Consumer Participation
• 60 consumers currently participating
• 40 additional people have expressed interest and will be going through the Project counties’ participation orientation

Project Progress
• MR/RC Waiver amendments approved and operational
• Voucher checking accounts established and operational in Dakota County
• Person centered planning facilitators have been trained and are available in each county
  Consumers enrolled have all participated in person centered planning and have individual budgets (exception - those people residing in ICF/MR do not have control over the funds, however they do know how much money (per diem) is being provided for their support.)
• An allocation funding tool matrix has been developed to pilot.
  (Blue Earth and Olmsted to use until the managed care demonstration tool is operational)
• Education developed in areas of
  Consumer needs and provider capacity
  Increasing community connections
  Development of local capacity for person centered planning
  Support for consumer support networks and consumer access to support and materials
• Tracking system (computerized) in process of being developed
• Development of a Single Service Plan model operational
• Provider forums established to develop incentives for using self determination methodologies
• Community connections work to build relationships and decrease public guardianship is ongoing
• Methodologies operational for consumers to hire their own supports
  (i.e. employer of record, fiscal intermediaries, payroll services established)
• Consumers Report Digest being developed (list providers and supports available)
• Quality assurance efforts
  DHS - Project Quality Assurance Plan and Quality conference - Fall 98
  Dakota - Development of evaluation protocol
  Blue Earth - Demo activities
  Olmsted - Region X QA Initiative
• Consumer hiring/labor law handbook developed
• Stakeholders group and local steering groups meeting on a regular basis
• People First Organization started in Blue Earth County
• Counties building on generic community resources for supports

Evaluation
• University of Minnesota - Formative evaluation in 5 areas encompassing system redesign and impact of change
• Robert Wood Johnson Foundation - Center for Outcome Analysis - Individual participant evaluation

Communications and Public Relations
• 42 presentations by state staff since the beginning of the project (state and national audiences)
• 58 presentations and/or workshops by county staff
• Self Determination Web page operational
• Minnesota chosen as the national conference site
• Fact sheet and handouts developed
• Q&As and speaking points developed
• Information published in consumer and provider newsletters

Project Focus - Next 6 months
• Housing resources - consumer friendly reference materials to be developed
• Cultural diversity contract to be implemented
• Support for MA home care flexibility and additional systems change activities (DT&H, GRH)
• Preparing for Year 3 - statewideness methodologies and county tool kit preparation
• Local level quality assurance activities evaluated
• PR - lessons learned, stories shared, and on-going communications/ Q&A sessions
• Implementing tracking consumers and individual budgets/ cost change analysis
• Additional data analysis : past - present- future projections