

North Dakota Department of Health

LONG TERM CARE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 20, 2013  
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Gregory Salwei, Chairman of the NDLTC Association, CEO Wishek Living Center  
Shelly Peterson, Executive Director, ND Long Term Care Association  
Darleen Bartz, Chief, Health Resources Section, ND Department of Health  
Lucille Rostad, Program Manager, Division of Health Facilities, ND Department of Health  
Barb Groutt, North Dakota Health Care Review, Inc.  
Michelle Lauckner, North Dakota Health Care Review, Inc.  
Karen Tescher, Assistant Director, LTC Continuum, DHS  
Rocksanne Peterson, Recorder, Division of Health Facilities, ND Department of Health  
Randal Albrecht, Chair, ND Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators  
Bruce Pritschet, Director, Division of Health Facilities, ND Department of Health  
Bev Herman, Education Director, ND Long Term Care Association  
Joan Ehrhardt, State LTC Ombudsman, ND Department of Human Services  
Representative Gary Kreidt, ND House of Representatives (New Salem)  
Monte Engel, Division of Life Safety & Construction, ND Department of Health

Committee Members Absent:

Dr. Bruce Hetland, Bismarck Medical Director, Nursing Home Medical Directors Association  
Arvy Smith, Deputy State Health Officer, ND Department of Health  
Dave Remillard, Public Member, Minot  
Carole Watrel, AARP

Welcome

A meeting of the Long Term Care Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:05 a.m. on September 20, 2013. The meeting was held in the AV 212 Conference Room at the State Capitol. Darleen Bartz welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions followed.

Public Comment

No comments.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the June 13, 2013 Long Term Care Advisory Committee meeting were distributed and reviewed. Michelle Lauckner made the motion to approve the minutes with corrections; Joan Ehrhardt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Standing Reports & Legislative Update**

Legislative Update: Representative Gary Kreidt.

- Representative Kreidt gave a legislative update on bills that affect the Long Term Care. Overall, the LTC industry came out pretty good. The change in personal needs allowance will go into affect October 1. He also gave an update on the Legacy Fund which is a good rainy day fund. In the past there have been problems with wanting to dip into the fund. Representative Kreidt would like to put restrictions on the fund. Representative Kreidt's mentioned that his term is up and that he is thinking of running one more time.

North Dakota Long Term Care Association: Shelly Peterson reported.

- Shelly gave an update on the Dentaquest program. Currently there are three facilities (Sanford Health St. Vincent's Continuing Care Center, Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center and Baptist Home) that provide dental services in their facilities. The program will be expanding services to five more facilities. There is also interest of expanding services in the Minot area.
- Shelly gave an update on the regional area meetings. Health Facilities has been invited to attend the meetings.
- Shelly also gave an update on emergency planning for disasters. She also spoke about the memorandums regarding placement and payment of residents when disasters occur. Shelly reported that North Dakota is a leader in emergency preparedness in LTC and healthcare.
- LTCA is working with the Department of Commerce and facilities in the areas impacted by energy industries for funding. Many facilities are still using contract staffing and are looking at what they can do to get funding to support staff with daycare, housing, training, etc. Approximately \$2 million is available to be distributed. Facilities could apply and receive a onetime payment.
- Five Long Term Care facilities have closed in the last year. The most recent closing is Jacobson Memorial Hospital Nursing Home in Elgin. They converted their beds to CAH/Swing bed. There are currently 80 LTC facilities.
- The Gero-psych unit in Ellendale plans to open the last week in September.
- Shelly spoke about non-payment and bad debt issues. Hospitals are getting very frustrated with not having a payment source identified before discharging or placing a patient in a LTC facility. More work is going to be put into solving the problem.
- Bev Herman spoke about the Frontline Care Giver Conference that was held on September 18-19, 2013. There were over 200 attendees. LTCA brought in 3 very good presenters. Bev also spoke about issues that were brought forth during the conference. Attendees would like to network with their peers more and the staff at the facilities do not like the contract staffing. They feel the contract staff does not know the residents. Next year they would like to try holding the conference in different locations

North Dakota Healthcare Review, Inc (NDHCRI): Barb Groutt and Michelle Lauckner reported.

- Barb reported on the annual quality forum. Approximately 140 people attended the forum.
- Barb reported they are kicking off another special project with assisted living facilities; "What can we do to activate and engage residents of assisted living facilities"? The project involves working directly with the staff, residents and family in five assisted living facilities in Minot. The project will last only 1 year and funding is through CMS. Jayme Steig is a new Pharmacist working with NDHCRI.

- Barb also spoke about the Boot Camps that were held in July and August. They went very well. NDHCRI was asked by LTCA to facilitate end of life dialogue/discussions with facilities. NDHCRI is looking for funding sources to support the Advanced Care Planning coalition activities.
- NDHCRI is continuing to work on developing funding for facilities implementing electronic medical records.
- Michelle handed out a sample (Attachment 1) of QAPI performance improvement projected used at one of the Boot Camps. Each facility that came was provided with QM's.
- Michelle reported that 52 facilities (62%) have signed up to participate in the collaborative. She is monitoring QM on a monthly basis. The goal is to make improvements in any area identified by the nursing home, although all partners are required to have reducing antipsychotics as one of their goals. North Dakota has reduced the use of psychotic medications by 10%.
- Michelle did the Hand-in-Hand training at the LTC Frontline Care Giver Conference on September 18-19, 2013. Health Facility staff reviewed some of the Hand-in-Hand training during training week on September 9-12, 2013.

State Ombudsman: Joan Ehrhardt reported.

