

UCEDD Directors Meeting

January 27th 4-6pm ET

Breakout Room Notes

Breakout Room Topic: Opportunities for HCBS Transformation post-COVID

Round 1: Rhonda Eppelsheimer, Angela Martin, Cindy Thomas, Karen Ward, Colleen McLaughlin, Alan Cabo Lewis, Marc Tasse, Zolinda Stoneman

Round 2: Parthy Dinora, Evan Dean, Philip Wilson, Tafa Tua-Tupuola, Derrick Willis

What You're Seeing:

- OR – loosening of Medicaid waiver rules, use \$\$ to pay for internet/tech/pads/etc. – what else can we do?
- AK – services better? Services worse?? Both
- AK – telehealth into rural communities
- OH – technology and remote supports so less direct service providers in the home... Many people are liking that part of it
- MA – Some places virtual support works because family member are at home, what will happen when they are not there... Are we taking that into account when determining if virtual works for people
- MA – some providers not going back to large scale – how can we help our agile providers to be more creative and successful
- MI – Gov is going to raise \$2 per hour for DSP (still not \$15)
- ME/MI -institutional bias gets people shots in institutions but not people with IDD!! Use this as the point for arguing against institutional bias
- ME – segregated data collection
 - DD agency, health department, all kept separately so don't know who has COVID, who dies, what data means
- MA – bias in shots
 - DSPs get shot, pwd gets shot (maybe) but family doesn't (informal caregivers for pwd being excluded)
- NJ – Growth in self-directed services (since families could be paid)

- LA - Difficulties in how testing reported; data not correct as reported - state ID/DD agency giving people on the waiver permission to go to day treatment and sheltered work; state concerned program go out of biz so allowing people to go outside waiver services to more congregate settings... despite having a settlements rule... working against settlements rule
- MFP – Iowa – virtual...slowed down transitions; more referrals because people are wanting to come out of LTSS into community (due to COVID outbreaks).
- IA – DOJ investigation – family members trying to get folks out of facilities during COVID...
- A.S. -- repatriation flights starting – meet medical needs in quarantine in Hawaii and then quarantine in A.S. – mental health issues

What You're Doing:

- Looked at what has worked and then see what structure can fit around that
- Asking people who have been working about their experiences – did work supports work virtually or do you need job coach or in person support
- Enhanced Data collection , NCI to identify where people are; merged NCI data with Medicaid data – so getting lay of land
- Used COVID to highlight health risks to congregate settings and we don't really know what those are...

What Next?

- Ways to start over and have a clean slate? How do it? What is the push?
- Determine what we retain and what get rid of for true community engagement/participation to avoid people stuck at home
- Appendix K – what has worked and what can we use in the future
- Federal limbo – B/C waiver; wanted I waiver, couldn't get one, but now in limbo...
- Need federal TA to do better by states on what they CAN do. Many states confused or interpreting it themselves (and incorrectly or differently)
- Efforts to grow supports brokerage to help people self-direct on an ongoing basis
- Increased self-directed services
- Waiver comments for waiver renewals re HCBS and community inclusion
- UCEDD/AUCD conversations with public health at the federal level re quarantine support – what does accommodation look like in a public health emergency...
- Better understand outcomes related to modified services – are outcomes the same if conversations over the phone instead of in person so inform system... advantages from provider side, but what about the person's side...
- What has worked well – innovations via data to know what to ask for with certain people with certain needs
- Telehealth – grow and learn from it but data will e what sustains it... (particularly since not favorable within systems now..)