



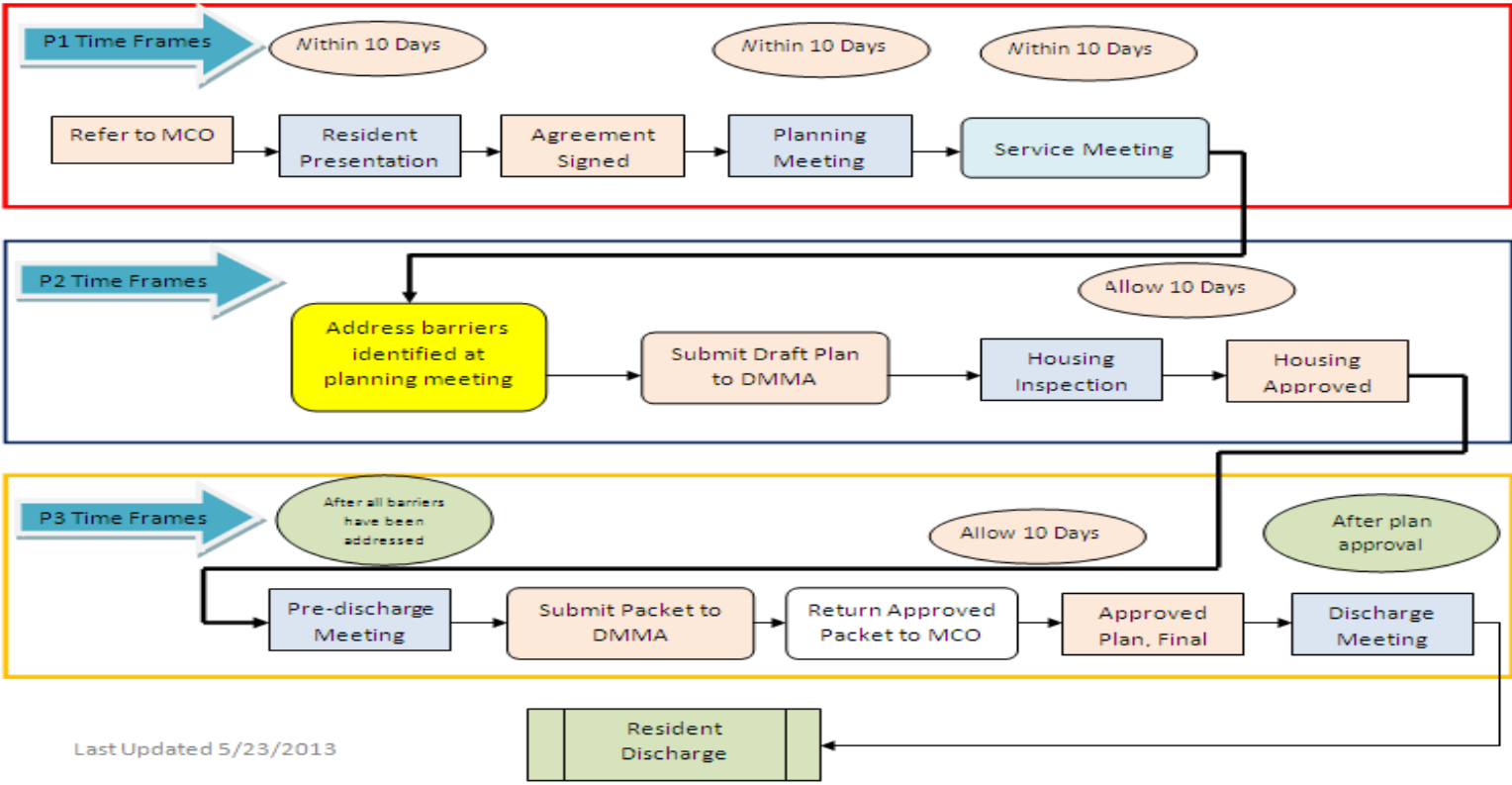
**THE CONSUMER VOICE CONFERENCE** - October 2013  
**Supporting Consumers Who Transition Out of Facilities (Delaware)**



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### MFP Nursing Home Discharge Workflow Chart



Last Updated 5/23/2013

# Current Transition Initiatives in Delaware



- Care Transition Team.
- Centers for Independent Living
  - (1)Independent Resources, Inc. (transition/peer mentoring/transition workshops).
  - (2)Freedom Center for Independent Living – (transition/peer mentoring/transition workshops).
- MFP (previously with the Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance—DMMA, now with the MCO).
- Managed Care Organizations reporting to DMMA.
- Rebalancing Long Term Care.
- DOJ vs. Delaware (state should provide services in the most integrated settings).

