

Aging and Disability Resource Center Project/ADRC

LINK Overview

ADRC Project/LINK Overview

- National, collaborative effort of Administration on Aging (AOA), The Office of Long Term Living and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
 - Each PA county is required to have an ADRC.
 - Lehigh and Northampton Counties will work together, hold joint meetings and trainings.
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What is the Federal ADRC?

- ❑ Bricks and Mortar concept.
 - ❑ Information and Referral and Assistance to link individuals 60+ and disabled individuals between ages 18 and 59 and their families to services and supports in the community.
 - Physical Disabilities
 - Serious Mental Illness
 - Mental Retardation
 - Developmental Disabilities
 - ❑ All ages, incomes and disabilities
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- ❑ Federal ADRC is an entry point at the community level with simplified access to information and assistance and linkage to long term living services and support.
 - ❑ ADRC is an integrated and coordinated long term care system which provides counseling, advice and assistance.
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Virtual ADRC

- ❑ Lehigh County and Northampton County will each have a virtual ADRC.
 - ❑ The ADRC will be comprised of a collaboration of partner agencies that work together to best meet the needs of individuals seeking long term care information, supports and services.
 - ❑ Individuals or family members seeking information, supports and services can call anywhere in the virtual collaboration of partner agencies to get answers or make referrals to other agencies in the LINK network
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GOALS OF LINK NETWORK

- ❑ Provide simplified access to long term living services and supports and public funded long term care programs.
 - ❑ Integrate and coordinate aging and disability service systems.
 - ❑ Establish formal partnerships among aging, disability groups.
 - ❑ Create a collaborative, network of agencies with a common goal to have target populations living as independently as possible for as long as possible.
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Advantages of ADRC

- ❑ Improves access to information and links to long term living services and support.
 - ❑ Minimizes confusion and frustration
 - ❑ Empowers individuals to effectively navigate health and long term care options
 - ❑ Enhances individual choice, independence and dignity
 - ❑ Promotes informed decision making
 - ❑ Helps transition people from hospitals and nursing facilities back into the community
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Federal ADRC SERVICES

- Information, Referral & Assistance (I&R/A)
 - Long-Term Care Options Counseling
 - Short-Term Service Coordination
 - Care Transitions Services
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INFORMATION, REFERRAL & AWARENESS FUNCTION OF ADRC

- ❑ ADRCs serve as highly visible and trusted places where people of all ages, disabilities and income levels can turn for objective information on full range of long term service and support options.
 - ❑ Lehigh County's and Northampton County's virtual ADRCs will promote awareness of various Long Term Care options available in the community to meet individuals' immediate needs.
 - ❑ We will promote awareness of options individuals can use to plan ahead for their long term care.
 - ❑ Partner agencies will link consumers with necessary services and supports, both public and private through appropriate referrals to other agencies and organizations within the LINK network.
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OPTIONS COUNSELING AND ASSISTANCE

- The “brick and mortar” ADRCs provide a one-stop shop for one-on-one options counseling and decision support, assistance to consumers and family members and/or caregivers.
 - The ADRC helps consumers assess and understand their needs, and assists them in making informed decisions about appropriate long-term service and support choices.
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- The ADRC helps consumers to develop service plans and arrange for delivery of services and supports, including helping individuals to hire and supervise their direct care workers.
 - Service plans are developed and formal services and supports are arranged.
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- The fully functioning “bricks and mortar” ADRC has the ability to serve as a single point of entry to all publicly funded long-term supports, including those funded by Medicaid, the Older Americans Act (OAA), and other state and federal programs and services.
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- Only a few counties in PA (Cumberland) have a “bricks and mortar” ADRC concept in which all partner agencies utilize the same protocols and procedures to facilitate an integrated and/or fully coordinated approach to accessing long term services and supports including:
 - Consumer Intake
 - Screening
 - Assessing individual’s needs
 - Developing service/care plans
 - Determining program and financial eligibility
 - Ensuring individuals receive services for which they are eligible
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- ❑ In Lehigh and Northampton Counties, partner agencies will have and utilize their own protocols and procedures.
 - ❑ The goal is to have a “no wrong door” entry point to access long term care information, supports and services
 - ❑ Individuals, family members and care givers will be able to call any one of the partner agencies to seek information, services, supports and if that agency does not provide the requested service, that agency will know where to direct the caller or make a referral to the appropriate agency.
 - ❑ GOAL is to create a process that is seamless for consumers regardless of which program they are eligible for or the types of services they receive.
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PERSON-CENTERED TRANSITION SUPPORT/ANOTHER ADRC CONCEPT

- One of the functions of an ADRC is to create formal linkages between the major pathways that people travel while transitioning from one setting of care to another.
 - Lehigh and Northampton County provide Preadmission screening programs to determine the appropriateness for nursing home services
 - Hospital discharge planning programs called “Care Transitions” are being introduced and developed.
 - Nursing Home Transition
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- ❑ The Office on Aging, as one of the partner agencies in LC and NC Virtual ADRC provides information on programs and services to individuals, family members and caregivers at critical junctures where decisions are made that often determine whether a person is admitted to a nursing home, remains in a nursing facility, or is transitioned back to their own home.
 - ❑ Options Counseling enables individuals to make informed decisions about services and supports and ensures that individuals end up in settings that best meet their needs and preferences, usually their homes.
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- ❑ We help them to quickly arrange for the care and services they choose.
 - ❑ PA has a widespread Aging network
 - ❑ LC and NC engage in PAA, NHT and Care Transitions.
 - ❑ Helps individuals avoid being placed unnecessarily in a nursing facility, safely transition from a nursing facility back home, and break the cycle of readmission to hospitals that often occurs when a chronically impaired individual is discharged to the community without the social services and supports they need.
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WHO WILL BE INVOLVED IN ADRC?

- ❑ Networks of state and local organizations that work together in a coordinated way to provide individuals with long term care service and supports.
 - ❑ ADRCs integrate and coordinate aging and disability service systems
 - ❑ In LC and NC we will have a collaboration of partner agencies that will work together to best meet the needs of individuals seeking long term care information, supports and services.
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- ❑ Individuals, family members or caregivers can call anywhere within the virtual collaboration of partner agencies to get long term care information, supports and/or services or be referred to an agency in the network who has the answer or service being requested.
 - ❑ In Lehigh and Northampton Counties the virtual ADRC is a collaborative effort of partner agencies. Each agency in the LINK Network will have an understanding of the programs and services in other LINK network agencies.
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PARTNERSHIPS

- Single State Agency on Aging
 - Single State Medicaid Agency
 - State Agency serving people with disabilities
 - State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
 - Adult Protective Services
 - Benefit Outreach and Enrollment Centers
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OTHER IMPORTANT PARTNERS

- AAAs
 - Center for Independent Living
 - Alzheimer's Disease Programs
 - Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs
 - Housing Agencies
 - Transportation Authorities
 - Employment Centers
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CORE PARTNERS

- ❑ LC Office of Aging and Adult Services
 - ❑ LV Center for Independent Living
 - ❑ UDS Angels at Your Service
 - ❑ Jewish Employment and Vocational Service
 - ❑ In collaboration with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Office of Long Term Living
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CORE PARTNER RESPONSIBILITIES

- ❑ Accept, apply and promote understanding of OLTL Service Principles into agencies.
 - ❑ Provide information, assistance and services to target populations and to both private pay and publicly funded individuals.
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Core Partner Responsibilities

- Foster a collaborative relationship with other agencies that provide supportive services to target populations and who will provide assistance in locating services for consumers.
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Core Partner Responsibilities

- ❑ Jointly enter into agreements with collaborative partner agencies, which outline partner responsibilities.
 - ❑ Establish liaisons from each partner agency who will serve as a contact person for making referrals and problem solving.
 - ❑ Provide information to assist the public in planning early for future long term living needs.
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Core Partner Responsibilities

- ❑ Facilitate cross training sessions.
 - ