

Meeting Information

Title: MFP/BIP Meeting

Day/Time: Tuesday, October 14, 2014, 12pm-2pm

Location: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Rm L3

Welcome

Introductions

CMS Community Settings Final Rule:

Rebecca VanAmburg, Office of Health Services

- Provided the Community Settings definition per CMS
- Community Settings Final Rule public information sessions flyers were passed out to the stakeholders, which provided the date, region, location, time, and link to rsvp
- Questions regarding the information sessions and the final federal regulations should be directed to: dhmfh.hcbsetting@maryland.gov
- The ruling went into effect in March 2014 and will affect the following waivers 1915(c), 1915 (k), and 1915(i)
- Outreach education meetings and questionnaires went to the following 3 groups: case managers, participants, and providers
- For additional information, please refer to: <https://mmcp.dhmfh.maryland.gov/waiverprograms/SitePages/Community%20Settings%20Final%20Rule.aspx>

MFP Updates

1. Staffing Updates: Devon Mayer, MFP Project Director
 - a. The job announcement was posted for the two Quality and Compliance Specialist Positions. The job announcements closed on 9/26/14. We are waiting for HR to review the applications and provide us with the list of qualified applicants
 - i. The primary purpose of this position is to develop and apply medical assistance policies and regulations for the Money Follows the People (MFP) Demonstration related to participant eligibility and reportable events. MFP Quality and Compliance Specialists verify eligibility, make recommendations for enrollment and disenrollment of participants, and provide consultation to participants, providers, and supports planners in issues related to policy and regulations for the programs. Specialists will also perform audits of eligibility related time frames and resolve problems related to enrollment. Specialists monitor utilizations and compliance with program rules to ensure compliance with federal rules and regulations.
 - b. The job announcement was posted for the DDA Community Placement Specialist position that is located at the Holly Center in Salisbury. The job announcement closed on 9/29/14. We are waiting for HR to review the applications and provide us with the list of qualified applicants.
 - i. This position functions as one of two of community placement specialists for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Money Follows the

Person (MFP) Demonstration Project. The main purposes of the position are to work with identified individuals in State Residential Centers and nursing facilities to assist in their transition to community-based services through the Money Follows the Person Demonstration Grant and to monitor Peer Mentoring grant activities.

- c. We have made an offer for the MFP Policy Analyst position and expect the person to start on 10/15/14.
- d. The Housing Director position was reclassified from an Administrator I to a Medical Care Program Supervisor by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), we expect to submit the request to recruit paperwork for the Housing Director position this week and it should post shortly thereafter. We will send out an announcement to the email list once it posts.

2. Transitions

- a. Transition Projection Benchmarks-we must meet 85% over a two year period in order to remain in good standing and not be placed on a corrective action plan which jeopardizes our funding.
- b. Last year we transitioned 343 individuals to the LAH and WOA waivers. This year, we have transitioned 110 (there are an additional 20 that should have updated enrollment in the near future). This year we need 58 transitions from October-December in order to meet this minimal requirement.
- c. Since the August Stakeholder meeting, MFP staff:
 - i. Held in person/phone call discussions regarding transition issues with: Carole Taliaferro (in person), Margaret Hollidge-*Howard County AAA*, Sue Nyden-*Montgomery County AAA*, Mike Lehmuth-*Baltimore County AAA*, Sarah Sorensen-*Independence Now*, Mike Fitzpatrick-*consumer*, Karen-Ann Lichtenstein-*The Coordinating Center, the Sunshine Folks* (Floyd Hartley, Valerie Smith (and PAS provider), Linda Merkle, Wanda Miller, Brenda Reeder (admin support), and Cathy Surace- *MDLC Senior Attorney*
 - ii. Hosted a group discussion related to difficulties surrounding transition work that was attended by Jennifer Miles, April Ostrowski, Christin Whitaker, Kevin Patterson, Keshia Shaw-*DHMH*, Teresa Jeter-Cutting-*Baltimore City CARE Services*, Carole Taliaferro-*Prince George's County AAA*, Sue Nyden-*Montgomery County AAA*, Margaret Hollidge-*Howard County AAA*, Lori Fitzell and Mike Bullis-*The IMAGE Center*, Karen-Ann Lichtenstein, Martha Egan, Jennifer Walsh, Brenda Rosencrantz-*The Coordinating Center*, John Murphy-*MDoA-MFP/SPA*, Sarah Sorensen-*Independence Now*, **On the phone:** Christina Bolyard-*MDOD*, Peter Flandrau-*Montgomery County AAA*
 - iii. Held an internal meetings attended by MFP, POS Division, and Administrative Division
 - iv. Attended a meeting with MMARS transition staff to discuss transition work and answer programmatic and policy questions.
 - v. Provided updates on two SPA calls, we will continue to participate on the SPA calls to emphasize the importance of transitions. In addition, we

