

Minnesota's Self Determination Project - Update July 1998

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