

N.H. Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Division of Community Based Care Services (DCBCS)
Bureau of Elderly & Adult Services (BEAS)

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEAS GENERAL MEMORANDUM (GM)	
DATE:	December 6, 2010
TO:	Nicholas Toumpas, Commissioner, Nancy Rollins, Associate Commissioner; Diane Langley, Deputy Director/Director of Quality Assurance; Kathleen Henderson, Executive Assistant; Office of the Commissioner, Bob Ehlers, Supervisor, Bureau of Health Facilities; All BEAS staff; Nursing Facility providers; ServiceLink Resource Centers; Case Managers; Jill Burke, VP, Long Term Care Services, - GSIL; Margaret Almeida, NH Community Passport Program Director; Laura Davie, ARDR Project Director, UNH Institute on Health Policy and Practice
FROM:	Mary Maggioncalda, Administrator, Community/LTC Programs & Policy Development
SIGNATURE:	
SUBJECT:	NHPCT Project
GM NUMBER:	10-45 GM 12.06.10
EFFECTIVE DATE:	December 6, 2010
REGULATORY GUIDANCE:	This memo is a communication tool circulated for informational purposes only. The goal is to provide information and guidance to the individuals to whom it is addressed. The contents of this memo and the information conveyed are subject to change. This communication is not intended to take the place of or alter written law, regulations or rule.

MEMORANDUM SUMMARY	
<p>The purpose of this memorandum is to notify staff and stakeholders of a new federally funded BEAS grant project, named the Nursing Home Person Centered Transition to Community Living (NHPCT) Project. This project is designed to facilitate the transition of residents from nursing facilities to community living. The memo will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce staff and stakeholders to a new tool developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) to assist in transitioning residents from nursing facility to community living • Communicate the goals of the NHPCT Project and the project's next steps • Provide staff and stakeholders with resources for further information 	

The Minimum Data Set (MDS) is a comprehensive assessment performed on residents of nursing facilities certified to participate in Medicare or Medicaid. All residents admitted to a nursing facility, regardless of income or resources, receive this assessment upon admission and periodically thereafter. On October 1, 2010, nursing facilities across the country began using a new version of the Minimum Data Set, called MDS 3.0. The updated version includes a revised section Q designed to identify residents who may be interested in moving back to the community.

To aid in this effort the Administration on Aging and CMS awarded supplemental grant funding to states. States are to use this funding to help develop the partnership between nursing facilities and identified local contact agencies (LCAs). On September 29, 2010, the Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services (BEAS) was awarded one such grant. BEAS will use these funds to develop a project named the Nursing Home Person Centered Transition to Community Living (NHPCT) Project.

The goal of the NHPCT Project is to strengthen the education and outreach provided to nursing facilities who will be making referrals to the LCAs. In New Hampshire, ServiceLink and Granite State Independent Living (GSIL) are identified as lead local contact agencies for this project.

The main objectives of the NHPCT Project are as follows:

1. Jointly and collaboratively develop protocols for the use of the MDS 3.0 Section Q;
2. Develop BEAS reports from MDS Section Q data submitted to the state licensing agency;
3. Increase the presence of LCAs and Money Follows the Person program staff in nursing facilities, thereby making it possible for staff to work with community partners to increase appropriate referrals to the NHPCT Project; and
4. Develop customized training and tools on person-centered practices related to nursing facility transitions.

When an individual expresses interest in transitioning from a nursing facility back into the community, nursing facilities will now be required to send referrals to the designated LCA. The LCA will be responsible for contacting residents, discussing options, and assisting interested residents to return to the community.

Next steps:

1. At this time, BEAS is drafting contract amendments to support the goals and objectives of the NHPCT Project in order to be able to fully support the project operationally beginning mid-December 2010.
2. BEAS, ServiceLink, and GSIL are committed to providing information, support, and access to individuals currently being identified by nursing facilities as having interest in talking to an LOC representative about moving back into the community. Included at the end of this memo are links to the SLRC and GSIL websites for local contact information.
3. BEAS will be collaborating with stakeholders and other divisions and bureaus within the NH-DHHS to create a comprehensive website related to Section Q of the MDS 3.0. Until this website is developed, please refer to the attached LCA fact sheet and the identified links listed at the end of this memo.
4. Nursing facilities should contact the designated POC for NH, Wendi Aultman, BEAS Program Specialist IV, with questions relating to Section Q of the MDS 3.0. See the attached POC list for contact information.

Please refer to the attached websites for lead LCAs contact and programmatic information:

1. ServiceLink Resource Center Website: www.servicelink.org.
2. Granite State Independent Living Website: www.gsil.org.

Please refer to the following CMS website for further MDS 3.0 Section Q information:

https://www.cms.gov/CommunityServices/10_CommunityLivingInitiative.asp.

Attached: LCA fact sheet
POC list