

North Dakota Department of Health

LONG TERM CARE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 22, 2016
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Darleen Bartz, Chief, Health Resources Section, ND Department of Health
Shelly Peterson, Executive Director, ND Long Term Care Association
Lucille Rostad, Program Manager, Division of Health Facilities, ND Department of Health
Rocksanne Peterson, Recorder, Division of Health Facilities, ND Department of Health
Bruce Pritschet, Director, Division of Health Facilities, ND Department of Health
Craig Christianson, Chairman of the NDLTC Association, Sheyenne Care Center, Valley City
Karen Tescher, Assistant Director, LTC Continuum, DHS
Karla Backman, State LTC Ombudsman, ND Department of Human Services
Michelle Lauckner, Quality Health Associates
Randal Albrecht, Chair, ND Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators
Dr. Bruce Hetland, Bismarck Medical Director, Nursing Home Medical Directors Association
Monte Engel, Division of Life Safety & Construction, ND Department of Health
Arvy Smith, Deputy State Health Officer, ND Department of Health
Joan Ehrhardt, Consumer Representative

Committee Members Absent:

Dave Remillard, Public Member
Barb Groutt, Chief Executive Office, Quality Health Associates
Representative Gary Kreidt, ND House of Representatives (New Salem)
Carole Watrel, AARP

Welcome

A meeting of the Long Term Care Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:05 a.m. on March 22, 2016. The meeting was held in the AV 212 Conference Room at the State Capitol. Darleen Bartz welcomed Craig Christianson to the meeting and introductions followed.

Public Comment

No comments.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the December 7, 2015 Long Term Care Advisory Committee meeting were distributed and reviewed. Bruce Hetland made the motion to approve the minutes with changes; Michelle Lauckner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Standing Reports & Legislative Update

Legislative Update: Representative Gary Kreidt.

- There was no legislative report.

North Dakota Long Term Care Association: Shelly Peterson.

- Shelly reported on the rates and salaries for CNA's. Use of contract nursing staff has continued to increase.
- Shelly stated that North Dakota has a higher five star rating than the rest of states in the nation for nursing facilities.
- Shelly also spoke about the budget and budget cuts Governor Dalrymple has imposed throughout the state. She spoke about the impact that it is having and will have on the healthcare industry. The cuts are very devastating to the industry. She is hoping Governor Dalrymple will re-evaluate the budget and reinstate it. Craig Christianson also spoke about how the budget cuts will impact his facility and organization.
- Shelly spoke about the MMIS payment system; how it is affecting payments, the issues facilities are having with it, suspended claims, and so forth. The Department of Human Services is aware of the problems and is spending a lot of time trying to get it fixed. There will be another training session for the payment system.
- Shelly talked about the Department of Justice looking into a complaint regarding integrated services in two facilities. Karen Tescher recommended Shelly speak with Maggie Anderson about this.
- The Long Term Care Association has hired Peggy Krikava as the Education Director. Peggy starts in this position on May 1, 2016.
- Shelly reported Minot Manor Care transferred its ownership to Minot Health and Rehab.
- Shelly gave an update on the reporting of F-tags at Exit Conferences and indicated she appreciated Dr. Dwelle's and Arvy Smith's support. She also spoke about the discontinuation of the pre-exit conference.
- The Long Term Care Convention will be held April 26-29, 2016.

Quality Health Associate of North Dakota: Michelle Lauckner.

- Michelle reported she is very happy with the 50 nursing homes that have been working with her on the collaborative. She has heard a lot of success stories.
- Michelle indicated she has been working with Dominic Fitzsimmons, North Dakota Immunization Information System (NDIIS).
- Michelle gave an update from the Dementia Partnership meeting that was held on February 17, 2016. A lot of good information came about from the meeting. They came up with a pilot project for the Fargo area. She recommended we have Dr. Jurvich speak at a future LTC Advisory meeting.
- Michelle stated there was also some money available for evidence based training/research for reducing the use of antipsychotic medications.
- She spoke about infectious diseases and different projects that she is involved in.
- Michelle just completed the frontline care givers pilot at the Maple View basic care facilities. Sally May spoke on advanced care planning. Craig Christianson felt it would be nice to have a standardized DNR process.

State Ombudsman: Karla Backman.

- Karla gave a presentation on the Ombudsman Final Rule as their policies and procedures have updated.
- Karla spoke about the new online reporting system for reporting suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable adults. The website to use to file a report is www.nd.gov/dhs/services/adultsaging/reporting.html.
- Training for volunteers will be held in May.