# Expansion into Home Care Advocacy



- Post Olmstead Decision---HR 90 - Executive Order # 50 in 2003 created The Governor's Commission to Assess & Make Recommendations on Community-Based Alternatives for Individuals with Disabilities.
- 2002-Systems Change Grant
- 3 Parallel nursing home transition programs in Delaware:
  - >Systems Change (State of Delaware)
  - >Independent Resources, Inc. (CIL)
  - >Freedom Center (CIL)
- Question of Advocacy for those transitioning into the community.

## Home & Community-Based Services Ombudsman



- 2008 -- Epilogue Language in the Budget. Position was created.
- Position placed within the State Unit on Aging and to report to the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman.
- July 2010 -- Position was funded in the State Budget SB 310 in SFY 2011.
- 100% of time exclusively to home care advocacy.
- Source of Authority: DE Title 16, §1150.

# Challenges

- Housing - affordable and within limited resources.
- Lack of community support and/or resources.
- Opposition from guardian or surrogate decision maker.
- Isolation factor.
- Family conflicts.
- Adequate service hours.

- Taxes and penalties.
- Outstanding utility bills.

\*\*\*HB 196 - proposed  
June 2013 prohibits  
housing discrimination based  
on source of income.  
(Housing & Community Affairs Committee)

# Housing Wage



In Delaware, a full time minimum wage worker earns an hourly wage of \$7.25, and able to afford a monthly rent of \$377.00.

## Housing Wage:

County	2-Bedroom Housing Wage	Minimum Wage	Difference
Kent	\$19.94	\$7.25	(\$11.79)
New Castle	\$21.52	\$7.25	(\$14.27)
Sussex	\$18.83	\$7.25	(\$11.58)

County	Efficiency Housing Wage	Minimum Wage	Difference
Kent	\$12.56	\$7.25	(\$5.31)
New Castle	\$15.15	\$7.25	(\$7.90)
Sussex	\$13.62	\$7.25	(\$6.37)

# Support Needed for Successful Integration



- Affordable and Accessible Housing.
- Adequate community support and services.
- Behavioral support.
- Personal Attendant Service / additional service hours.
- Acquire independent living skills prior to transition.
- Collaboration by all stakeholders.
- Adequate pre-discharge assessment.
- Quality Assurance.
- Peer mentoring and staying involved.



# Initiatives To Improve Housing



- SRAP (State Rental Assistance Program) 30% of income, modeled after Section 8 voucher system, state funded).
- 811 Project Based Rental Assistance.
- Housing case managers / Housing Counselors.
- Real-Time Housing Locator.
- Neighborhood Stabilization Act (buy/refurbish).
- Community living arrangement (up to 4 people share a house).
- Collaboration among all Public Housing Authorities.

# LTC Ombudsman and HCBS Ombudsman



## Authority DE Title 16, §1150 - LTCO

Advisor:	<i>Provides information and counseling concerning the operation and regulation of the community-based healthcare/living conditions.</i>
Advocate:	<i>Represents a complainant to encourage a resolution of the complaint.</i>
Catalyst:	<i>Mobilizes the public/private organizations to act to resolve the issue</i>
Mediator:	<i>Facilitates reconciliation with all involved parties.</i>

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# Additional Roles



- Client empowerment.
- Educate families about “resident rights”, Olmstead etc.
- Advocate for policies, laws, regulations for access to community and support services.
- Information to partners such as Option Counselors, Transition Coordinators, ADRC / Local Contact Agency (LCA).
- Explore transition options.
- Collaboration with Centers for Independent Living on training etc.

# Additional Roles (contd)



- Identify potential candidates for transition / referrals.
- Provide information to clients, families, facility staff, hcbs providers, and general public.
- Membership on MFP Steering committee and workgroups.
- Investigate complaints regarding the transition process.
- Support and promote nursing transition program including discharge planning.
- Quality assurance throughout the process i.e. pre & post home / environmental inspections.

# Collaboration with Community Providers such as:



- HCBS providers and their Association.
- Managed Care Organizations to discuss critical incident prevention programs.
- Veterans Hospital staff.
- County Agencies.
- Delaware Aging Network / jointly advocate for career lattice and improved benefits for direct care workers.
- Rebuilding Together (similar to Habitat).
- Mental Health Association.
- Background Check Center

# Success stories include:



- Renegotiating utility bills.
- Alignment with our Money Management Program.
- “Rebuilding Together” replaced client’s roof.
- Assisted a client to apply for agent-orange compensation.
- Referral to Senior Legal Hotline and Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.
- Testimony (Hope vs. Death).
- Housing initiatives.

# Thank You



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