**NE Lifesharing Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes 5/14/13**

**Meeting Held at : HRC in Hawley**

# In Attendance: Jennifer Tomaino, Alison Karnish, Marsha Macalush, Kelly Fulton, Darlene GlynnLinda Wile, Debby Hewitt, Cathy Hare, Bridget Delemare, . Teresa Milinski, Joe Karpinskie---I think there were a couple more people there

* The way in which substitute care is handled will be changing again. It may come out as a policy next year and agencies should start to prepare. The agency will need to be making the payment to the substitute care provider and the substitute care providers may actually be treated as employees which may cause them to be entitled to minimum wage and OT when working over 40 hours. Also they will need to have CPR, training and physicals. The group had some concerns and questions---will the hours default to 16 awake and 8 asleep? The group also noted that the domestic care exemption will not apply in PA to substitute care providers. The group would like some clarification on this issue.
* In the budget for this year there is a pilot for 40 placements that would reimburse providers $5000 for the cost of placing an individual in lifesharing—this has not yet been approved, but may target kids transitioning out of school or individuals with aging caregivers.
* There are still issues with CLS ---call the CLS Hotline if having issues with addresses not in the system, etc. Issues seem to be widespread
* Lifesharing Reunion is scheduled for the weekend of Oct 25th-Oct 28th and the cost will be between $200 --$220 depending on the number of people who register. Reunion will b e held in West Virginia again and cost will include lodging, food, sweatshirt—if interested please let Mary Rhodes know by 5/22/13. Her phone number is 814-949-4800 extension 817.
* Recent Licensing experiences have been positive. Licensors are focusing more on health and safety issues and hare more open to providing information and explanations. Citations can be reviewed if you feel that you have received a citation unfairly.
* Statewide Coalition Meeting will be held June 20th at the Giant Center on Trindle Rd in Camp Hill. Meeting will start at 10 am and end at 4:oo pm. You must purchase your lunch at Giant.
* The August 14th meeting statewide coalition meeting will be held in State College at 2280 Commercial Blvd in State College.
* Group briefly touched on the shortage of PPD tests---no one has found this to be an issue;
* Northeast Subcommittee will hold its annual picnic on July 19th at Promised Land State Park; the picnic committee met prior to this meeting; a save the date flyer will be sent out and then an invitation will be sent out closer to the date; those attending will be asked to bring a covered dish of to share; the basket raffle will be held—donations are being solicited and accepted. Entertainment still to be determined, but there will be Bingo
* At the picnic families will be asked to complete a survey. Cathy Hare will develop the survey based group’s discussion. Also families will be asked for nominations of Excellence in Lifesharing for awards dinner in October. Letters of nomination can come from anyone and can be submitted to jmalesky@humanservices.org.
* There was some discussion of the electronic health record requirement that will go into effect in 2015. Discussion of what agencies are doing to prepare and how they plan to handle this.
* There was also some discussion of the new role that licensing has taken on with investigations. The group had questions about this process and hopes to get clarifications
* ODP Lifesharing Directory is available on the ODP Consulting website along with a Lifesharing Update.

 Teresa said that anyone who is not on the state coalition list and would like to be added to the e-mail list should send her an e-mail. She also said that she would be willing to add people’s names to the Positive Practices e-mail list. This group that meets in Scranton. The group discussed holding the lifesharing meeting before or after this meeting will consider this alternative.

. Next meeting may be held on Sept 10th at SCs in Lehighton-301 S. 3rd St., Lehighton if it is not held in conjunction with the Scranton meeting.

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