

**Health Planning Council Long Term Care Committee  
Long Term Care Council for NY Connects  
Friday, November 6, 2020 12:00 - 1:15 pm (Virtual)  
Minutes**

**Attending:** Ariana Blade (Alzheimers Association), Diane Bradac (Cornell), Caryn Bullis (COFA), Stefania Buta (Statewide Senior Action Council), Trish Chevallard (COFA), Beverly Chin (HSC Staff), Teresa Craugh (Cayuga Health Partners), Lindsay Downey (Nascentia), Beth Harrington (Slaterville Fire, IFC, SPCS), Cheryl Jewell (Love Living at Home), Lisa Krueger-Gavin (Foodnet), Joe Mareane (Hospicare), John Mazzello (HSC), Keith McCafferty (Law New York), Terry McCann (DSS ), Lisa Monroe (COFA), Marilee Murphy (Cancer Resources Center), Kelly Quinn (Foodnet), Teri Reinemann (FLIC), Lisa Richards (Ithaca College), Anna Rosenblatt (Cayuga Health Partners), Lenore Schwager (community), Ted Schiele (TC Health Department), Dawn Sprague (COFA), Wayne Teris, MD (Presenter – Care Compass Network), Vanessa Wagner (COFA)

Topic	Discussion	Action Needed
Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements	<p>Lisa Richards, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon. Several members who were new to the meeting introduced themselves.</p> <p>Caryn Bullis announced that the Aging Services Network will be meeting on Friday, November 13 and hosting Karen McMullen of Leven Gouldin Thompson, LLP. She will discuss the new changes to Community Medicaid for home care services and NYS visitation rules for nursing homes.</p>	
Minutes of August 7, 2020	Approved as written.	
Committee and Regional Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Tompkins County Age Friendly Center for Excellence</u> – (Teri Reinemann) – The project is approaching its final stages and collaborating partners are planning to implement a four-workshop series to educate businesses, local government, residents, community agencies and healthcare providers about what it means to incorporate age-friendly practices. More information will be released as webinar details are known.</li> <li>• <u>Advance Care Planning Subcommittee</u> (Anna Rosenblatt) – met on November 5 to share updates and brainstorm ideas for future presenters. The group discussed a framework for decision making that was the subject of a Planet Money podcast. While the podcast was not related to advance care planning, the model can be used for any difficult decisions. Both Angela Mennitto and Deb Trauntstein are continuing to provide trainings and new channels for outreach. The next meeting will be on January 7, 2021.</li> <li>• <u>Falls Prevention Task Force</u> (Bev Chin) – met on October 30 to review 2020 fall data from the</li> </ul>	Post updates on the HSC website.

	<p>Emergency Response Department and discuss a logical role for the work group when it cannot plan in-person fall screening events. The total number of falls in the period from January to October 2020 appear similar to 2019. After reviewing the utilization of fall-related resources during the COVID months, (i.e physical activity classes) the compilation of the current classes and services may be useful for providers to hand to their patients.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Chronic Disease Self Management Program</u> – Several organizations are part of a renewed effort to bring the Stanford Chronic Disease Self-Management Program back to Tompkins County.</li> <li>• <u>CBO Consortium</u> (Bev Chin) – The CBO Consortium is open to nonprofits and provider organizations. Free technical assistance trainings are offered to member organizations. Information will be provided on how to become a member.</li> </ul>	
<p>Telehealth – Share Information</p>	<p><u>Senior Planet Pilot</u> (Lisa Monroe) – Senior Planet is a program founded by OATS (Older Adults Technology Services), an organization with the mission to help seniors with learning how to use technology and improve their digital skills. Senior Planet centers were established in the North Country and many cities outside of NYS. Lisa began discussions with the North Country Senior Planet around a pilot program to provide tablets and LTE data to a small population of COFA’s care management clients (about 20), along with in-depth instruction, in-home social visits, virtual programs, and a hotline for questions and problem solving. The Ithaca College Gerontology students will provide social visits and work with the senior clients. Data will be collected over the one-year period for the pilot.</p> <p><u>CNY Health Access Task Force</u> (Stefania Buta) – Tompkins is one of eight Central New York counties participating in a task force supported by the Statewide Senior Action Council (SSAC). Stefania Buta, digital organizer for the SSAC and resident of Cortland County, is coordinating the task force. Telehealth was selected as a common issue to pursue for the region. Counties meet individually as well to problem solve at a local level. Activities in counties range from finding community locations (such as libraries) to provide private space for residents to schedule telehealth appointments when they don’t have data access or the necessary equipment. Cornell’s Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA) will be conducting a study about telehealth attitudes and use. Under the direction of Laurie Miller, graduate students have created two surveys; one for providers and one for consumers. The surveys will be distributed widely and shared with the LTC Committee.</p> <p><u>General</u>- Bev noted that as telehealth grows in popularity it will continue to be a topic of discussion. While COVID-19 accelerated its use as a replacement for in-person visits, reimbursement and regulatory guidelines will influence the role that telehealth plays in the delivery of physician care. Since this is still evolving, the presentation topic for today’s meeting focuses on expanded uses of telehealth that were</p>	<p>Survey links to Cornell’s CIPA survey on telehealth will be provided to committee members.</p>

