



CALIFORNIA COLLABORATIVE FOR LONG TERM SERVICES & SUPPORTS (LTSS)

**February 26, 2016
Meeting Summary**

I. Access in the Medi-Cal Program

***Independent Access Analysis Required in 1115 Waiver – Lishaun Francis,
Associate Director, California Medical Association***

Discussion

The Special Terms and Conditions of the 1115 Waiver require DHCS to complete an independent assessment of access to care and network adequacy for Medi-Cal managed care beneficiaries. They are required to work with an advisory group of stakeholders to see if plans are complying with Knox-Keene and managed care contracts as they relate to access. The assessment will review state fair hearing decisions, independent medical review decisions, and grievances and appeals/complaints data. The timeline for the analysis is unclear.

- Consumer advocacy organizations, providers/provider associations, health plans/health plan associations and legislative staff must be included in the Advisory committee.
- The External Quality Review Organization (EQRO) will conduct the analysis. EQROs seem to vary by department, but EQRO reports for the Department of Mental Health lacked concrete outcomes that were not useful. The EQRO for the Department of Health Services is the Health Services Advisory Group (www.HSAG.com).

- The California Association of Health Plans has not determined if the special terms and conditions only direct the state to look at just Medi-Cal, or at all lines of business.

ACTIONS

Members agreed that Medi-Cal access is a major area of concern and the Collaborative should get involved in the issue. Suggestions were to invite the EQRO for a discussion about the process, get involved in the advisory group, understand more about how access will be assessed, and review the STCs to see if there are requirements specific to LTSS.

II. General Accountability Office (GAO) Report to Congressional Requesters

Medicare and Medicaid: Additional Oversight Needed of CMS's Demonstration to Coordinate the Care of Dual Eligible Beneficiaries – Sarah Steenhausen, The SCAN Foundation

Discussion

Sarah provided an overview of this December 2015 report, which found that additional oversight is needed of CMS dual demonstrations. The focus of this report was solely on care coordination, it did not review cost or quality. The report findings were based on California, Illinois, Massachusetts, Virginia, and Washington and examined these questions:

- How are Integrated Care/Managed Care Organizations implementing coordination?
- Extent people actually accessing a Care Coordinator.
- How HRAs are conducted.
- Presence of the Interdisciplinary Care Plan (ICP) to set out goals of the individual's care, developed in collaboration with the beneficiary.

- Presence of the Interdisciplinary Care Team to carry out an individual's ICP.

The report had various limitations, including wide variations between states and lack of relevant data that would reveal if meaningful care coordination is being delivered. It concluded that a common set of measures across states is needed to develop and require comparable core data measures that provides more specific details. The report recommends that CMS develop new measures as well as align existing measures to strengthen the oversight of care coordination.

Pat Blaisdell commented that hospitals are not able to access care coordination from managed care plans for patients who need these services. Collaborative members suggested that more attention to quality, timely care coordination should be given a higher priority by the state.

ACTIONS

Members decided to bring the findings of the GAO report, as well as the on-the-ground experience of providers trying to secure care coordination for beneficiaries, to the attention of state officials during monthly Collaborative discussions. The Collaborative set a goal of improving state oversight on this issue in order to ensure that care coordination is meaningful, high quality and accessible to beneficiaries who need it.

III. Other Items

Finalizing Legislative Briefing for March 10th – Jack Hailey, GACI

The annual briefing for legislative staff has been scheduled for Thursday, March 10th at 1pm. The room is yet to be confirmed but will be announced by email. Jack reviewed the agenda the Collaborative previously developed for this briefing, including an overview of demographics, poverty statistics, the Collaborative's budget infrastructure proposal, and the issue of coordinating LTSS as a whole.

