

HCBS Conference Intensives

The 24th National Home and Community Based Services Conference will feature four three-hour intensives that focus on quality, workforce, protection and person centered HCBS systems development. Each intensive is offered at an additional fee and requires separate registration.

From Prevention to Prosecution: A Public Model of Elder Protective Services

Sunday, September 28, 2008

1:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs has been in the forefront of innovative training and prevention programs based on collaborative partnerships with other state agencies, creating a safety net to maximize resources, expertise and protections for vulnerable elders. Partnering with law enforcement and regulatory agencies, protocols are developed to ensure proper authorities are aware of potential abuse or exploitation and that investigations are conducted cooperatively where appropriate. Resources are focused on protecting elders through prevention, detection and prosecution. This intensive will feature key leaders in Massachusetts from the Attorney General to the Bankers Association who will describe their successful interagency cooperation. The session will also showcase detection and prevention of financial exploitation by taking attendees through a Bank Reporting Project training as well as discussing specific case studies in exploitation prevention. Finally, the session will present in detail the Money Management Program model and give participants an opportunity to discuss successes and challenges and opportunities for expansion of services.

Direct Care Workforce: The Critical Linchpin

Monday, September 29, 2008

1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Nurse's aides, home health aides, and personal and home-care aides help to form the linchpin of the formal health care delivery system for thousands of individuals receiving home and community based services. This workforce supplies a major portion of the direct care provided to those receiving home and community based services and supports including some clinical services. The direct-care workers are well recognized as one of the most difficult and critical positions that allows individuals with disabilities and seniors to remain independent in their homes and communities. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, about three million workers were employed in direct-care occupations in 2006. However, the number of direct care workers is insufficient to meet the demand and the need for additional direct care workers will rise due to the increase in the baby boomers as well as the increasing demand for home and community based services. What are states doing to prepare for the pending workforce shortage? Are their creative solutions that some states have found to encourage people to

provide direct care? What are some alternatives? Participants in this intensive will be provided with an overview of the workforce shortage. They will then learn from the experts how to obtain reliable, state-based information on their workforce. The session will also feature model state-administered voluntary incentive programs for provider agencies to improve direct service workforce recruitment and retention.

Becoming a Person Centered System

Tuesday, September 30, 2008
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

In October 2007, a learning community was formed to build sustainable infrastructures toward becoming a person centered system. Funded through a CMS Real Choice System Change grant, this multi-state collaborative is designed to assist six state developmental disability agencies to incorporate in breadth and depth person centered thinking and practices. Attendees will learn how this community of practice is working to re-engineer state systems through three distinct levels of change. Supports that achieve the desired outcomes for people require that all parts of the system work together effectively and efficiently. Level one change occurs when direct support staff changes their day to day behavior and practices that impact the person's life. Level two changes occur at the organizational level in policy, processes, rules and infrastructure that lead back to practices that impact the person's life. Level three changes require the involvement of leaders from State Administrative Agencies to approve and implement system-wide changes to embed person centered practices into the larger system's infrastructure. The presentation will be didactic in nature, with time allotted for audience questions and answers, and open discussion. Attendees will receive a variety of materials used in the learning community of practice.

Developing a Measurement and Evaluation Strategy for HCBS Programs

Tuesday, September 30, 2008
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

There is a need for Medicaid state purchasers to develop robust quality measurement strategies for HCBS programs. This interactive intensive is designed to provide participants with practical performance measurement approaches applicable to HCBS populations. Participants will also hear about ongoing federal and state efforts to develop HCBS performance measures and structure quality monitoring strategies for waiver programs.