<p>Presentation:  “Telehealth Projects in Tompkins and the Southern Tier’ with Wayne Teris, MD, Chief Medical Officer of Care Compass Network</p>	<p>promoted by Care Compass Network pre-COVID and in response to the pandemic.</p> <p>Bev introduced Wayne Teris, MD, Chief Medical Officer of Care Compass Network. Dr. Teris is a Board-Certified Family Practice Physician who has worked many years in private practice in Binghamton, New York. He holds certifications in leadership and informatics. Prior to becoming the Chief Medical Officer for Care Compass Network, he was the Physician Advisory and Chief Medical Information Officer at Lourdes Hospital.</p> <p>Dr. Teris began his presentation with a brief history of the events leading to the creation of Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment provider networks throughout NYS and the \$6+ billion dollars of funding to redesign the Medicaid program and improve the health care delivery system. Care Compass Network is the organization with the responsibility for coordinating Medicaid projects with more than 160 local partners in the nine- county area that includes Tompkins. From 2014 to 2020, Care Compass Network focused its efforts on projects that would accomplish the overarching goals of reducing unnecessary hospital utilization and disparities in health outcomes. Eleven projects were selected to address care coordination, population health, data support, clinical integration, care transitions and the inclusion of social determinants of health. Regional committees were convened to address workforce issues, IT needs, and contemporary topics like physician burnout. Funds for innovative local projects and special pilots to promote value-based care concepts led to new partnerships.</p> <p>Dr. Teris addressed the evolution of telehealth as a practice modality and reviewed the timeline for engaging partners in promising telehealth practices. He described the teleconsult program for long term care and skilled nursing facilities including the participation criteria and desired goals for increased quality, access and cost/ benefit. The first group of six nursing homes demonstrated impressive strides in reducing emergency room visits. Eventually the pilot was expanded to other nursing homes. By the end of the project in August 2020, nine nursing homes continue to use teleconsult.</p> <p>The Care Compass Telehealth program expanded to other applications including a pharmacy (Geroulds) telehealth program for patients with respiratory difficulties, Tioga County for behavioral health services, and a provider that serves people with intellectual and development disabilities.</p> <p>In response to the declaration of COVID-19 as a public health emergency, Care Compass Network launched the COVID-19 Telehealth Assistance Program to provide funding for partner organizations to advance their teleconferencing capabilities. Care Compass Networks’ rapid response initiative met the funding requests of 34 organizations. Assistance ranged from funding 12 months of fees to new</p>	<p>Dr. Teris’ powerpoint will be posted on the HSCTC.org website, along with his COVID updates.</p>
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	<p>equipment. In Tompkins County, private physician practices, human service agencies, substance use disorder and mental health providers received awards. In conclusion, Dr. Teris observed that telehealth services will continue to play a role in value-based care, however the regulatory rules governing parity and delivery will shape its usage.</p> <p>Discussion following Dr. Teris' presentation focused on the issue of lesser reimbursement in states where there are no parity laws in place, provider perspectives, adaptation by both patients and providers, infrastructure barriers, potential community solutions and activities in contiguous counties, the role of rural area transportation, and privacy rules. The importance of flu shots, particularly during COVID rounded out the discussion.</p> <p>Bev, Lisa, and meeting participants thanked Dr. Teris for his presentation.</p>	
Adjournment	Lisa Richards adjourned the meeting at 1:15 pm. The next meeting will be February 5, 2021.	