

A-Team Meeting  
November 19, 2013 4:00 – 5:30 pm  
Northwoods Inc.

Present: John, Dallas and Yael Kerzan, Deana Stankey, Jolene Wheeler, Carol and Jeff Aerts, Kit Eilertson, Thomas Cook, Wayne Jessen

Discussion:

CMS proposed legislation. There are issues with the effects on managed care. It appears that it would result in reduced services; cuts in staff, reduced payments to vendors.

Health care exchanges: Providers are in competition with federally funded groups.

People without guardians seem to be targeted for reduction in services/funding.

Brian Shoup reports that there will soon be a decrease in expenditures for long term care.

Wayne reported that he is trying to work with State Representatives and Senators to find more consistency in the way SDS (self directed service) is interpreted.

Thomas Cook, RFW, provided a legislative update:

- There was an Employment Summit held in San Diego. Wisconsin is a leader in advocacy. There was an A-team presentation including a letter that Fred Clark had signed on to. There is still a push to more integrated employment.
- We need to continue to work on strategic planning that involves grassroots support and the media. It appears that right now our website is the most important.
- It's important to keep the pressure on CMS. Letters are still needed.
- There was a conference on Self Advocacy on Oct. 24-25. Evelyne Villines spoke in both Madison and Jefferson.
- **My Work My Choice.** On Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, there was a very successful rally to preserve job training options for disabled adults. This rally was held at Northwoods and there was significant local support from people who attended with clients and staff. The rally was covered by local newspapers and Madison TV. It was attended by many legislators and/or their representatives.
- There will be an editorial board meeting to plan a unified approach.
- A Gainful Equal Opportunity Employment Board is being proposed at the state level.
- Massachusetts has eliminated all "sheltered workshops".

Next meeting is January 28, 2014 at 1:00.