

Questions asked via NCMFP@NCDAN.org:

Q: richard.reho@ncmail.net 9/11/2006 4:13 PM

Will the Stakeholder Workgroup Meetings on Sept. 18 and Oct. 2 be open to interested consumers/advocates as was the initial meeting on Sept. 5?

A: The following statement was posted on the website in response to this question:

Meetings are open, and a time for public input will be allotted

Q: RBaker@co.durham.nc.us 9/15/2006 12:40 PM

Hello,

I may not be able to attend the MFP meeting on Monday. Please see the comment below and share.

During the upcoming MFP meeting on Monday, please make sure that there is discussion about prioritizing persons that reside in ICF-MR group homes in the MFP application. While North Carolina has done an outstanding job in the beginning a process that ensures "best practice" and person-centered services for individuals with developmental disabilities, we have not done good job ensuring that this service delivery approach is available to all NC residents. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to understand that if targeted case management and real person centered planning was available to and being conducted with individuals residing at ICF-MR group homes, transitions into the community would be significant. Sure this would create problems for the ICF-MR providers, but our efforts should and must focus on the individual preferences and support needs of those we serve. It is no secret that our ICF-MR group homes serve many individuals who could transition into independence optimizing community residential options if given the opportunity. The MFP effort could resolve a piece of this challenge by reducing funding barriers that have kept people from making transitions into the community.

Thanks, Robin Baker

A: Comment was e-mailed to Stakeholder group prior to meeting on Sept. 18, 2006

Q: richard.reho@ncmail.net - 9/21/2006 11:12 AM

Will the notes from the Sept. 18th meeting be posted before the next meeting on Oct. 2? This would be very helpful.

A: **Yes, as soon as a completed set of notes is ready, they will be posted under "Meeting Notes"**

Q: rknop@YDCA.org - 9/21/2006 11:24 AM

Will MFP \$ help set up community systems (new, currently non-existence) homes for SA, MH, dual DX clients? Or is this \$ only for services provide to these clients who are stepping down in care levels?

A: **Grant funds can be used only for alternatives to institutional long-term care services, such as home health care; they can also be used for home modification costs, respite services to augment informal or unpaid caregivers, personal care and assistive devices. Note: Currently there are no Medicaid funded "long-term" institutional substance abuse services.**

rita@grsinc.org - 9/22/2006 8:48AM

Comment: On behalf of the many people across North Carolina who are trapped in community based ICF/MR group homes, please free them by including them in the Money Follows the Person Grant.

I do provide ICF services and I know of 5 people who are trapped from a real life in ICF group homes and who have been begging to get out for at least three years. I know of at least 10 more who would leave if offered the opportunity.

But you see, there is no opportunity if you are in ICF group homes in the community. Before the state reform of March 20, the only new people who got CAP were people who were discharged from our state institutions.

Please don't leave the community based ICF's out of the grant. In fact, if you based the entire grant on the community ICF's we could free up many, many places in which to assist people in the large state institutions find there way back into their communities.

Please hear these people.

Thank you.

Q: richard.reho@ncmail.net – 9/22/2006 11:39 AM

In the best interests of accountability, open and fair discourse, and real information sharing, shouldn't the questions/comments that are emailed to this site regarding mfp be posted along with the responses? And since this effort is so time sensitive, shouldn't this be done asap, so that all interested people can be as informed/involved as possible?

A: Per this request, these questions are being posted. Until this week, due to few questions submitted, action was taken to address the questions rather than posting the question. However, every effort will be made to answer and post questions twice weekly.

Q: sally.abril@ncmail.net - 9/22/2006 3:40 PM

Can you please have the meeting notes posted from the meeting last Monday? Some people were very concerned that the issues they had raised would be reflected in the notes, and they want to check to make sure. We are getting calls about this nonstop, and I want to tell them it's ok.

A: Staff are working on getting the notes compiled. They will be posted as soon as compiled along with notes of previous meetings. Items are then forwarded to the Webmaster for further handling.

Q: AdonisTBrown@verizon.net – 9/25/2006 1:38 PM – Several questions:

1) Why haven't the meeting notes for Sept. 18 been posted yet? How are people across the state supposed to know what's happening if the notes aren't posted?
See answer above

2) Who is the actual group that is outlining/writing this grant proposal? Are there consumers on the writing team? Who are they? **A consultant has been hired by the Division of Medical Assistance to “put together the pieces of the grant” and “write the grant”. Consumer involvement is from the Stakeholder Group. See next response.**

3) I heard that a grant-writing meeting, with a few select participants, was held following the Sept. 18 stakeholder's meeting. Who participated in that meeting? **WHAT WERE THE RESULTS? The “writing team” consists of a representative from each division to provide information regarding each division’s role in the grant. What occurred in this meeting was basically assignments of who was to submit information which would be sent to the grant writer to put together.**

4) I heard that there was some opposition to including private ICF-MR's in the mfp grant. Who opposes this and why? Private ICF-MR's must be included if this is to be a meaningful step towards real Medicaid reform and system's change. **The Stakeholder group reached consensus that public ICF-MR/DD is a key**

focus for this application. At the same time, global strategies for addressing public and private ICF-MR/DD will be addressed during the one-year pre-implementation planning process.

5) I understand that Representatives of VR in the Greenville area have told people that MFP will not support people with attendant care in the community. I know this is not true, so why is VR saying this? Are they trying to turn people against MFP? **CMS has stated that the focus of this grant is people living in Medicaid funded facilities. Direct support staff are a key to supporting individuals in the community.**

6) Is the stakeholder's planning group actually made up of 60% people with disabilities? I witnessed a much less percentage at the Sept. 18th meeting. State agencies do not and can not represent the disability consumer community, that representation is reserved to individuals with and family members of persons with disabilities. **The 60% includes people with disabilities (including mental illness), family members, and older adults.**

7) Who is managing this website? **This website is a part of the NCDAN website, which is managed by the NC Council on Developmental Disabilities.**

8) I am hearing some about MFP, but I am not hearing much regarding the development of opportunities for real consumer self-direction. Will this be a significant part of the MFP initiative, and if so, how? **Opportunities for real consumer direction are not a requirement, but could enhance the implementation of the grant. CMS will award extra points for strategies that enhance consumer direction. These strategies will be examined in context of potential amendments to the state's waivers.**