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Opportunities for Living Life (OLL) Newsletter

THE OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- What is OLL?
- What is the OLL Advisory Board?
- PASRR: Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review
- Certified Nurse Aide Training Pilot Program Expands Statewide

If you would like to receive the OLL Newsletter electronically (e-mail) please contact us at 405-522-7343 or e-mail OLL@okhca.org

What is OLL?

Opportunities for Living Life (OLL) is charged with developing, operating and administering new program initiatives for SoonerCare. Additionally, OLL is charged with developing collaboration among state and private agencies, community organizations, and stakeholders in creating a system of health care, long-term care support and home and community based services support that meets the needs of every Oklahoma citizen.

What is the OLL Advisory Board?

The Opportunities for Living Life Advisory Board is structured to focus on access and quality of life for target citizenry by delivering effective programs and facilitating a partnership with the community. Its role and scope of work will cover the following areas:

- Advise the Opportunities for Living Life Division on program and policy development.
- Review and evaluate program needs and services statewide.
- Review plans as required by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.
- Review laws, policies and reports from all sources regarding system trends, outcomes, quality indicators, and client satisfaction, and based on results, recommend further study or changes as necessary.
- Monitor and ensure access to quality, comprehensive, culturally competent and language appropriate program services for adults and children.
- Provide education and information to the residents of Oklahoma.
- Provide leadership in gathering and conveying information on system change issues.
- Provide leadership in destigmatizing Medicaid and promoting SoonerCare.

At present, there are 14 members on the OLL Advisory Board. This board meets quarterly and will meet again February 21, 2007.

PASRR: Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review

PASRR Determinations

As part of the federally mandated Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) process, all Medicaid-certified nursing facilities must fill out the form LTC-300R for all applicants that apply to reside in the facility regardless of pay source.

If any of the questions on the PASRR related form are answered "yes," please contact the Level of Care Evaluation unit staff at (405) 522-7288 prior to admission for a Level II consultation.

Level of Care Evaluation

Level of Care Evaluation Unit (LOCEU) coordinates the federal PASRR program statewide. The Level I screening form helps to identify people with possible mental illness or mental retardation or related conditions who apply to reside in Medicaid-certified nursing facilities.

Level II assessments are conducted when necessary to ensure that a member requires nursing facility level of care and/or specialized services within the nursing facility.

LOCEU also makes level of care decisions on all members entering public and private intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded (ICF/MR), as well as on members applying for any three Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS), Developmental Disabilities Services Division (DDSD) Home and Community-Based Waivers.

LOCEU is responsible for the determining eligibility for the Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA). This is a SoonerCare program which allows services for children with disabilities who live at home regardless of parental income.

OUR WEB SITE HAS CHANGED! DON'T FORGET TO BOOKMARK OUR NEW SITE!

WWW.OKHCA.ORG

Certified Nurse Aide Training (CNA) program successful, expands statewide

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) and OSU-Oklahoma City have expanded their certified nurse aide training program to qualified Oklahomans statewide. For people who qualify, the program will be available at no cost beginning in January 2007.

The CNA training program was piloted in the summer of 2005 to residents of Oklahoma and Logan counties. During the pilot project, approximately 300 Oklahomans received their CNA certification. OHCA staff, along with other agencies, studied various outcomes related to the effectiveness of the program, made improvements, and expanded the program to two additional counties, Cleveland and Canadian. More than 400 individuals have now completed the program and all students passed the certification examination. The average score for students completing the certification training was 91 percent.

Now that it has proven successful, the CNA program will be available to qualified residents across the state. Residents who participate in the program will earn certification and must work for a SoonerCare long term care facility for at least 12 months. Participants will also receive a set of scrubs. Students will be required to pay for an Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation background check as well as for TB testing. Students are required to pass the background check and the nurse aide registry screening prior to beginning the CNA training course.

The OSU-OKC curriculum is designed to prepare students to successfully complete the state's nurse aide competency examination. The curriculum consists of 80 hours of training, including 24 hours of supervised clinical training.

"Oklahoma's long-term care facilities that are in rural areas are particularly vulnerable to manpower shortages," said OHCA Chief Executive Officer Mike Fogarty. "In the pilot stages, this program proved to be successful. We believe that taking the program statewide will create job opportunities by providing the training that is needed to work in long-term care facilities. In turn, the program will also help the facilities by providing trained staff. It's a win-win situation."

"The program is the result of the collaboration between many state agencies and OSU-OKC. The successful pilot program benefited our residents in long term care facilities by providing high qualified caregivers," said Tana Parrott, interim manager for long term care quality initiatives at the OHCA. "We will continue to study the program and adjust the training to ensure the ongoing success of the program."

For more information or class registration, contact Melissa Flores with OSU-OKC at (405) 945-8615.

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IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF OLL NEWSLETTER:

Analysis of the nursing facility provider survey is complete. The next issue of the OLL Newsletter will include an overview of the results. Sign up to receive the OLL Newsletter in your e-mail box by calling 405-522-7343 or e-mailing OLL@okhca.org.

OLL Mission Statement

To enhance quality of life for target citizenry by delivering effective programs and facilitating a partnership with the community.