



QA QTRLY

WINTER 2011

Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc.
F-32 URG, P.O. Box 500
Rio Grande, Ohio 45674-0500

Assistance. Advocacy. Answers on Aging.
Pamela K. Matura, Executive Director

1-800-582-7277
TTY 1-888-270-1550
www.aaa7.org

JUST A NOTE, From Debbie:

Merry Christmas! We can confidently say that this year has brought all of us the gift of change. Change is not easy, but as our Director says, "It is what it is.", and we have chosen to embrace the changes and continue to concentrate on caring for our consumers and giving them the gift of aging at home.

Medicaid state plan services seem to be challenge of most concern for everyone. I am including again, the original letter sent to both PASSPORT providers and Medicare certified agencies in our district. Briefly, PASSPORT has always been the payer of last resort, and in this time of budget woes, we are more aware of the need to utilize all funding sources that a consumer is eligible to receive. Case managers are evaluating at the assessment and reassessment, whether or not a consumer may be eligible for Medicaid state plan funded services. You may be more familiar with the old term, Core services. If a consumer is eligible, it is our responsibility to discuss this with the consumer and make appropriate referrals to agencies that offer this service, honoring consumer preference of provider as is feasible. Consumers do have the right to refuse this service; however, we cannot utilize PASSPORT funds to pay for services that are covered by another payer source.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as this process moves forward, with the ultimate goal being that consumers receive the most appropriate care and are able to remain in their homes. Please feel free to contact me to discuss individual cases at dradekin@aaa7.org or 1-800-582-7277. I am always happy to discuss issues with you.

We are planning to have a provider meeting in January to give you information we receive from the state regarding the status of the waiver program, other PASSPORT changes that we are facing, and advocacy opportunities.



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Dear Provider:

HCBS waivers are designed to prevent or delay institutionalization of eligible individuals through the provision of services that are not available to the individual through other means. Waiver services are the payer of last resort. These services are authorized only when the case manager has determined no other services, furnished by alternate funding sources, can meet the assessed unmet needs of the waiver participant.

The purpose of this letter is to inform your agency of service planning and waiver service authorization processes adopted by the PASSPORT Administrative Agencies, at the direction of the Ohio Department of Aging.

Effective 7/1/2011, the PASSPORT Administrative Agencies (PAA) implemented a statewide clinical process to improve care coordination for waiver participants and support your compliance with OAC 5101:3-12-01.

The process includes:

- * Obtaining a copy of the Home Health agency's plan of care when waiver participants' are receiving Medicaid home health services and documenting this information on the waiver service plan; and
- * Making a referral for Medicaid home health services for a waiver participant when it appears this is the most appropriate services to meet the waiver's participant's assessed need(s).

The process does not:

- * Require a waiver participant to utilize the maximum Medicaid Home health service benefit (14 hours) before accessing waiver services; or
- * Prohibit a waiver participant from receiving both Medicaid home health services and waiver services; and is not
- * Arbitrarily applied "across the board" to reduce each waiver participant's personal care service authorization

Dear Medicare Certified Home Health Agencies,

The Area Agency on Aging, District 7 will be adding a new step to our care planning and service plan development process for our Medicaid waiver consumers effective 7-1-11.

In response to ORC 173.432, the Ohio Department of Aging has instructed us to begin requesting a copy of Form CMS-485 or equivalent for Medicaid waiver consumers receiving Medicaid home health services. The purpose of this request is to facilitate coordination of the Medicaid home health aide service with waiver personal care services. We will also provide a copy of the waiver service plan to your agency.

We look forward to working with you as we assist our waiver consumers with accessing both Medicare and Medicaid home health services. If you have questions about this process, please contact Debbie Gulley or Bonnie Dingess at 1-800-582-7277.

Thank you,

Deborah Danner-Gulley, RN, BSN, CMC
Long Term Care Programs Director

Bonnie Dingess, MSW, LISW
Long Term Care Programs Director



Revised Record Retention Policy

The Conditions of Participation were updated on March 17, 2011, and the Records Retention has changed from 3 years to 6 years. Please make sure to update your policies to reflect this.