Division of Health Facilities: Bruce Pritschet

- Bruce reported we currently have three open positions. He reported the survey schedule this quarter needed to be adjusted to get our work load done within required timelines. We are required to stay less than 12.99 months between surveys and if we had not adjusted the schedule we would be creeping up to about 13 months between surveys.
- Arvy Smith asked about contracting services and hiring bonuses. Both Bruce and Darleen stated that hiring bonuses are being offered.
- Arvy asked what the ramifications would be if we would not be able to make our work load. Darleen Bartz stated we would need to complete a plan of correction and there would be a potential to lose federal money. It also could impact facility certification. Arvy asked about the possibility of offering overtime.
- The group discussed the healthcare workforce, especially nursing. Many of the people going into nursing today are going into a specialty such as CRNA, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, and so forth. It is a huge issue.
- Bruce reported the average number of deficiencies for this quarter is 4.86. This is based the traditional survey (See Reports).
- Bruce reviewed the Citation Frequency Report for the nation, region and North Dakota (See report). F0323, Free of Accident Hazards/Supervision/Devices is the top citation for the Nation; F0441 Infection Control, Prevention and Spread, Linens is the top citation for the Region, and F0278 Assessment Accuracy/Coordination/Certification is the top citation for North Dakota.
- The group discussed the use of antipsychotic medications and the citations associated with the use. The citations have been low but the use has not really decreased.

Division of Life Safety & Construction: Monte Engel.

- Monte reviewed the average number of Life Safety and Construction (LSC) deficiency and citation frequency reports (See reports). The average number of deficiencies for North Dakota is 1.69.
- Monte reviewed the Life Safety & Construction Citation Frequency Report for the nation, region, and North Dakota (See report). K0062 was the most frequently cited deficiency for the Nation and Region. K0038 was most frequently cited in North Dakota.
- Monte gave an update on the plans reviews and constructions visits. Plan reviews are three months out. LSC & Construction has had a plans reviewer that left at the beginning of the year. Monte has re-advertised for the plans reviewer position and also a temporary plans review position. We plan to go to the legislature to get the full-time temporary plans review position changed to a permanent full time position.

Old Business

Sharing of Staff in Co-Located Facilities:

- Darleen gave an update regarding the sharing of staff in co-located facilities. A letter was sent to CMS asking for an extension and was denied, another letter was sent on March 4, 2016 with a couple of options. As of today Darleen still has not received any feedback. There was a brief discussion regarding the affect this is having on some facilities. Some facilities have had to close their basic care units.

New Business

Status Update on Prairie St. John's Hospital Gero-Psych Unit: Jeff Herman, CEO

- Jeff gave a presentation on the Senior Care Unit (Short Term Psychiatric Inpatient Treatment) at Prairie St. John's, Fargo, North Dakota. The implementation of the unit has not gone well. It was initially supposed to be a short term (stay) inpatient unit. They have had patients up to 130 days. The biggest issues are discharge planning and shortage of nursing staff. They have had to close some of their units due to the nursing shortage. They have also had to turn away patients. Jeff feels the nursing staff wasn't ready for the gero-psych patients with multiple chronic conditions in addition to their mental health issues.
- Jeff spoke about the inpatient treatment admission criteria. The criteria are unique to the senior population. Some care needs patients who have been admitted have include: assistance with ADLs; hydration with an IV; tracheostomy - independent with its care; urinary catheter; routine Foley catheter replacement within 30 days; and colostomy - independent with its care.
- The group discussed meeting the needs of the patient and residents at Prairie St. John's and Sheyenne Care Center Gero-Psych units. They also discussed the occupancy rates of these facilities, staffing, the training of staff, and that patients need to go through the State Hospital prior to admission to the Gero-psych facilities.
- Darleen inquired about the psychologists on staff as well as the nurse practitioner specializing in psychiatry. Jeff Herman stated that once fully staffed, they will have nine mental health staff to provide services. The biggest challenge is staffing. How do we keep the staff?
- There was a discussion regarding on how to get good staff, and how to get students to go into nursing programs. There is a shortage all over. It would take one to two years to train Philippine psychiatry nurses. And it is hard to place psychiatry nurses. Arvy stated there is a loan repayment program for psychiatry nurses and nurse practitioners as long as they work in North Dakota.

Discussion/Other:

Lucille Rostad reviewed the following S & C documents:

- S&C: 16-11-ALL: Exit Conferences – Sharing Specific Regulatory References or Tags. The group discussed what can or cannot be discussed at the exit conference as well as what will be discussed during the survey process. Effective Immediately.
- S&C: 16-13-NH: Payroll-Based Journal (PBJ) – Implementation of Required Electronic Submission of Staffing Data for Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities. Beginning July 1, 2016.

Next Meeting

- Date and Time:
 - Wednesday, June 15, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., AV Room 212, State Capitol

Future Agenda Items:

- Someone come talk about the nursing education issues.
- Someone from the Board of Nursing to talk about the nursing statistics, nursing education programs, and the status of nursing in ND.
- Karen will talk to Maggie Anderson about the behavior health issues that Senator Dever is working on.

Meeting adjourned 3:10 pm.