

MFP Quarterly Steering Committee Meeting and Stakeholder Forum

Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2013; 10 – Noon

Location: Living Independence for Everyone (LIFE), Inc., 5105 Paulsen Street, Executive Court Building 143-B, Savannah, GA 31405. LIFE, Inc. telephone: 912.920. 2414.

Attendance: 37 Steering Committee Members attended in person or joined the conference call

Welcome, Introductions, old business (DCH, Pam Johnson)

Project Director Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. Johnson welcomed Steering Committee (SC) members and thanked the host for the opportunity to conduct the MFP SC meeting at LIFE, Inc. Johnson asked attendees to introduce themselves. Johnson reminded attendees that MFP SC meetings and stakeholder forums will be held at different locations around the state to encourage participation.

Old Business. During the last several SC meetings, SC members were encouraged to join subcommittees. MFP state staff has been charged with convening the subcommittees. Each subcommittee has met with MFP staffers appointed to lead each subcommittee. State staffers will be reporting out on the work of their subcommittee and SC members are encouraged to participate in the work of subcommittees. Sign-up sheets are available for those who have not yet signed up to work with a subcommittee or SC members can contact Director Johnson to be placed on subcommittee.

New Business –

Review of Quarterly Transition Data (DCH, Sandy Taylor, Leslie Vaughns)

Sandy Taylor reported on MFP quarterly transitions (from January 1, 2013 through March 31, 2013)

- Transitions by population during the reporting period
 - Older Adults (OA) = 28
 - Physical disabilities (PD) = 37
 - Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) = 0
 - Developmental Disabilities (DD) = 27
- Transitions by waiver type used during the reporting period
 - CCSP = 42
 - ICWP = 11
 - SOURCE = 5
 - COMP = 27
 - Unknown (no waiver, refused) = 7
- Deaths during the reporting period = 5
- Reinstitutionalized during the reporting period = 5
- Completed transitions (completed 365 days of MFP) during the reporting period = 104

See Sandy Taylor's presentation and/or contact her for more information.

Leslie Vaughns provided updates on the following –

- HCBS program use by waiver name, population served, Institution waived, active and wait list
- MFP demonstration services expenditures by Calendar Year for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and for CY 2013 YTD through 2/28/2013
- MFP Transitions by population type by Calendar Year for 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and for CY 2013 YTD through 3/31/2013
- Cumulative Housing by type used by MFP participants by population

The data presented on HCBS waiver use was from the Olmstead report as of Feb 28, 2013. Future quarterly updates will include CBAY youth transitions. There are two GAPP programs reported in the data. MFP demonstration services expenditures was reported from both Fiscal Intermediaries. Data reported excluded waiver service dollars; it is only for MFP demonstration services expenditures. Cumulative housing data was based on housing type reported at time of discharge. “Blank” on the housing chart indicated that housing type at discharge was unknown. The “Own Home” category may be the participant’s own home or the home may be owned by family and the participant returned to the home. “Family Home” indicated that the participant moved in with family. The “Blank” category will be reviewed to identify and distinguish between group homes used by most participants with developmental disabilities and Personal Care Homes (PCH) used by older adult participants and participants with physical disabilities or traumatic brain injuries. “Unknown” at the time of discharge indicated that the type of housing was not indicated on the *Discharge Day Checklist*.

Housing benchmark data was reported. Transitions to rural areas were tracked by type of housing used at discharge. Participants are being encouraged to transition to every county, so cumulative YTD results by county were reported (see attached spreadsheet report). Leslie Vaughns will run the report by county as requested by SC members. Cumulative data from Glenn County was reviewed.

See Leslie Vaughns’ presentation and/or contact her for more information.

Update from DAS and the ADRCs (Amy Riedesel, JW Wright and Carline Robertson)

JW Wright reported on the efforts of MDSQ Options Counselors (OCs) and MFP Transition Counselors (TCs). MDS Section Q referrals are coming from most nursing facilities around the state. MDSQ OCs call back on referrals and screen residents for MFP and/or provide a packet of information along with counseling on options for long term services and supports. This follow-up occurs at several points in time. For participants who are MFP eligible, a 90 day follow-up is completed. Most referrals are tending to be MFP eligible. Some referrals change Medicaid eligibility as they work through process. Some referrals that are not eligible for MFP are made to local resource. Persons may have been referred to more than one thing. Division of Aging Services (DAS) is tracking locations around the state at MDSQ OC follow-up visits and future reports will provide a breakdown of where folks go after MDSQ OC visits.

