GA HCBS Settings
Transition Planning

National Association of Medicaid Directors
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Marcy Alter, Deputy Director
Georgia Division of Medicaid
Aging and Special Populations
Talking Points

- Environment
- Approach
- Transition Plan Components
- Challenges
- Lessons Learned & Recommendations
Georgia’s HCBS Transition Planning

• **Environment**
  – Balancing Incentive Payment Program
    • Added slots
    • Increased rates
  – Legislative approval
    • Rate increases approved in legislative session
    • Timeline waiting for budget to be signed by Governor
  – 4 of 5 waivers requiring immediate amendments
  – 3 Agency coordination
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• Approach
  – Drafted initial waiver transition plan
  – Workgroup with statewide representation
  – Produced template for waiver-specific plans
  – Posted for Public Comment
    • Websites and newspaper
    • Requested distribution through case manager s
  – Made updates based on feedback, reposted and submitted to CMS with Waiver Amendment
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• Narrative Preamble
  – Public Notice Citation/Schedule
  – Narrative description of how the state met Rule Expectations for public notice, comment, and incorporation into plan
  – A summary of feedback with the state’s response
  – Next steps and association with Statewide Transition Plan
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• Statewide Task Force
  – Guide development of Statewide Comprehensive Transition Plan
  – Engage in review of Assessment Tools
  – Promote Opportunity for stakeholder engagement
  – Participant survey outreach
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- Transition Plan Components
  - Identification
  - Assessment
  - Remediation
  - Outreach and Engagement
  - Monitoring and Evaluation
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• Challenges
  – In-house resources
  – Clarity on impact to different stakeholder groups
  – Georgia Timing (120 days is not enough)
  – Work Plan matrix vs. Narrative Plan
  – Form follows function
    • Structure the work and the plan will follow
    • Activities link to broad functional categories
Lessons Learned & Recommendations

• Engage CMS proactively for feedback prior to submission
• Resources leveraging (internal, external, supplemental)
• Engage Case Managers and Operating agencies early and often
• Self-Direction and Person-Centered Planning
  – Does not have a place in transition plan
Lessons Learned & Recommendations

- More focus groups; less public forums
- Consider the value of stakeholder-wide input for plan drafting before officially posting for public comment
- Get the word out prior to face-to-face public input
  - Arrange for multiple advance educational opportunities
  - Make available information about the Rule and Transition Plan in multi-media formats and at different levels
Lessons Learned & Recommendations

Mechanics of Development and Submission

- Timeline: consider prospective approval date
- Waiver text box won’t recognize tables!
  - Submit a PDF separately
- Structure Waiver Transition Plan similarly to Statewide Transition Plan
Questions / Feedback

Website: [www.dch.georgia.gov/waivers](http://www.dch.georgia.gov/waivers)

Marcey D. Alter
malter@dch.ga.gov
404-657-5467