



1201 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 350  
Washington, DC 20005-2842  
Tel: 202/898-2578 Fax: 202/898-2583  
Website: <http://www.nasuad.org>

**Monthly I&R/A Liaison Teleconference**  
**Thursday, February 2, 2012**  
**11:30 am ET**

**Meeting Notes**

---

**Attendees**

Sara Tribe, Policy Associate, NASUAD

**Welcome**

Sara Tribe welcomed everyone to the call, and introduced Abigail Morgan with AoA's Office of Policy, Analysis and Development, who presented the *Affordable Care Act Update: Opportunities for the Aging Network*.

Ms. Morgan provided a brief background on Section 3021, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI), which is tasked with

- Incentives - Test models that align payment and administrative approaches that support delivering three part aim outcomes
- Ideas - Drive development of new ways to deliver three part aim outcomes
- Improvement and Spread -Support development and diffusion of three part aim knowledge, models and operational activities

She discussed their initiatives, programs and demonstration projects, including:

- Partnership for Patients: (1) Patient Safety and (2) Care Transitions
- Bundled Payments for Care Improvement
- ACO: Pioneer and Advanced Payment
- Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative
- Innovation Advisors
- Duals: Skilled Nursing Facility Demonstration (with Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office)
- Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration

- Million Hearts Initiative
- Healthcare Innovation Challenge

She discussed the Medicaid demonstration projects, including:

- Section 2401: Community First Choice
- Section 2403: Money Follows the Person
- Section 2703: Health Homes
- Section 10202: Balancing Incentives Program

She discussed these Medicaid services:

- Section 3301: Medicare coverage gap discount
- Section 4103: Medicare annual wellness visit
- Sec 3204: Simplification of annual beneficiary election periods
- Sec 4104: Waiving coinsurance for preventive services

#### **Q&A:**

Q: We have heard about these letters, but I am wondering if each one of the Pioneer ACOs developed their own letters. I'm wondering about what we can do to be more educated about what these letters say, and how we can respond to consumers when they call us?

Ms. Morgan responded that ACO can't provide sample letters, as certain elements are included in each letter, however, the information will be posted in the SMP listserv, and will be shared with the network. AoA has offered to do informational calls about the Pioneer ACO models and are accepting all requests to speak. Ms. Tribe said that she would pass all of this information on to the network, and stated that in the notes portion of slides, there are great weblinks to the information discussed in this presentation.

Q: IS there any up to date information on states doing BIPP?

Ms. Morgan stated that there is a table with information on what states have been doing with BIPP on the BIPP website- <http://www.balancingincentiveprogram.org/>, but that AoA could get more information out to you.

The [ADRC Technical Assistance Website](#) is an important resource for several of the programs discussed in the call including information on specific states participating in ACA funded pilot programs and Medicaid demonstrations.

Q: Is there more information available about prevention and the Medicare Annual Wellness Visit?

See the National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment's webinar, "[A Closer Look: Understanding the Annual Wellness Visit.](#)"

Ms. Morgan invited the network to take advantage of the programs available, and stated that the agency is always happy to receive comments and questions.

### **Success Stories-Challenges**

Ms. Tribe asked the network if there were any successful implementation stories or interactions with any of the programs Ms. Morgan mentioned?

Q: Are people in other states exploring opportunities to become Navigators under the Exchanges? We're participating with a group in Illinois who is working with their state legislature, and would like to know if there are any others in the network who are working on it?

A: Hillary Dalin of NCOA responded that the state of North Carolina is working on it, as well as a group in New York City. Kevin Robertson from the North Carolina office responded that SHIP and the Ombudsman programs have been moved into one group – the Smart MC program. This is a combination of all of the consumer protection programs with SHIP included, and for more information, they could be contacted at [www.ncdoi.com](http://www.ncdoi.com).

Q: Has anyone heard from a consumer that has gotten an ACO letter? If you do, it would be good to redact the personal information, and share it with the rest of the network.

A: Ms. Morgan stated that AoA had discussed this possibility with CMS, but specific examples cannot be shared primarily because they will be different for individual ACOs .

### **Listserv**

Ms. Tribe discussed that NASUAD would be launching the I&R Support Center Listserv in the next couple of weeks. We are working on syncing our email distribution list with the listserv and will be sending an instructional email out by the end of February to help you navigate the process of signing in, reading and responding to listserv questions and comments.

The listserv will give you the opportunity to connect with other I&R/A professionals across the country, asking questions about particular programs and services, and getting feedback about new issues that you face as changes occur in the I&R landscape.

### **AIRS Conference- May 21-23 in New Orleans, LA**

Sara also reminded the network that the AIRS Conference call for proposals is out, and those that get their proposals in by March 1, will be entered in a drawing for one of five free conference

registrations. The exhibitor prospectus is also now up on the AIRS website – and was included the link in the reminder email yesterday: [www.airs.org/conference](http://www.airs.org/conference).

### **State of the States Survey**

The 2011 State of the States survey highlights the roles and responsibilities of state aging and disabilities agencies. The survey captured a snapshot of the states in a period of transition and change. Key elements driving continued change include the economic environment, ACA implementation, uncertainty in the federal budget particularly with the failure of the Congressional Super Committee, changes in state level leadership, and the 2012 elections.

Five key themes related to LTSS systems transformation emerged from our analysis of the 2011 survey data:

- Nationwide loss of historical knowledge due to staffing changes and retirements;
- Frequency of agency restructuring;
- Rapid expansion of Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care (MMLTC);
- Limited interest in Affordable Care Act (ACA) provisions due to pending legislation; and
- The top concerns of State Aging and Disability Agencies' being shrinking budgets with a growing demand for services.

NASUAD will survey the states annually beginning in 2012 to provide updates on the evolution of state aging and disability services. You can read the full report on the home page of our website at [www.nasuad.org](http://www.nasuad.org).

### **Upcoming Monthly Support Center topics**

Thanks again to all of you who completed the survey on your preferred monthly call topics:

Besides today's presentation on ACA changes a few other top rated requested topics were as follows:

- Economic Security covered benefits
- Person centered planning
- Public Benefits
- Options Counseling
- National resource centers- NCIL, SHIP, SMP, National Resource Center on LGBT Aging

### **Closing**

Ms. Tribe thanked Ms. Morgan for her presentation