



WNY RPC 820 Work Group
4/7/20 9:30am- 11am
GoToMeeting

Attendees: Mallory Bryant, Cheryl Krouse, Trish Kamienowski, Jay Swarthout, Shannon Franz, Sherica Willis, Caller 2, 3, & 5

Mallory- temperature checks every 8 hours for workers

Jay- temperature checks every shift for workers, and encouraging people to stay home if feeling sick

Mallory- it's been a while since we last met, November meeting at RASI to discuss things- this was after Margaret left but before Cheryl came on board.

Q: Does anyone have any updates as far as working with local DSS or what is going on in their world?

Mallory- for Horizon, now things are crazy we are working with Erie and Niagara counties as our facilities are in those counties. Niagara County has surprisingly been very easy to work with. Erie has been very quiet, so we are trying to make that process a little better. There was some communication that was sent out in regards to health insurance if it was with the county or the health exchange, it was not supposed to term until June even if they were going to recertify. We did our eligibility and we still had some people term, even though they shouldn't have. We're working on that.

Q: Did any of you have a lot of people term?

Jay- we didn't have a lot of people term April 1st, we did have a lot of people who came on eligibility, Medicaid fee for service and there is always that lag of 48- 72 hours of when it gets completely loaded by the health plans. Business as usual with the MCO's. New applications they have been calling the houses, it's been up and down depending on the worker. We've been emailing them, it's been better for us because we are not sending anyone down there. All recertifies have been extended, for Niagara and Erie counties.

Mallory- when you have someone coming in from Chautauqua County, are you calling Chautauqua right off the bat vs. going through Erie?

Trish- we go right to the county, we have a contact and send over the landlord information and moving in date, and we have not had any problems. Chautauqua County has been great to work with. They put the application on hold and then re-opened it when the woman got to the apartment and rent was received immediately. They have been the easiest County for us to work with, and we have built such a great relationship with them. Easy as a phone call, fax the landlord statement, and that's it.

Mallory- we are trying to work with Niagara County but they said it should still filter through Niagara, but that just seems to be counterproductive.

Trish- so they are doing the certification in Niagara County and then they have 72 hours to show up.

Mallory- in Erie County at 291 Elm St, it's all being done over the phone. The hardest part is getting them to call us back when they say they will. All of my staff is working remote, filling out the applications digitally and then sending to staff for them to sign and it gets sent back to us. And it's been accepted that way which is great! When we're in Niagara County at the campus, if some is from a different county- we still have to do it through Niagara and then North Point is calling us to do assessments still. Cheryl- this is a big topic for this group. The redundancy of needing to do things that are facility is already doing. I would like to work on with the RPC- to push for getting rid of the 3rd party assessments.

Mallory- From our last agenda- Update: Horizon no longer does reintegration, we did away with those services as of Jan 1. Just doing stabilization at 291 Elm St, and doing rehabilitation at the Sanborn Campus.

Jay- we have our application for reintegration submitted but it has not been processed by OASAS. It's stabilization that we are trying to stay out of as long as we can due to the budget pinch to have medical staff on that level. We are just doing rehabilitation now.

Trish- Still having problems with payments for DSS for our under 21. They are not getting anything, not even if they take parents for child support. We are at 80- 84% congregate care payments so we are fine at this point but stabilization off the table at this point. We are just doing the rehabilitation and reintegration now.

Mallory- my heads just spins everyday with all this. What I really want to see telephonic continue for every provider in every county.

Jay- Yes, I believe we have a good case to make that telephonic is efficient if not more so than face to face meetings.

Mallory- And the 3rd party assessments still grinds my gears, since we already do all that work.

*Cheryl- my audio cut out at this time on the Go To Meeting and I was unable to get back on. I believe we were about wrapping up at this point. Thank you everyone and be well!