



DEVELOPING AN ACTION AGENDA FOR 2010 AND BEYOND

Georgia CARE-NET Coalition

The left side of the slide features a vertical stack of thin, light-colored stripes. Overlaid on these stripes are several solid blue circles of varying sizes, arranged in a descending pattern from top to bottom.

DETERMINING THE NEED

- What does the research tell us?
- What needs has the Coalition identified?
- What were the findings in our “Summer of Listening”?

DIMENSIONS OF QUALITY CARE

- Georgia CARE-NET Coalition utilized and expanded dimensions of quality care developed by Institute of Medicine.
- Dimensions of quality care include: safe, effective, personalized, timely, efficient, equitable, shared, and coordinated.
- A review of the literature was conducted to determine general deficits in caregiver support in each of these dimensions.
- Findings were shared in the Coalition document, “The Caregiver Crisis: Putting the Pieces Together.”



SUMMER OF LISTENING SUMMARY

- Each Coalition member CARE-NET was asked to determine the caregiving needs of its community through one or more strategies and report back to the Coalition.
- Caregivers from 12 regions of the state participated in this project, hearing from hundreds of Georgia caregivers
- CARE-NETs conducted community forums, television call-in programs, written or telephonic needs assessments, and other activities.
- Findings supported the previously identified caregiver concerns, based upon research along the dimensions of quality care.
- General findings were shared at the October Coalition meeting. It was agreed that findings would be shared with legislators of each CARE-NET region.
- As part of a statewide “Faces of Caregiving” campaign, anecdotal information can be shared, in order to provide a personal voice on behalf of caregivers.



SAMPLE FINDINGS: CAREGIVER FEELINGS

- Tension and stress
- Lack of family support
- Legal issues; e.g., power of attorney
- Tax relief for personal caregivers
- Concerns about national insurance program and ramifications
- Coping with fears of care recipient
- Limited training for personal caregiving
- Feelings of being overworked, isolated, stressed, unappreciated
- Limited social life
- Difficulty keeping up with household chores
- Fatigue



SAMPLE FINDINGS: CAREGIVER NEEDS

- More services in the home
- Compensation for services and supplies
- Help in understanding diagnoses
- Help with sitting, cleaning, transportation
- Advertising of service
- Higher incomes for paid caregivers
- Longer hours and reduced fees at senior day care programs
- Medical benefits for caregivers
- Outside mediator to help explain changes in roles
- Assistance with diapers and vouchers
- Free education to caregivers
- Fewer holes in system
- Tax credits for caregivers; changing tax laws; paying caregivers
- More respite
- Support groups



DISCUSSION

- Are there additional needs or concerns that have not been identified in the summary of research and Coalition discussions reflected in the “Crisis in Caregiving” document or the “Summer of Listening” results?





MOVING FROM NEEDS TO GOALS

- What should be the primary focus areas for the Coalition during the next year?

SELECTING COALITION GOALS

- Consider relevance of goals to identified needs.
- Consider “do-ability” of goals – can we achieve some progress in the next year, or at least lay meaningful groundwork?
- Consider if goals can be operationalized; e.g., can we identify relevant strategies and measurable outcomes to judge progress or success?
- Consider target audiences.
- Consider congruence of goals and likely strategies with Coalition functions and roles.



SUGGESTED LONG-TERM GOALS

(ADAPTED FROM “THE CAREGIVER CRISIS”)

- Empowered, healthy and resilient family caregivers.
- A sufficient, well-trained, and effective direct care workforce.
- An informed and invested public.
- Greater affordability and accessibility of home and community- based care.
- Personalized, coordinated, and family-centered long term care planning.
- Greater availability of evidence-based training and other resources for family caregivers.



SUGGESTED GOAL-BASED FOCUS AREAS

- Workforce development
- Caregiver resource center
- Public awareness
- Evidence-based practices
- Funding for home-based care; e.g., family reimbursement
- Legislative awareness
- Personalized family assessments



DISCUSSION

- What are additional or different goals or focus areas to consider?



COALITION FUNCTIONS

- Advocacy; e.g.,

- Review of caregiver legislation

- Development of public policy recommendations

- Information sharing with legislators and other policy makers on specific issues; e.g., caregiver resource center or family financial reimbursement for home-based care



COALITION FUNCTIONS, CONT.

- Public Awareness; e.g.,
 - Media campaigns
 - Information dissemination; e.g., fact sheets, web site
 - Caregiver recognition activities; e.g., Georgia Caregiver of the Year awards
 - Engagement of broader community sectors in local CARE-NETs



COALITION FUNCTIONS, CONT.

- Education and Training; e.g.,
 - Serving on steering committees for Georgia evidence-based practice demonstration projects
 - Planning for “train the trainer” activities at annual conference
 - Hosting training events through local CARE-NETs and RCI



ASSOCIATED STAFF FUNCTIONS

- Data analysis
- Resource development; e.g., grant writing



DISCUSSION:

- Should there be additional or different core functions for the Coalition?



TARGET AUDIENCES AND CHANGE AGENTS

- Family Caregivers
- Professional and Paraprofessional Caregivers
- Legislators and other Policy Makers
- Communities



DISCUSSION:

- Are there additional or different target audiences or change agents toward which the Coalition should focus its activities?





PLANNING TO SUCCEED

- How can we serve as more effective advocates?
- What can we learn from other states?
- What are our chief tactical and strategic considerations?
- How can we ensure Coalition member involvement in preferred activities?

A LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY PERSPECTIVE

- Suggestions from Representative Mike Cheokas, Americus, GA
- Group questions and discussion



STATE CAREGIVER PLANNING RECOMMENDATIONS *

- Find strategic partners who have one or more similar goals.
- Find internal state government partners; e.g., departmental, legislative.
- Provide options or a “range of motion” to policymakers, particularly given current financial constraints.
- Identify key successes and advocate for preservation of best programs and practices during time of budget cuts.

* *Based on comments of Peter Spuit, MSW, Minnesota Department of Human Resources*



DISCUSSION:

- What other planning recommendations should we consider?
- What will be our chief barriers and challenges? Our chief strengths?
- How can we best organize members to achieve the functions of the Coalition? E.g., committees



GOALS, STRATEGIES, AND FUNCTIONS

- ADVOCACY

- What goals can be addressed?

- What strategies can we utilize?



- PUBLIC AWARENESS

- What goals can be addressed?

- What strategies can we utilize?



- EDUCATION & TRAINING

- What goals can be addressed?

- What strategies can we utilize?



STRATEGY SESSION:

- Break out in three groups – advocacy, public information, and education & training
- Review worksheet for summary of functions, target audiences, goal areas, and strategies
- Add additional goal areas and strategies as needed
- Try to identify one major strategy in at least one goal area for your group. You may complete more, but identify the primary focus for the first quarter.
- Add any additional comments or suggestions.
- Share findings with entire group.



CHECKLIST FOR CHANGE

- Establishing the need
- Establishing general goals and focus areas
- Establishing Coalition functions
- Establishing target audiences
- Establishing specific strategies
- Beginning the work