173-39-02 Conditions of participation.

(B) (5) Monitoring:

(a) Records retention: The provider shall retain all records relating to costs, work performed, and supporting records for payment of work performed, along with copies of all deliverables for necessary, and in such form, so as to fully disclose the extent of the services the provider furnished, and significant business transactions, until the latter of:

- (i) Six years after the date the provider receives payment for the service;
- (ii) The date on which ODA, ODA's designee, ODJFS, the PAA, or a duly-authorized law enforcement official concludes a review of the records and any findings are finally settled; or,
- (iii) The date on which the auditor of the state of Ohio, the inspector general, or a duly-authorized law enforcement official concludes an audit of the records and any findings are finally settled.

The complete rule can be found at <http://aging.ohio.gov/resources/publications/173-39-02.pdf> or <http://aging.ohio.gov/information/rules/current.aspx>.



Reminder on OAC Rule 137-39-05: Disciplinary Actions

The Disciplinary Actions rule was effective September 19, 2011 and the QA staff has already started to implement this. Please pay special attention to situations requiring a level-two or level-three action from the PAA and/or ODA (unqualified staff, non compliance with background check rule, fraud, continuing non compliance and progressive violations).

The complete rule can be found at <http://aging.ohio.gov/resources/publications/173-39-05.pdf> or <http://aging.ohio.gov/information/rules/current.aspx>.

UPCOMING DENTAL CLINICS

If you know of someone that needs dental work done, they need to call and have their name put on the schedule.

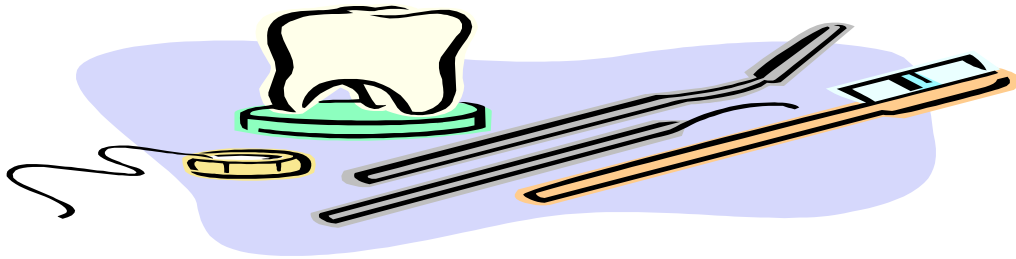
January 9 ~ Ross Co SC ~ 740-773-3544
January 30 ~ Ross Co SC ~ 740-773-3544

February 6 ~ Pike SC ~ 740-947-5555
February 13 ~ Pike SC ~ 740-947-5555

March 5 ~ Jackson SC ~ 740-286-2909
March 26 ~ Jackson SC ~ 740-286-2909

April 9 ~ Highland SC ~ 937-393-4745
April 23 ~ Highland SC ~ 937-393-4745

May 14 ~ Adams SC ~ 937-544-3979
May 21 ~ Adams SC ~ 937-544-3979



AAA7 Quick Notes News Snippets for Your Information!

LOOKING FOR A SPEAKER?

We love to speak at community meetings and functions!
Call us at 1-800-582-7277 to schedule the Area Agency on Aging District 7
for your next meeting.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

The AAA7 is now on Facebook!
Find us at: <https://www.facebook.com/AreaAgencyOnAgingDistrict7>

www.aaa7.org

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ROUTE

Owner/CEO _____

Administrator _____

DON _____

Staff Development _____

Nurse Manager _____

Scheduler _____

Business manager _____

Other _____

Any agency changes must be reported to the PAA Quality Assurance department. This includes administrative staff, contact person for referrals, supervisory RN, agency location or mailing address, phone or fax numbers, as well as ownership changes. Written notification should be sent to Debbie Radekin, QA Dept., F-32 URG, P. O. Box 500, Rio Grande, Ohio 45674.

Seniors or caregivers who would like information about long term care options should be referred to The Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. at 1-800-582-7277.

The Area Agency on Aging District 7, Inc. serves Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton Counties.

“Services Provided on a Non-Discriminatory Basis”

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