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Minnesota Department of Human Services -

Steering Committee on Performance and Outcome Reforms

Quarterly Report: January - March 2010

This report fulfills the requirements of Minnesota Statute, section 402A.15, subdivision 1 (f).

Purpose

The Steering Committee on Performance and Outcome Reforms (steering committee) is a legislatively mandated committee convened to establish a list of essential human services (mandated by federal or state government) and to establish minimum outcome standards for those services and develop a uniform data collection and review process. Authorizing statute is Minn. Stat. §402A.15.

Activity this quarter

The steering committee convened two meetings – January 28 and March 25. Committee subgroup work continued on the remedies framework and discussions began related to forming the performance measures work groups. The remedies framework was adopted and was sent to the appropriate legislative committee chairs. The following committee subgroups were formed: Performance Measure Work Group subgroup, Membership Selection subgroup, and Work Plan subgroup.

Significant work was accomplished related to the ground work needed prior to the formation of the performance measure work groups. A charter/scoping document was approved that lays out the scope of work, deliverables, focus areas, and provides general parameters around Work Group member appointments and operations, communications and timelines. This charter will guide the work of the Performance Measure Work Groups. Work Groups will be formed in three areas of focus – children, adults and income supports. Each essential service will be addressed under one of these three areas. The Work Groups will convene subcommittees around topic areas under each of these three focus areas. The Work Groups and related subcommittees will include representation from DHS, counties and clients/advocates.

The committee also determined the need to update the Work Plan.

Official committee actions during this quarter are as follows:

- Framework for remedies process approved (01/28/10)
- Charter/Scoping document for performance measurement work groups approved, as edited (03/25/10)

Committee deliverables (2009 – 2012)

- √ Agree on a list of essential human services (due 11/01/2009; adopted 09/30/09)
- Establish a 3-year work plan schedule (due 12/15/09; approved 12/03/09)
- √ Develop recommendations to the legislature for a uniform accountability process for responding to a county or service delivery authority's failure to make adequate progress (02/15/10)
- Report annually to the governor and human service legislative committees on any recommendations, including any statutory provisions, rules, requirements or reports that should be repealed or eliminated (first report due 01/15/11)
- Develop recommendations for a uniform process to establish, review, and report performance and outcome standards for all essential human services (due 12/15/2012)

Membership*

Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) representatives: Toni Carter, Ramsey county commissioner; William Montague, Polk county commissioner

Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators (MACSSA) representatives: Judith Brumfield, Scott county deputy director; Kathy Johnson, Kittson county director

Department of Human Services representatives: Chuck Johnson, Assistant Commissioner; Lynne Singelmann; Matt Hughes

Advocate representatives: Colleen Wieck, director of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities; Heidi Holste, associate state director – advocacy for AARP; and Michelle Basham, executive director of Genesis II for Families.

*Chuck Johnson and Toni Carter co-chair the committee.