

COMMENT: carol@access-wnc.org 9/26/2006 11:40 AM

Advocates across the state are hearing that people with disabilities currently residing/incarcerated against their will (and also long stated interests/desires) in private ICF-MR institutional settings may be excluded from the Federal application for MFP funds in process. This information is very disturbing and quite upsetting, also quite absurd, which hopefully indicates mis-information or unfounded rumor(?). Residents in such facilities are, in essence, imprisoned without any due process whatsoever, simply because they have disabilities!

Countless such individuals have been waiting for years now for NC to take action implementing the Supreme Court's Olmstead decision, and are losing hope of enhanced quality of life in communities of their choice. These people should be first and foremost of those targeted for service by any available MFP funds! It is unconscionable and morally indefensible to exclude them.

Advocates are also hearing that the rationale for excluding private ICF-MR facilities is to avoid 'upsetting' or incurring wrath from providers of these services. These comments are alleged to be coming from sources employed in a variety of disability related settings funded by tax-payers money, purported to have the best interests of People with Disabilities (PWD's) as their missions. Many of us who advocate more truthfully and honestly for full equality and real inclusion of PWD's as a human civil right guaranteed to *all* citizens are painfully and acutely aware of divided loyalties and interests conflicts on the part of many so-called advocates who make their livings within the 'status-quo' systems. PWD's represent 'cash cows' generating profit which pays their salaries and/or maintains them in prestigious positions as 'experts'.

COMMENT: carol.potter@ncmail.net 9/26/2006 1:16 PM

Hi - Here is our response to the question asked on September 25. Thank you - Carol Potter, NCDVRS, Assistant Director for Community Services

Question: 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?

ANSWER FROM DVRS - The Greenville VR folks were commenting that this grant does not add funds to non-Medicaid personal assistance programs. This is, in fact, true. The DVRS staff are very supportive of the MFP grant and are helping with the writing of the grant application.

COMMENT: INofziger@aol.com 9/27/2006 7:30 AM

I'm not sure what you want, BUT I care for my 51 year old brain injured daughter in my home due to the nursing home nearly killing her or letting her die. It is my understanding that the nursing homes get up to \$60,000. a year to care for our loved ones, BUT I have to struggle along with about \$25,000. a year and she is getting the best care she can possibly get, here with her family. She is SO happy here which also helps in her attitude and moods, and she continues to show improvement here. I am 73-my husband 80-I don't know how much longer I can care for her, BUT I cannot put her back into a nursing home. I have made arrangements within the family to care for her if and when that time comes.

I would LOVE to see more money for us who care for our loved ones in our homes, for therapy, respite along with other needs, since the government continues to cut services for us-the tax paying American citizens. Please let me know if you want anything more from me in getting this project in the works. Thanks for all you are doing to help us. Just not enough people like you to be there to help us. Sincerely, Ila Nofziger

Q: RBaker@co.durham.nc.us 9/28/2006 1:36 PM

Having heard from several participants of the MFP meeting held on September 18, 2006, it was encouraging to hear that the meeting included a lengthy discussion regarding the importance of considering individuals residing in ICF-MR group homes as a priority population for the MFP effort. Could you please investigate why this information was not included in the meeting minutes? Also, due to the amount of discussion on this topic, will ICF-MR group home discussion be on the work group's agenda for the October 3rd meeting? If not, what decisions have been made?

A: There was a lengthy discussion at the September 18th meeting. 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. Minutes are taken in a summary manner. By posting on the website, additions/corrections can be added by folks who were in attendance.

Q: pkbrad@carolina.rr.com 9/29/2006 1:43 AM

On Sept 27th, I received two e-mails,(the only e-mails to date) with a few of the questions sent to this website, which has been set up as a clearinghouse for questions regarding North Carolina's application for "The Money Follows The Person". The number of questions answered very few. I have sent several questions to this site, none of them have been answered. The first question was

submitted on Sept 8th and I have yet to receive an answer. I am re-submitting my first question and add this comment: why is this site not achieving the duties as stated in the agreement between DMA and NCDAN? I have resent the original e-mail with date and question.

A: This is the first and only correspondence we have received from you. Please resend any questions/comments. All questions received to date have been answered and posted on the website. If there are issues that DMA & NCDAN need to be working on to resolve, please submit through this site, and we will definitely work to resolve those issues, and post your thoughts and questions on this site.