

TFAD – Public Comment

5 August 2015

Good Morning Task Force Members. For the record, I am Cheyenne Pasquale, NWD Coordinator with the state of Nevada, Aging and Disability Services Division. I am responsible for helping to coordinate implementation efforts under Nevada's plan for No Wrong Door.

Finding and accessing the right long term services and supports presents a daunting task for many individuals and their families. The current LTSS system involves numerous funding streams administered by multiple federal, state and local agencies. Consequently, individuals trying to access LTSS find themselves trying to navigate a maze of services that can result in people making decisions based on incomplete, and sometimes inaccurate, information about their options. This can include decisions to purchase and/or use more expensive options than necessary, such as institutional care, that can quickly exhaust an individual's personal resources and result in their spending down to Medicaid.

In recent years, Nevada has undertaken several initiatives to streamline access to services; the culmination of which came with a grant received by the Administration for Community Living in 2015. The purpose of this project was to develop a three year No Wrong Door Implementation Plan that would guide further efforts to develop a coordinated system of access to make it easier for consumers to learn about and access long term services and supports.

Through the work of a cross agency Advisory Board, stakeholder input and analysis of existing state plans, we were able to develop a plan that addresses the four key functions of a "high performing" No Wrong Door System. The key functions include: Public Outreach and Linkage to Key Referral Sources, Person Centered Counseling, Streamlined Access and Governance & Administration. Our mission is to streamline access to services and ensure that Nevadans receive individualized care that meets their needs.

As Nevada begins work under the plan, one of my first initiatives is to bring awareness of the efforts to stakeholders, partners and advocates. As such, I would welcome the opportunity at a future meeting to present the task force with additional information about the NWD functions, Nevada's plan for implementation and how the NWD system may help to support or complement recommendations in the State Plan to Address Alzheimer's. I hope you will consider this as an agenda item for a future meeting. Sunadda also has my contact information if anyone would like to reach out to me individually.

Thank you for your time and consideration this morning.

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