JW Wright reported on efforts to expand MFP services offered to care givers through the MFP Caregiver, Outreach & Education (COE). Care Consultation is being offered to care givers. DAS will no longer fund TCARE certifications but the service will continue using field personnel qualified to deliver care consultation to encourage a broad use of this service.

JW Wright reported that Harmony implementation is progressing according to schedule with positive results being reported by field personnel. The SC will be provided a review of Harmony at a future meeting.

See JW Wright's presentation and/or contact him for more information.

Carline Robertson reported on transitions in "the pipeline." The pipeline tracks participants at various points in the transition process and included information about what needs to be done to assist the participant through the MFP process to a completed transition. The deaths during the reporting period were not unexpected. Reinstitutionalizations are being reviewed by DAS. 20 to 30 MFP transitions are in the pipeline each month with approximately 30 to 50 referrals to MFP.

Contact Carline Robertson for more information.

Update from BDHDD (DDD, Jenny Wiseman, Tiffany Butler)

Tiffany Butler reported on issues that the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) has been exploring in an effort to maximize MFP benefits for DD participants. The structure and process of DD MFP transitions is changing with the closing of ICFs. Some ICFs hospital staff have been trained to implement the QoL process. More work is happening in DDD to support MFP. Quality Management and reviews looked at Sentinel Events. Efforts are being made to streamline the MFP referral and transition process. Regional DD office staff changes are requiring technical assistance and training. Some DD regional offices have hired new staff. Training with MFP CORE Process Orientation workshop is being considered for all DD staff supporting MFP transitions. DD regional field staff needs to be more engaged and aware of MFP.

A recent DDD Newsletter highlighted interagency work with MFP. Family members are involved in MFP transition planning process and need to be kept engaged throughout MFP service year. Keeping them engaged through MFP year is necessary to improve outcomes as measured by the *Quality of Life* survey.

DDD is considering ways to do more with MFP services for participants after discharge from ICFs and nursing facilities. MFP services are being identified that will lead to increased visibility of MFP within DDD. Enrollment of potential MFP participants from nursing facilities must be individualized and supported by regional DD field personnel. Participants transitioning from nursing facilities will need to be linked up with appropriate DD Regional offices. Training and technical assistance continues to be provided to Regional DD office staff and field personnel. Implementation of PASAR is being used to generate referrals to MFP; this will have impact on DD transitions. There is no equivalent of the MFP Transition Coordinator. Regional staff will be involved, and DD Regional staff will follow-up with MFP participants post-discharge. APS healthcare is doing Level 2 screenings for admissions to nursing facilities. DD folks already in nursing facilities may have been admitted for short-term rehab, but short-term stays turn into years. Work is being done with Pam Madden (DCH Medicaid) to see how frequently reviews of residents with developmental disabilities are being conducted. Changes in health status and requests for community living (via MDSQ) should be used to identify DD residents currently living in nursing facilities. These referrals need to be routed to the DD MFP office and then to appropriate DD Regional offices.

Contact Tiffany Butler for more information.

Update from BDHDD (CBAY, Elisha Reed)

Elisha Reed reported on efforts to integrate MFP CBAY services. CBAY stands for Community Based Alternatives for Youth. Participants younger than 18 years of age will transition to homes with parents and guardians. Participants 18 yoa can enter the community. The CBAY start date is May 1st. Transition benchmark was set at 75 per year. CBAY is currently training their care managers in the MFP process using MFP forms revised for that purpose. The Project director is Elisha Reed. Future updates will include more about transitions using MFP CBAY.

Contact Elisha Reed for more information.

