

County of Santa Cruz

0179

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

P.O. BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVENUE
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061
(831) 454-4066 FAX: (831) 454-4770

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY
ADMINISTRATION

December 27, 2001

AGENDA: January 15, 2002

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: STATUS REPORT ON ELDERDAY SENIOR PROGRAM AND LONG TERM CARE. INTEGRATION

Dear Members of the Board:

As requested by your Board, the Health Services Agency is reporting back on continuing activities to expand alternatives to skilled nursing and institutional care for elders and disabled adults. These efforts include ongoing efforts to site and license the proposed Adult Day Health Care Facility in South County. *

As you know, the budget included funding to establish an Elder Day program in South County. The Health Services Agency is currently working with Food and Nutrition Services to develop this program. The materials are completed for the license and we have been working on the site. The proposed site is Watsonville Care on Montecito Avenue. An assessment of the facility related to hazardous substances is being provided which the County will review. We currently have the appraisal and are working with the owner on a variety of options for occupancy including a possible purchase with Board approval. The County Administrative Office and Health Services Agency are concurrently evaluating facility options and office space needs in South County.

The Health Services Agency, in collaboration with the various members of the Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project Steering Committee, is preparing to submit a grant proposal to the California Endowment. This grant would be for integrated senior and disabled services and start up funds for making the site a "one-stop" for residential care and services. These would include: information and referral services, case management, eligibility services, health screening and dental services, a resource center for seniors and their families, residential care, adult day health and training for caregivers. This grant was previously approved by your Board for submission to the State, but was not funded.

The Health Services Agency continues to collaborate with the staff at state and local levels to explore funding sources and to develop models for a successful long term care integration in Santa Cruz County.

2002 Goals & Objectives for Long Term Care Integration:

There are a number of goals for improving long term care options for seniors funded through our State Planning Grant. Attached for your review are the goals and objectives for the year 2002. Many of these goals include regional collaboration with Monterey and Santa Clara Counties who are also interested in improving long term care services; community education related to issues of long term care; discussions with the Central Coast Alliance for Health which currently manages skilled nursing, home health, and hospice; and analysis of Medicare utilization and cost patterns for the County. All of these goals will provide important information for planning efforts.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is, therefore, RECOMMENDED, that your Board:

1. Accept and file status report on Elderday Senior Program and Long Term Care Integration; and
2. Direct the Health Services Agency to return to your Board on February 26, 2002 on facility options for services, and
3. Authorize the Health Services Administrator to submit an application to the California Endowment for grant funding to implement long term care services for seniors and their families.

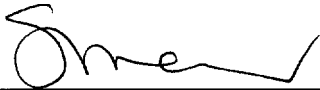
Very truly yours,



Rama Khalsa, Ph.D.
Health Services Agency Administrator

RK:car

RECOMMENDED:



SUSAN A. MAURIELLO
County Administrative Officer

cc: County Administrative Office
Long Term Care Steering Committee
Human Resources Agency
Food and Nutrition Services

Attachment: 2002 Goals Long Term Care Integration Project



County of Santa Cruz

0181

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVENUE SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0962

(831) 454-4066 FAX: (831) 454-4770 TDD: (831) 454-4123

LONG TERM CARE INTEGRATION PILOT PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES 2002

Below are listed the goals and objectives discussed at the November Steering Committee for review and finalization at the next steering committee meeting. Please feel free to email Carmen with any questions or concerns prior to the meeting and/or send your comments in writing.

1. Business Plan for Watsonville Care:

Working with various County departments and the non-profit community, develop a viable business plan for sustaining the debt service on the Watsonville Care building such that the County can proceed with its purchase. It is the goal of the County to secure the building for use for senior and disabled services and provide a one stop with a variety of levels of care for seniors to obtain treatment, social services, adult day services, health services, and residential care services. A report to the Board of Supervisors on ongoing progress on this matter is due in January of 2002. George Newell is the lead on this project administratively and Carmen Robles is the lead on developing detailed clinical justifications and models for potential use of the facility.

2. Medicare FOHC:

It is the goal of the County clinics to explore the possibility of adding Medicare FQHC certification to its current Medical FQHC certification to make it easier to serve seniors. Agency administration will hire a consultant to work with the County administrative staff, state and federal representatives to explore the options and issues associated with Medicare FQHC status as well as Medical FQHC status. Based on that analysis the County will proceed to try to make this change if it is appropriate.

3. California Endowment Grant:

Develop an appropriate California Endowment Partnership Grant in conjunction with community agencies to provide funding for start up activities at Watsonville Care for a variety of clinical programs to be integrated at that site. The grant can also include administrative resources for further data analysis, financial feasibility analysis, projecting community profiles in the area of seniors, and working on implementation of the Trilogy web product as a resource for the community both in terms of seniors and their families.

4. Medicare Data Analysis:

The Long Term Care Steering Committee in conjunction with its consultant Tim Reilly will take the newly obtained Medicare data, integrate it with Medical, IHSS, and other senior data, to identify numbers of patients, costs, care locations, cost trends, client high user profiles, and opportunities to improve health care access and coordination. Based on this information, the Steering Committee could determine whether or not the Onlok (PACE) model might be appropriate for Santa Cruz County. It includes Medicare as well as Medical funds. Another possibility, of course, is to consider the option of the Alliance adding at least some Medicare managed care services to its current profile of managed care to insure a variety of expanded and better coordinated options for frail and disabled seniors. All of these items will be discussed and analyzed related to financial feasibility, governance options, and legal issues such as waivers. The Steering Committee and staff will consult with other community stakeholders such as the Alliance Board.

