



Bureau of Legislative Research

Arkansas Health Reform Legislative Task Force Subcommittee – Human Development Centers

October 17, 2016

AGENDA

- Discuss recommendations for consideration by HDC committee that will be reported to the full Task Force for consideration in its final report.

DHS should develop a long-range plan for the legislature

The plan should consider the following over the next five years:

- Forecasted demand for HDC services at state and regional level, assuming changes in resident acuity if applicable;
- Analysis of how DHS can most effectively and efficiently meet forecasted need through existing HDCs or changes to the system (size, location); and,
- Cost estimate to meet forecasted demand (including estimated infrastructure needs).

Recommendations addressing continuum of care, transparency, and quality

- Complete evaluation of the current quality and capacity of the home and community based care system, focusing on quality of life and quality of care and capacity to absorb future transitions
- Support DHS in centralizing investigations and licensing functions within DHS to enhance quality of HCBC
- Publish data on licensing violations and confirmed allegations of abuse/neglect/exploitation across settings
- Continue to evaluate capacity of licensing function to ensure adequate capacity of community (growth in licensing monitors to mirror growth in waiver enrollment).

Recommendations addressing continuum of care, transparency, and quality (continued)

- Establish clearly defined operating procedures and guidelines for post-placement monitoring for any future transitions from HDC to community that define the role of state staff to establish a consistent process and minimize any risk of harm.
- Improve process of informing families/guardians of community waiver placement options and continue focus on “aggressive discharge planning” for children.
- Create a post-placement monitoring tool to measure the quality of transitions to community and document any areas of concern and or negative findings (based on other state best practices).
- Measure parental/guardian/resident satisfaction with transition process using survey.

Recommendations addressing efficiency and cost containment

- DHS should conduct further analysis to understand cost variations and identify efficiencies that can be replicated across the system and report to the legislature.
- Savings and efficiencies identified by DHS should be made part of the current DHS Medicaid 5-year Transformation Plan and monitored and tracked (bulk contracting of supplies and identifying more efficient contracting for professional services).

Recommendations addressing turnover

- Establish a supervisor development program
- Support DHS in researching feasibility and cost of establishing new career ladder for supervision/management
- Ensure that the entry level salary for direct care workers is sufficient to attract a quality workforce and reduce turnover

Recommendations addressing HDC campuses

- The Legislature should ensure adequate funding for demolition of vacant buildings that produce potential risk and hazards in future.

Additional Committee Recommendations

- Discussion