Time limits: Constituents want to know more about the two year time limits. Who will track? Is it a hard cap? When does the clock start? Be clear that this is not a 'hard limit'.
- Authorization: Be clear that the intent ("spirit") is that the authorization process will be as quick and automatic as possible.
- Add a concise description of what the service is intended to look like. This will help paint the picture for why some change is necessary.
- Clarify the reference to the "plan to be developed by August 1, 2019" on page 3.
- Clarify the references regarding 49 year olds; some may not want "retirement services".

Edits will be made to this draft document, and the final version will be posted on basecamp.

4. Systems Change Tools to Support the Framework: "Retirement Services"
Stacy reviewed the draft Service Definition for "Retirement Services" or "Senior Supports". Adults age 50 and over will continue to have access to the full of employment and day services.

The group engaged in a discussion of the draft timeline. There is general agreement around these four principles:

- Listen to stakeholders' request that we 'leave alone' those people age 50 or older who have a history with legacy services.
- Ensure proper implementation of day and employment services.
- What's on paper (about the service definition) needs to match what is really going on.
- Help people with disabilities, their families, and staff plan for the future. They need to know what to expect. Reaching agreement about how to proceed with this service definition will help with that.

Members raised these questions and offered these additional suggestions:

- Where does this service definition 'live'? Does it belong in Day Habilitation? If it's under Adult Day it 'bumps into the payment issue".
- Minnesota has a tiered system that secured CMS approval. How does this impact our thinking in Ohio?
- Is "retirement" the right word? What else might fit?
- Can other groups (in addition to those age 50 and older) be 'exempted' as well?
- What about 40 year olds? This raises the concern that more may choose to go to sheltered settings because of the comfort of the known.
- Add more language under the 'purpose' section about what it is that people will do.

- DODD can be clear about the overall direction: "Here's how we will spend Medicaid dollars".

Next Steps for Draft "Retirement Services":
- ODM and DODD will review Pennsylvania and Minnesota 'carve out' approaches
- DODD will edit this document and post updated documents on Basecamp

5. **Systems Change Tools to Support the Framework: Process for DODD Authorization of Vocational Habilitation Services**

Stacy offered an overview of the draft "Proposed prior authorization criteria/process for Vocational Habilitation". She emphasized these points:
- Vocational Habilitation Services must be time-limited.
- According to the Department of Medicaid, DODD is the only entity currently able to provide authorizations.
- The authorization process must be taken seriously. Some county boards do not want the responsibility of authorization, and don't want to be in the position of 'saying no'.
- Approvals will coincide with span dates. The details have not yet been worked out. Member ideas about this and other content can be shared during workgroup meetings as well as on basecamp.

Members raised these questions and offered these additional suggestions:
- What's the time frame for entering information? Can it be no later than 30 days out?
- What happens if the request is denied? What does the transition look like? Outline this. 90 days is not that much time.
- Re: bullet point #1: replace 'obtaining' with "progress toward obtaining"
- Re: bullet point #3 ("The provider's documentation…"): Is this the yearly progress report?
- How much narrative is suggested/required? (Employment Provider should give this language to the SSA).
- "Ongoing progress" reflects the perspective of the SSA and team. Training will be necessary in order for this determination to be made consistently across Ohio.
- Add 'place on the path' to the first list of bullet points.
- A mandated service might impact a budget. What about OOD?
- What about the role up code and the impact on the county ability to authorize?
- Separate provider for development of an employment plan can be a challenge for some.

6. **Systems Change Tools to Support the Framework: Draft Resource Packet/Communication Document**

Steve Beha provided an updated draft of a communication document. This version is based on feedback offered by members at previous workgroup meetings.

Members provided this feedback and comments:
- The layout is user friendly and appealing.
- It's helpful to have a consistent use of graphics across the pages.

- This can be shared with families and a 'conversation starter'. Families can be encouraged to talk to their SSA for additional information.
- On page 9, this might be a good space for use of the Charting the LifeCourse Integrated Star.

Members made a number of additional suggestions about language and style that will be incorporated into a re-draft.

7. **Next steps and Wrap Up**
   - Members can continue to offer feedback on basecamp.
   - DODD and Medicaid will take this feedback from today and re-draft the service definition and authorization process documents.
   - DODD will edit the communication document.
   - All updated documents will be posted on basecamp

8. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, from 10:00 -2:30 at the Delaware County Board of DD.