Update from Project Evaluation (GSU GHPC, Brittney Romanson, Kristi Fuller)

Brittany Romanson, Kristi Fuller and Glenn Landers reported on MFP Project Evaluation efforts. The semiannual report included analysis of matched baselines to first year surveys and baselines to second year results. Demographics of the matched analysis were reported. Analysis was presented in dashboard format from M1Q3, M2Q9, M3Q15, M4Q23, M5Q33, M6Q38 and M7Q39. See Semiannual Report Presentation, Dashboard handout and/or review the *2013 MFP Project Evaluation Semiannual Report of Analytic Results* available on at dch.ga.gov/mfp. Based on results from both groups (baseline to 1st year and baseline to 2nd year), both groups like where they live. Both have increased choice and control of their daily lives and both groups appear to have improved their independence. Things are better for participants in the community, baseline to 1st year and 1st year to 2nd year. Positive results appeared as MFP participants were in the community longer.

Project Director Johnson responded to the presentation. Johnson reported that the project is working with the Evaluation Advisory Team to pay attention to the challenges discovered by the evaluation and use the results to improve the project. MFP begins with the referral, continues at discharge but doesn't end until two years post discharge. Everyone involved in transitions needs to be sure that each participant gets everything needed to live successfully in the community.

Tiffany Butler responded to the semiannual evaluation results. Butler reported that more needs to be done to help MFP DD participants make the connection to MFP. MFP supported the transition, but participants and family members don't always recognize what MFP provided. Many MFP DD participants are non-verbal don't have capacity to understand the complexities of MFP services. More efforts are being made to inform family members about MFP.

See Brittney Romanson's presentation or contact her or Kristi Fuller for more information.

Update from Housing R&D subcommittee (DCH, Jerome Greathouse)

Jerome Greathouse reported on three housing subsidy programs being used and developed for MFP participants, including -

- NED MFP 811 HC Voucher program with Decatur Housing Authority
- HUD 811 Project-based Rental Assistance Demonstration
- Tennant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program Demonstration

MFP participants have been using the Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) 811 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program with Decatur Housing Authority – to date there have been 54 applications, 23 participants have been housed, and 12 are active in the application process searching for housing. All vouchers are accounted for. DAS will begin an internal waiting list in DeKalb County for additional HCVs with DHA.

HUD 811 PBA – the award for Georgia was 1.4 million dollars for the 811 PBA demo. This funding is project based – there are 70 properties proposed throughout the state that will have several units set aside to be used by MFP participants. More properties will be added as they are developed and completed. The housing subsidy is at the property. Part of the subsidy goes to the property. It is a 24 month subsidy and is considered a bridge to more permanent housing. If MFP participants are on a waiting list, they will be encouraged to apply for one of these subsidies that can be used to bridge to more permanent housing. This subsidy will help to transition MFP participants into rural areas. The rollout is July 1, 2013. There are three applications currently available through service providers.

TBRA will only serve MFP (current participants or MFP graduates). There is one million dollars funding to support TBRA. HUD 811 will be shared with DBHDD. Final split between DCH MFP and DBHDD is being discussed. TBRA vouchers are available to MFP participants on a 1st come 1st served basis, but the subsidy will be shared with DBHDD. To begin, the voucher funding will be split half and half, but this may change to 1st come 1st served. MFP must look at participants in the transition pipeline. TBRA vouchers will not be held for MFP participants for a long period of time, so there needs to be MFP participants in the pipeline in all 12 ADRC regions that could use these vouchers. Jerome will keep a waiting list by region, but the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) will keep a master list. The rollout for TBRA is June 1, 2013.

See Jerome Greathouse's presentation and/or contact him for more information.

Challenges & Opportunities; Q & A (DCH, Pam Johnson)

Johnson fielded questions from SC members and discussed challenges and opportunities.

Next meeting is July 24, 2013, 10 AM to Noon, Location TBD

Johnson Adjourned the meeting at 12 Noon

MFP Steering Committee Notes Summary Submitted by R.L. Grubbs (rgrubbs@dch.ga.gov, 404-657-9323). Contact Pam Johnson at 404-651-9961 for questions regarding SC meeting topics. Contact RL Grubbs for corrections to the notes summary.