ACTIONS

- Blanca Castro will begin the meeting, frame the discussion and cover issues of demographics and poverty.
- Derrell Kelch will cover the nutrition vignette. He may recruit Gary Passmore, Sandi Fitzpatrick, and/or Carol Sewell to assist.
- Housing and SSI/SSP will be covered under the larger categories, unless a member of the Collaborative wishes to present these issues separately. If any member wishes to present on these issues, please email Laurel Mildred.

LTC Financing: Meeting with Senator Liu's office – Casey Young, CCLTSS Staff Team

Casey Young reported on a meeting with Suzanne Reed of Senator Carol Liu's office and other Senate staff who are working on long term care financing. The Senator is sifting through various proposals to discern which opportunities are timely. The SCAN Foundation, LeadingAge California and AARP have all been involved with this effort, and The SCAN Foundation recently released a side-by-side review of current LTC financing proposals, found here: <http://bit.ly/21Fe4RO>

As a first step, the Senate Insurance Committee will hold a hearing on the issue March 30th, and the Senate Aging and Long-Term Care Committee will hold a hearing on April 19. There may be an opportunity for the Collaborative to participate in these hearings. This group is also working on a communications project in conjunction with the financing initiative. They have developed a draft plan, which needs work on defining the common message points.

ACTIONS

The Collaborative decided it would be worthwhile to join AARP, LeadingAge California and The SCAN Foundation in working on the LTC financing issue. They

asked Casey to convene a workgroup to define principles and an approach to the work. Gary Passmore volunteered to join this effort. Other members who are interested in working on this, please email Laurel Mildred.

Introduction of the California Advocacy Network for Aging Latinos – Luis Sandoval, CANAL

Luis Sandoval gave brief remarks introducing a new statewide advocacy organization working on behalf of aging Latinos, CANAL. He thanked the Collaborative for reaching out and noted significant overlap in the agendas of the Collaborative and CANAL. He noted that he will be giving testimony at the April 19 Senate Insurance Committee hearing. Luis shared CANAL's aim of creating opportunities for Latino organizations to participate in aging and disability policy conversations, and to understand how to insert their agenda into LTSS policy. He mentioned that CANAL is the incubation phase, but is very eager to get to work on the issues.

ACTIONS

Jack Hailey welcomed Luis to the meeting and formally invited CANAL to join the California Collaborative.

Guests & Affiliates (4):

Donald Fischer, Central Valley LTSS Coalition

Fran Smith, California Alliance for Retired Americans

Jenel Lim, San Diego Regional Coalition

Luis Sandoval, California Advocacy Network for Aging Latinos

Collaborative Organizations Represented (21):

Blanca Castro, AARP California

Denny Chan, Justice in Aging

Eileen Koons, MSSP Site Association

Elaine Wong Eakin, California Health Advocates
Elizabeth Evanson, California Association of Health Plans
Gary Passmore, Congress of California Seniors
Henry Contreras, California Foundation for Independent Living Centers
Jedd Hampton, LeadingAge California
June Kailes, Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy
Karen Widerynski, California Association of Health Facilities
Kim Rutledge, UDW Homecare Providers Union
Lishaun Francis, California Medical Association
Lydia Missaelides, California Association of Adult Day Services
Marty Lynch, LifeLong Medical
Pat Blaisdell, California Hospital Association
Rachel Brainard, Alzheimer's Association
Randy Hicks, Californians for Disability Rights
Robert McCarthy, State Independent Living Council
Tami Cowgill, CalPACE
Terri Deits, California Elder Justice Coalition
Vicki Farrell, Association of California Caregiver Resource Centers

Foundation & Staff (9):

Sarah Steenhausen, The SCAN Foundation
Kali Peterson, The SCAN Foundation
Rene Seidel, The SCAN Foundation
Sue North, Government Action & Communication Institute
Laurel Mildred, Government Action & Communication Institute
Casey Young, Government Action & Communication Institute
Mariya Kalina, Government Action & Communication Institute
Jack Hailey, Government Action & Communication Institute
Jack Neeley, Government Action & Communication Institute