started sharing transitions by SPA on the calls to show transition progress by agency

- d. We documented the areas of concern as expressed during the meetings and discussions listed above and our corresponding comments, this document will be sent out as requested (reviewed during the meeting).
 - e. We will use existing staff, as available, to assist with monitoring the transition work as an interim measure until we can hire the designated Quality and Compliance Specialists.
 - f. Housing difficulties were frequently mentioned as a cause of delayed or decreased transitions.
 - i. Of particular note, we received permission from CMS to allow for purchase of birth certificates, when necessary for rental assistance programs, using MFP flex funds. We will issue guidance for SPAs and PPL regarding the process for requesting. This will only be allowable for potential MFP participants, as documented through the MFP consent form and MFP questionnaire in the tracking system, that intend to move to a house or apartment.
 - ii. MFP Housing staff made it an immediate priority to provide targeted housing training to the Supports Planning Agencies in the areas that will soon have housing available through the Section 811 PRA so that no housing opportunities are lost. Jennifer will provide additional information in the housing update.
3. Housing Updates, Jennifer Miles, MFP Associate Project Director
- a. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Award of Section 811 PRA Demonstration:
 - In February 2013, Maryland was awarded the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance (PRA) Demonstration Funds. The funds will be used to operate the Section 811 PRA program that will serve 150 individuals with disabilities. The target population for Maryland's Section 811 PRA Demonstration is non-elderly adults with disabilities (between the ages of 18 and under 62) with income at or below 30% area median income who are Medicaid recipients.
 - The 150 units will be funded for an initial 5 years and evenly distributed between the Washington, D.C. and Baltimore Metropolitan Statistical Areas. The Washington, DC area consists of Calvert, Charles, Frederick, Montgomery, and Prince George's County. The Baltimore area consists of Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Anne Arundel, Carroll, Harford, Howard, and Queen Anne's Counties.
 - 70% of the units will be 1 bedroom and 30% will be 2 bedrooms.
 - The priority populations are (in the following order): 1. Institutionalized Medicaid Recipients 2. Households at Risk of Institutionalization Due to Current Housing Situation 3. Developmental Disabilities Administration Community Pathways Waiver Participants Moving from Group Homes/Alternative Living Units to independent renting and Mental Hygiene

Administration Residential Rehabilitation Program participants moving to independent renting, and 4. Homeless persons who are Medicaid recipients, prioritized in HEARTH ACT definition order (HEARTH ACT of 2009).

