

Bulletin

November 27, 2007

Minnesota Department of Human Services □ P.O. Box 64941 □ St. Paul, MN 55164-0941

OF INTEREST TO

- County Directors
- Social Services Supervisors and Staff
- Area Agencies on Aging
- ElderCare Development Partnerships
- Health Plans

ACTION/DUE DATE

Complete survey and comply with guidelines and deadlines.

EXPIRATION DATE

November 27, 2009

Reporting Long-Term Care Service Capacity and Development Activities

TOPIC

Reporting on long-term care service development and current capacity as a follow-up to Gaps Analyses in 2001, 2003 and 2005.

PURPOSE

Provides an update on legislative requirement for county and regional long-term care system assessment and for reporting changes in local and regional long-term care Gaps Analysis.

CONTACT

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SIGNED

LOREN COLMAN
Assistant Commissioner
Continuing Care Administration

BACKGROUND

In 2001, the state legislature approved a set of reform measures re-balance Minnesota's long-term care system—to develop and provide a wider range of home- and community-based service options to better meet the preferences and needs of disabled and older persons and their families. To launch the effort, the legislature provided funding for counties to prepare an analysis of the long-term care system, including: a) the availability of community-based long-term care supports, senior housing/service arrangements and facility-based long-term care; and b) the projected need in each county for additional non-institutional services and supports and/or nursing home beds. The resulting report was called the county's Gaps Analysis.

Long-Term Care (LTC) Legislative Report Required

In 2002 the Legislature eliminated the state funding for the Gaps Analysis. However, the Departments of Human Services and Health are still required to report to the legislature on the status of the full range of long-term care services for the elderly persons in Minnesota, including an update on the state's efforts toward long-term care reform. Specifically, the report must include a

“ . . .summary of county and regional reports on long-term care gaps, surpluses, imbalances and corrective actions, changes in availability of the range of long-term care services and housing options; access problems regarding long-term care; and comparative measures of long-term care availability and progress over time” (Minnesota Statutes, section 144A.351).

The Gaps Analyses carried out in 2001, 2003 and 2005 focused primarily on the county's overall capacity to support frail elderly persons, and did not identify particular needs of non-elderly disabled persons. With this 2007 survey, DHS is including all adults who require ongoing or long term support – across age and income levels.

PRIMARY REQUIREMENT OF COUNTIES

In order to prepare the 2008 Legislative Report, *Balancing Long-Term Care*, counties are asked to identify contact person/s who is/are knowledgeable about the resources and supports available to the persons in the county (age 18 and older) who are at risk of nursing home, hospital or ICF/MR level of care.

Please submit the name(s) and e-mail address(es) of identified contact(s) to:

Maren Hayes

maren.hayes@state.mn.us

DUE DATES

The deadline for submitting contacts' names and e-mail addresses for these surveys is December 18, 2007.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Over the next few weeks the identified contact persons will each receive a brief electronic survey from DHS—asking for their feedback regarding local capacity to support persons who need long-term care. The format of the survey is not substantially changed from Gaps Surveys conducted in 2003 and 2005.

If you have questions about the survey, contact Hal Freshley or Gerald Nord (contact information on the first page of this bulletin). If you encounter technical difficulties with the electronic surveys, please contact either:

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 651-431-2571

Under 65 Judy Hauschild, DSD Division
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Special Needs

This information is available in other forms to people with disabilities by contacting us at 651-431-2500 (voice), toll free at 1-800-882-6262 or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TDD), 7-1-1 or 1-877-627-3848 (speech to speech relay service).