- Joan gave an update regarding the regional ombudsman staff and their work load. Joan has two individuals that were family care givers that will be 25% ombudsman. Kim Helten is ombudsman for the Devils Lake area and is not able to get out to the facilities as she would like. Joan is thinking about assigning one of the new individuals to take on some of the ombudsman responsibilities in that area. The other individual would cover the Fargo area.

Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators: Randy Albrecht and Bev Herman reported.

- Bev Herman gave an update from the Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators.
- Can the Director of Nursing (DON) of a facility be the administrator as well? The DON position needs to be full-time. The Department of Health will research who can be appointed to serve as an administrator on an interim basis if the administrator on record is on leave.

Division of Health Facilities: Bruce Pritschet reported.

- Bruce reviewed citation information for health surveys. North Dakota had three facilities with back to back double G citations.
- F0323 is the number 1 citation in the state and nation; and in the region.
- Average number of deficiencies in ND 4.13, region 4.45 and national is 1.77.

Division of Life Safety & Construction: Monte Engel reported.

- Monte gave an update on the most cited deficiencies in the nation, region and state.
- Average number of deficiencies in the region 5.34, North Dakota has 1.58 deficiencies.
- LSC issues were addressed at the regional meeting in Dickinson on September 18, 2013.
- Categorical waivers were discussed as well as EPA regulations that are causing concerns with generators.

## **Old Business**

### Medication Assistant I Training Program Update – Darleen Bartz/Bruce Pritschet

- Bruce reported that Health Facilities has approved over 50 MAI Training Programs. Health Facilities held a meeting on August 27, 2013 with the North Dakota Board of Nursing (NDBON) and the Board of Pharmacy (BoP) regarding who can fill medi-planners. Forty other people attended the meeting as well. Darleen gave background information as to how and why this meeting came about. The group came to the consensus that licensed nurses could fill the medi-planner or container. The BoP and NDBON is to come up with parameters, labeling and rules for the licensed nurse filling the medi-planner. Darleen requested the NDDoH be a part of that meeting. Up until this time the only people who could repackage medications was pharmacist and/or a pharmacy tech under the direction of a pharmacist, MD, NP and PA.

### (Certified) Nurse Aide Competency Evaluation Program – Bruce Pritschet

- Bruce gave a report on the testing process for certified nurse aides. CNA's now have up to 6 months to pass both tests. For example, the aide passed the written portion but failed the skills; the aide has up to six months to retake the skills test. The aide will need to go back to the same testing vendor that they initially used to take the test.

### Food Prep Sink Drains Update –Bruce Pritschet

- Food Prep sinks are used to thaw meat or wash fresh raw vegetables. Bruce talked the air gap drains on the sinks; the plumbing rules for the drains have been in the rules since 1958. Surveyors have been instructed to inspect the plumbing and check to see if the sinks are sanitized properly.

## **New Business**

### Partners in Nursing Update: Jane Strommen, NDSU

- Project purpose: To enhance the quality of care of older adults by improving access to a well-prepared and adequate gerontology nursing workforce necessary to meet their needs. Jane shared information regarding ND's Aging Population: Profile and Trends of Seniors Ages 65 and Older.
- As part of a national program PIN, NDSU and Dakota Medical Foundation were awarded a two-year, \$250,000 grant. A number of organizations have been involved in the program.
- Three goals:
  - Nursing students, faculty and practicing nurse will have access to the best possible gerontology nursing education
  - Younger people and those seeking second careers will have a positive image of gerontology nursing.
  - High school students, especially rural and diverse students, will be motivated to pursue a career in nursing.
  - Another goal is long term sustainability.

- Jane spoke about the education of the nursing students focusing on geriatrics, clinical experience in LTC, and faculty evaluating the curriculum to facilitate learning about geriatrics.
- Ten nurses have received \$500 stipends to obtain their certification in gerontological nursing.
- Videos have been developed to promote positive aspects of nursing
- Jane also spoke about the recruitment of geriatric nurses, hoping more schools of nursing will promote gerontology nursing, adopt-a-grandparent toolkit, summer nurse camps for high school students to learn about nursing,
- Upcoming events: Gerontology Nursing Conference, spring 2014; summer nurse camps in Bismarck and the Native American communities.
- Information regarding the stipends was sent out to the partnerships of the project. She also talked about the sustainability of the project.

Adult Protective Services (APS) Mandatory Reporting Laws: Michelle Gayette, Aging Service, DHS

- Michelle reviewed the Mandatory Report of Abuse and Neglect of a Vulnerable Adult handout. The handout talks about who may file a report, when and how to report, what needs to be included in the report.
- Any person may voluntarily file a report to the ND Department of Human Services or to law enforcement.
- Nine hundred, eight-two calls have come into APS. A lot of the calls or cases are duplicates.

**Discussion/Other:**

Lucille Rostad handed out the S & C documents as follows:

- S&C:13-42-NH: Reminder: Access and Visitation Rights in Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities
- S&C:13-50-NH: Notification of Facility Closure: Revisions to Tags F203 and F204 and Issuance of New Tags F523 and F524 in the State Operations Manual (SOM), Appendix PP
- S&C:13-56-NH: Minimum Data Set (MDS) 3.0 Discharge Assessments that Have Not Been Completed and/or Submitted

Next Meeting

- Date and Time:
  - December 3, 2013, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Room 210, State Capitol
- Potential Agenda Items:
  - Tony Hanson - Geropsych
  - Involuntary Discharge
  - Agency Staffing Issue on Training Requirements and Background Checks
  - Pharmacy – Antipsychotic Medications

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.