- The Cooperative Agreement between HUD and DHCD was signed on 6/23/14 by Secretary Skinner and sent back to HUD. The implementation of the Section 811 PRA Demonstrations became official in July.
- On February 19, 2014, DHCH announced 14 affordable rental housing projects (\$19.6 million). Of the 14 housing projects awarded, 58 of these units will be used as Section 811 PRA units. The 58 units will be located in:
 - a. Frederick City (Sinclair Way – 11 units)
 - b. Harford County (Riverwoods at Tollgate- 13 units)
 - c. Baltimore County (Hopewell Point-11 units)
 - d. Prince George’s County (Bladensburg Commons- 15 units)
 - e. Anne Arundel County (Berger Square- 8 units)

It is projected that the construction of these units will begin in 2015 and the units will be available for occupancy in 2016. Awardees are selected through a competitive application round and the next round will be in September with awards being announced in December.

b. 2014 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Section 811 PRA:

- The announcement was posted on March 4, 2014 (Funding Opportunity Number FR-5700-N-28). During this round, PRA has an estimated total program funding of \$120 million, which they expect to award 12-18 awardees. Under this NOFA, HUD anticipates that individual grants awarded will range from \$2 million to \$12 million. HUD is seeking to support state housing and health and human services/Medicaid agency collaborations that have or will result in increased access to affordable (new/existing) permanent supportive housing units with access to appropriate services. HUD is accepting 1 application per state, which must include an Inter- Agency Partnership Agreement between State housing and Medicaid.
- Maryland DHCD, DHMH, and MDOD applied and submitted our application on May 14, 2014 for funds to continue increasing access to affordable permanent supportive housing units in Maryland. We applied for an additional 150 units within a budget of \$9.8 million.
- 75% of the units will be distributed between the Baltimore and Washington, DC metropolitan metro statistical area and 25% will be distributed to Allegany, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Garrett, St. Mary’s, Talbot, Washington, Worcester Counties
- 50% of the units will be 1 bedrooms and 50% will be 2 bedrooms

c. Maryland Partnership for Affordable Housing Updates:

- Social Serve is a non-profit organization that has been contracted through MDOD to build the web based registry system for the Weinberg, Section 811 PRA, and the MFP Bridge Registry
- The Social Serve Web based system for the Section 811 PRA demonstration will be ready to “go live” to accept applicants in November. If there are supports planner/case manager that do not have a username and password for the Social Serve System, please set one up as soon as possible at <https://www.socialserve.com/Enter/MD/>
- On September 9, 2014, Supports Planning Agencies and AAA’s in the Baltimore/Washington MSA received a memo from the Community Options Administration Division regarding Section 811 PRA Training. Trainings were held or are being held on the following days:
 - a. Tuesday, September 30, 2014 at MCDD (9 attendees)
 - b. Thursday, October 2, 2014 at HOC- Montgomery County (15 attendees)
 - c. Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at DDA Southern Maryland Regional Office (22 attendees)
 - d. Wednesday, October 8, 2014 at MDOT Headquarters
 - e. Wednesday, October 29, 2014 at MCDD
 - f. Thursday, October 30, 2014 at DHCD
- d. Weinberg Units (income 15 -30% of AMI)
 - a. Currently participants are occupying 2 units in Dorchester County (Foxtail Crossing II)
 - b. Montgomery County (Takoma Park) will have 5 units – now accepting paper applications

Once an individual’s name has come up on the registry list, MDOD contacts the Supports Planner who placed the individual on the registry list. Once contact has been made, MDOD will email the application to the Supports Planner. The Supports Planner then helps the applicant complete the application and then faxes and mails it back to MDOD.

 - c. Wicomico County (Rivers Edge) will have 3 units available in 2015
 - d. Somerset County (The Reserves at Somerset Commons) will have 2 units available 2016
 - e. Harford County (Winston’s Choice) will have 2 units available 2016

e. Housing 101

The MFP housing staff have been asked to provide trainings in regards to housing to the Supports Planning Agencies. All of the Supports Planning Agencies will have the opportunity to schedule trainings, but this time we are targeting the Baltimore and Washington Statistical Area because of the time sensitive nature of the upcoming housing opportunities with 811 PRA. Emails were sent during the week of September 22nd. The following agencies have received training:

- a. Foundations Care Management 9/26/14
- b. Beatrice Loving Heart 10/1/14

The following agencies are scheduled for the housing 101 training:

- c. Prince George's County 10/14/14
- d. Montgomery County 10/15/14
- e. Baltimore City 10/22/14
- f. MMARS 10/28/14
- g. Anne Arundel 11/6/14
- h. Carroll 11/12/14
- i. Howard County 11/20/14

f. Housing Technical Assistance

Michelle and I can provide technical assistance if there are questions regarding housing

- 4. Semi-Annual and Bi-Monthly Progress Reports: Devon Mayer, MFP Project Director
 - a. We submitted our semi-annual report, covering January-June 2014, on August 29th.
 - b. Brief review of Connecticut's quarterly dashboard to show program progress, including state specific benchmarks and selected responses to the MFP Quality of Life (QoL) survey.
 - i. Stakeholders requested that the QoL survey be sent out to review and suggest questions to measure.
 - c. Maryland's state specific benchmarks are:
 - i. Total Transitions
 - ii. Percent of Medicaid Long-term Care Service Days Provided in the Community (All HCBS)
 - iii. Percent of Medicaid Long-term Care Services Provided in the Community (without DD waivers & SRCs)
 - iv. Percent of Medicaid Long-term Care Services Provided in the Community (only DD waivers & SRCs)
 - v. Number of nursing facility residents educated about HCBS through Options Counseling.
 - vi. Number of individuals securing community housing each year.
 - d. Stakeholders requested further discussion at the Stakeholder meeting, regarding possible metrics to measure on a regular (tbd) basis.

BIP Updates

- 1. CMS updates
 - a. We have a new BIP Project Officer at CMS. Annette Shea is on loan to CMS from the Administration on Community Living (ACL). Annette previously served as an MFP Project Officer. Effie is out on maternity leave. There was a BIP intensive at the recent Home and Community Based Services Conference where we got to talk to our counterparts and hear what they are working on. They continued to focus on the importance of meeting all our deliverables.
- 2. Level One Screen
 - a. Webinar on 9/4/14 to provide an overview and refresher on the purpose of the screen and provide some policy background prior to the IT training

- b. Held two tracking system trainings in Columbia for MAP staff (AAA and CIL) to use the level one screen in the tracking system
 - c. Asked for feedback from the first group of trainees in order to improve the training the second time around.
 - d. Webinar scheduled for 10/2/14-same as the 9/4/14 webinar, different audience
 - e. 4 Trainings scheduled this week: Columbia (yesterday), St. Mary's (today), Allegany (tomorrow) and Talbot (Friday) Counties
 - f. DHMH and MDoA staff are attending all the trainings to provide support to the FEi trainers and answer programmatic questions.
 - g. There have been a lot of questions from the local health departments, we will set up a webinar for them and we will provide ongoing support during rollout.
3. Health Insurance Exchange
- a. BIP staff had a phone discussion with the Connector Program Manager (Ginny Seyler) to discuss MAP and how the two programs could collaborate, which resulted in a follow up phone discussion with the Connector Entity that also has a MAP under the same agency (Worcester County Health Department) to discuss their working relationship
 - b. On September 23rd, BIP staff gave a presentation about MAP at the Connector Entity Monthly Meeting, provided promotional materials, and traded contact information
 - c. We are working to get the toll-free MAP number listed on the results page.
4. MAP Sustainability
- a. MDoA is running another time study this month to get updated numbers for our FFP Cost Allocation Plan Amendment Request. We believe we will get an increased percentage of time spent on Medicaid administrative activities because of the toll-free number and CFC.
 - b. Two in person and two webinar training opportunities for time study participants. Participation in at least one of the trainings is mandatory for all participants.
 - c. DHMH and MDoA will enter into an MOU agreeing to the terms of the agreement, including allowable activities, and submit the request to CMS.
 - d. MAP grants have been awarded to most of the sites; we are waiting on a few clarifications to issue the remainder.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2014 from 12-2 in room L-3