5. Orange County Presentation by the County Organized Health System:

Carmen will coordinate a presentation here with the staff member in Orange County who is working for the County Organized Health System and proceeding to implement IHSS services, MSSP services, a variety of waivers, and expanded COHS activities in the area of long term care integration. The purpose of this presentation is to inform the Long Term Care Steering Committee Board as well as the Alliance Board of some of the potential risks and benefits, challenges and opportunities associated with this direction. Orange County appears to be making significant headway in expanding their system. It could provide a good road map for Santa Cruz particularly if the Central Coast Alliance for Health plays a pivotal role in long term care integration.

6. Alliance Board Long Term Care Education and Training:

The Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project staff, working with the Alliance staff, should ensure that the Central Coast Alliance for Health Board gets a good and thorough review of the long term care issues and opportunities associated with different models of serving seniors and individuals with disabilities. The Alliance Board has had its initial overview presented at its December meeting. To fully understand the risks and opportunities it is recommended that the steering committee work closely with the Alliance staff to provide good quality local information on problems with the current system, opportunities for improvement, as well as challenges. Carmen Robles with other County department staff such as HRA, HSA, and the new group that is working on **IHSS** services should work together to provide this local profile to the Alliance Board.

7. Overall Data Work:

Long Term Care Integration staff will work with the UCLA/USC resource center to gather and define information needs for better planning and appropriate next steps for the Long Term Care Integration Project. This includes working with Tim Reilly on more detailed models that may be

financially feasible including models which include phase in of risk, a variety of waivers, addition of a PACE program to the Central Coast Alliance for Health, addition of adult day health services to and/or other senior services to the Alliance program, etc. Quarterly meetings focusing on this data analysis and defining what we have and sharing it with appropriate agencies in the community such as United Way and the Pajaro Valley Community Health Trust are also important to accomplish.

8. Trilogy – Regional Approach:

The Steering Committee has had two presentations by Trilogy, which launched websites in Alameda and Sacramento counties for special seniors and disabled individuals. The websites are called networkofcare.org. They appear to provide rich information to seniors and individuals with disabilities related to remaining independent, getting and finding services, and being good advocates for their own care with family support. Santa Cruz County is interested in doing the initial groundwork for the Trilogy project and is eager to work with Monterey County and the Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project Steering Committee on appropriate next steps. A meeting will be set up with Monterey County to discuss it further as well as with HRA to discuss what portion of the initial groundwork could be covered by the Admin claim related to information referral. This will be followed with a more comprehensive plan implementation. Trilogy has already been approached by three or four other Counties to add networkofcare.org to their local county health and human service system. It is possible that Santa Cruz will have to wait somewhat until other counties are implemented. Nonetheless, we would like to begin the local meetings and defining the financial aspects of this project as soon as possible. Based on that next steps will occur.

9. Olmstead Decision/Implications on Alternatives to Institutionalization:

The Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project would like to do a Task Force meeting to review of the Olmstead decision and activities going on at the state and national level related to implementation of this decision. Of particular interest are efforts to expand the funding and the variety of levels of care which could present opportunities for alternatives to skilled nursing, hospital, and ICF placement. Carmen will coordinate this with appropriate state and local advocate groups to put together a panel presentation which could highlight the key aspects of the Olmstead decision related to services.

10. Advocacy to Support HUD Renewals of Section 8 Vouchers:

The Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project Task Force will provide advocacy at the local, state, and federal level to support renewal of the Section 8 vouchers for seniors and disabled on those projects where the commitment to keep the housing affordable is expiring. This is particularly important to prevent a new and expanded crisis in homelessness, housing access, and available opportunities for alternatives to institutional care. Carmen will contact Mary James of the Housing Authority to get updates on this and present the information to the Steering Committee.

11. Facility Capacity Skilled Nursing:

The Long Term Care Integration Pilot Project will do a review of existing nursing home capacity documenting numbers of beds, payors, available doctors to support individuals in skilled nursing, current problems in the area of workforce, specialization and work with the Alliance staff on patients who must go outside of the County to get appropriate specialized skilled nursing services such as ventilator services, secure perimeter services, etc. A meeting with the skilled nursing administrators will be done in the initial assessment year to refine our knowledge and understanding of existing skilled nursing capacity and issues.

12. Participation in State Related Activities:

Carmen Robles, staff to the Long Term Care Integrated Project, will continue to participate in all appropriate state meetings on long term care and associated advocacy, participate in priority setting with the California Endowment related to long term care activities, share this information back with the Steering Committee, and where appropriate, provide a voice of Santa Cruz County at State, Foundation, and regional work groups.

13. Regional Retreat with Santa Clara County Blitz & Rickmeyer:

The Steering Committee will participate in a retreat to further explore regional opportunities in the global areas of long term care planning and implementation. Blitz and Rickmeyer, who also coordinate Monterey and Santa Clara efforts, will facilitate to ensure we are taking advantage of every possible opportunity to take regional approaches to advocacy, fund raising, care coordination, legal and administrative streamlining, etc.