

Lifesharing Coalition Notes 6/18/15

Opening Discussion:

The meeting opened with Group discussion related to Lifesharing homes and the regulations related to phone lines in the home. Several provider agencies expressed concern related to the BHSL regulation that each home must have a traditional phone line and that cellular phones do not meet this regulation. Several provider agencies explained that with the method many household use that bundles cable, internet and phone together in a package if the cable goes out the phone line goes out. There was not answer to this just an observation.

Reminder that Non- contiguous approval from ODP should be requested prior to a purchase home and prior to a Lifesharing provider moving from one rental to another.

I. Focus Group Updates:

1. Respite- Memo Maggie Rothenberger

Licensed 6500 House– can do licensed respite in that house if approved. Example-“ Bob” already lives at the house and “Steve” is coming in for 20days respite per year. Prior to critical revision for ISP the licensed site must have its own HCSIS site location code. You will have site code xxxx and then also have a code for respite. You will need to do a PROMISE application to that specific house site. Cannot attach it to an office or site not specified. SC will then go in on “Steve’s” ISP and see site for 11Market street.

Lifesharing home can do this assure it is licensed for two if you have one person living there. Cannot go over the Lifesharing limit of two persons.

Option that a Site can be licensed as 6500 but only do respite out of the house.

Homeless person for emergency can go to licensed home.

Unlicensed out of respite- is done in a private home and does not have to be loaded in HCSIS as its own site. It happens in a Private home and you can attach to main office, site not specified.

2. Lifesharing Incentive \$200,000 last two years- Why isn't the number of persons going up?

Data on Lifesharing numbers July 1, 2011 to January 1, 2015- How many discharges ? Why was discharge done?

Share graph to Ron Melusky. Ron M. spoke to the Focus group and said he had obtained the data from a specific billing system monitor that ODP has (fraud and abuse protection system data).

All persons in Lifesharing, unlicensed and licensed, claims paid during July 1 2011 and January 1, 2015= 2090 participants in Lifesharing.

Ron discussed with the Focus group that after reviewing some of the data the question of how and if resources could be focused to target people who represent those who have been most successful in Lifesharing.

Turnover rate was explained by Ron as follows. He emphasized that the example was just the easiest to understand. - Example grocery store with 15 cans of diet pepsi, how many cans do we need to keep to meet the "turnover"

Data showed that there were 1700 people in lifesharing generally. He saw that on a specific date there were 1540 people (January 1, 2015).

July 1, 2011 and January 1, 2015 - MPI people were in program equaled 1089 people Or 70 percent. This shows that People continue to participate in Lifesharing.

Ron asked the question "How many people in lifesharing have lived in how many sites?" He found that the data showed there were 72% lived in 1 home.

22% have been in 2homes, 5% in 3 homes and 1 or less percent 4,5,6 houses.

94% have been in Lifesharing and moved only 1 time.

AE comment that if you utilize the PUNS for emergency and critical numbers you could potentially see what services are needed the most. Ron was asked if he could help with this to show PUNS specific service needed? Ron said he would look into it.

Anna Rankin said that the "End the Waiting list.org" has a chart that shows everyone that is waiting for services based off the PUNS list. www.pawaitinglistcampaign.org

Further data from Ron Melusky:

Length of participation of the person=

14%= there one year or less.

10%= 2 to years

62%= Longer than 3 years

How do we use the data to more specifically focus on people to help keep them in their home in years 1 to 3? Chances are you are if you are in Lifesharing under 3 years you have a higher likelihood of leaving. How do we focus on people to help keep them in their home in years 1 to 3? If in Lifesharing for 3 or more years, you are more likely to stay in program.

Longer in Lifesharing more than likely to move from one house to another.

Ron asked the Focus group, what would the Lifesharing Coalition think was beneficial and enhance our goal to increase and retain persons in Lifesharing related to raw data? He is willing to help us obtain more data or on-going data if we need or want it.

The question of whether or not it would be possible for provider agencies to track how long it is taking to load houses in HCISIS.

Promise Enrollment News:

3. May 15th ODP took over the whole process of PROMISE enrollment. Since then 455 PROMISE apps in that 30 day period all services. 80 are lifesharing. 20 unlicensed; 60 licensed. Most of 80 are new homes. **All processed on average in 18 calendar days.** ODP has taken the back log from PROMISE and are working through that batch at this time.

Ron said ODP and BHSL would like to concentrate on the licensing timeframe. A an example, SE Lifesharing has been taking 4-6 weeks to obtain licensing.

ODP asked is asking that if when a PROMISE application is filed (for example January 1st) would the license then be able to be effective the date on the PROMISE app? Say an agency listed December 25th for the effective date. No answer on this as been received at this point from CMS.

Lifesharing new home applications totaled 80 apps during the period of May 15 and June 15, 2015. 29% of these apps were initially rejected due to Missing Pages on application and questions being left blank. Second phase of review is the ACA screenings.

Total ODP applications for the period of May 15 to June 15 were 455 total apps. There was a e a 47% initial rejection rate for these applications.

Ron was asked what help ODP can give related to Agency Hopping. Agency Hopping was described as family living providers moving from one agency to another agency based solely on their belief that they will get more money in their stipends if they change providers. The movement is not based on service to the individual living in the home, only based on the Lifesharing provider hoping to increase their stipend. Ron will look at a departmental memo to determine if there is any Chapter 51 information that would assist.

Ron was told that some provider agencies reported that they are not all being sent referrals when a new individual is looking for a new service. Ron stated that the AE or Support Coordinator is to be able to choose which provider agency they want the referral sent to.

Ron is doing a webcast for Support Coordinator, he asked what Lifesharing things an SC needs to know, that they don't know?

Comments from Audience:

SC don't know Family Living Exists!

SC needs to know the actual name- Lifesharing through Family Living!

SC needs to explain Lifesharing not just name it.

Delaware county has a brochure and it is used for SC training.

SC needs to be trained on what services can and can not be completed with Lifesharing. (Home and Community Hab during hours outside of traditional)

SC needs to know that Lifesharing providers are Not Employees

SC needs to know that these people are caring people and not in this for money.

SC needs to know that Lifesharing has high consumer satisfaction

SC needs to know that Lifesharing does not replace a biological family

SC needs to know to focus on outcomes for the individual? Where can these Outcomes be best attained?

Westmoreland county SCO asked SC why families don't want Lifesharing? Talking points were developed and then given to the SC so they know how to answer that question and talk to families.

SC needs to know that there is a plan and a process to match persons together for Lifesharing. Lifesharing is not moving people in without matching!

The Lifesharing Coalition membership asked that a request be made to Ron about convening a subgroup that would work on developing something ongoing that SC's can use to refer to. Look at Delaware County information, Westmoreland county training. Frequently asked questions on Lifesharing.

Ron stated that the ODP Lifesharing Newsletter is on Hold for an indefinite period of time.

Home Adaptations- Ron had been asked whether a plan or a change could be made that would allow home adaptations to be made prior to an individual being moved into the house but paid for by the ODP system. Ron reported that this question was put on hold at this time due to the change over in ODP leadership.

State Initiative- all money have been used. Fiscal year 16 it is in the governor's budget and we must wait for approval

Future's planning group is on hold.

DOL- ODP has nothing to say on the subject. Waiting for first appeal judgement.

APS and SCO coordination-

Webcast- Joi Bennett is money follow the person. This program will be ending in a few years and she will begin to get more involved in the Lifesharing Coalition and services.

Chapter 6100- Ron was asked about a rumor that they would require all unlicensed sites to be licensed. Ron does not believe this is true. Discussion of Fast track of chapter 5100 without IRR review. Chapter 6100 will have comment period and IRR review.

II. Additional Topics for Full Group Discussion

- Atlantic Article- Who decides where Autistic Adults live? Also spoke of Lifesharing in a disparaging manner. Coalition is thinking about writing a response to the editor.
- Medichcks- agency that pay sub care providers directly may want to do that for people doing sub care checks.

- Enterprise Incident Management System – running for early childhood and will be used for all ID service. ETA is spring.
- PATH-
- Conference committee- Ahead of schedule at this time. Brochure is being completed. On track.
- Jaime is working on Brochures. Asking for more information on speakers. Would like to have Excellence in Lifesharing award winners featured in the brochures.
- Cut off for conference is 300.
- Room Monitors are needed for the rooms in the conference. Bobbie Segen will coordinate this. Bsegin@dauphin.org
- Sponsors- \$10,000 thus far some scholarships will be available. Apply for scholarships at the time of registration. Single form with a few questions that the committee will award. Electronic registration will have a line that asked for questions. That is the line that will be filled out and registration will contact that person back with the form.
- Cost of conference only will be covered, no hotel funding is available.
- Cost of the conference has not been determined as of yet.
- Training Committee- Stephanie Brown and Kathy Trumball are leading
- Expansion of Coalition- Discussed that there may be areas that people could benefit from and how we enroll them. OLTL, BHSL, more families and individuals. No one has been selected to head this committee. Who would be interested in facilitating outreach?? Please volunteer. (Agenda Item for regional meeting.)
- PAR update- None at this time.
- Lifesharing Coalition Leadership – Looking for person to mentor and eventually move into Leadership role. Typically Leadership meets the day before the standing Lifesharing Coalition Meeting. Nice opportunity to hone your leadership skills and get more involved in the Coalition. Contact any leadership member if you are interested.
- IM4Q Conference – July 29-July 30
- How to Do Lifesharing- Sarah Shaw has been heading things. Training will be done at the conference. (REGIONAL DISCUSSION POINT)
- Coalition Membership- Discussion of membership for the Coalition and the active member's vs people who are not attending. Lots of work has been put in by committee members. Should notes be out on the website? How can the coalition be structured to help?
- Do coalition members follow the best practice on things and non-coalition members not practice the same homework. Discussion of whether a small group is needed to look at this topic.

- Conference Committee had some money left over from last year's sponsorship. Some items were purchased such as a display board, notepads, pens specific to the Coalition. Could Coalition be a vendor at the PAR conference or the Max conference? Coalition felt this was a possibility.
- Discussion of updates to the brochure that could be on a more professional produced level.
- Excellence in Lifesharing Awards- August 10th deadline for Lifesharing Awards. (Regional Item)
- Training Ideas needed for upcoming Lifesharing Coalition meetings- Possibly a form sharing session. Discussed that this may be planned for December
- Suggested Quality Management Plan for 2016 – Good opportunity to get Lifesharing on AE Quality Plan. AE workgroup has worked well in some areas. AE is sending all Lifesharing referrals to all Lifesharing agencies.

Regional Updates-

Central- Update on PATH, APS, Focus Group update, Home adaptations, Money follows the person, Initiative, DOL update. Next meeting -July 8th at 10am.

North East- Chapter 6100 reg review – via group work in the session. Gave feedback through one of the group members. Discussion of how changes could impact Lifesharing families. How can a family do these things?

Western Region – Discussed how to increase the Western Region participation. Thanks to Wayne McNiell for helping to reach out to county AE points and get them to involved. Next meeting July 21, 2015, Emlenton PA.

South East- Benjamin, Licensing, HCISIS changes, SE region Philadelphia family fun day July 10th. Cody Kreisher has been awesome for the website. Contact the administrator and he will post them on the website. 2015 PATH is up to date.

NEXT MEETING; Thursday AUGUST 20, 2015 STATE COLLEGE