

**Money Follows the Person Stakeholder Work Group Meeting
September 5, 2006
Royal Banquet and Conference Center**

Synopsis

Approximately 82 people attended the meeting. This included people with disabilities, older adults, family members, advocates, provider association representatives, state staff and other stakeholders.

The Department met its commitment that at least 60% of the stakeholder group be comprised of older adults, people with disabilities, and their families.

The meeting facilitator, Dennis Harkins, gave an overview of the grant, highlighting key points and the parameters of the grant set by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

There were many questions regarding the eligibility criteria (for consumer participants) set by CMS. In particular, the group questioned the grant's non-application to residents in Adult Care Homes and requested that DMA contact CMS to double check this point.

A specific concern expressed was the danger in applying for this grant if it is viewed as the answer to the problem; that the grant should be used as a "tool" to bring people back to the community and the State should make a commitment to develop and implement a more comprehensive plan.

The other main focus of the meeting was to determine the target populations to include in the grant application. After much discussion, the main consensus points were:

- to look at a very broad population and not exclude anyone
- to not exclude smaller counties that may have fewer supports, but at the same time, need to make sure it can be done well there and not set people up to fail
- the Department has to determine what is "doable" based on funding and long term resources that are available

The final part of the discussion focused on identifying issues that need to stay in the forefront during the grant process. These include:

- Sustainability
- Committing to the larger process beyond the grant
- Looking at silos created and address infrastructure barriers
- Housing
- Transportation

DMA asked the North Carolina Disability Action Network (NCDAN) to partner with them to distribute information about the MFP grant on their web site, www.ncdan.com/mfp.html. Workgroup meeting announcements will be posted on this site, as well as notes/minutes from the meetings. Other announcements on the progress of the application will be posted as well.

NCDAN will also serve as a “clearinghouse” for questions and input that can be sent to NCMFP@NCDAN.com. Questions will be compiled, forwarded to DMA, and responses posted on this site twice a week while the application is being prepared. Input will be forwarded to the Stakeholder Workgroup.

This website will serve as DMA's primary method of communication with the Secretary's appointed stakeholder group as well as the public at large -- assuring open communication with everyone on the development of the grant.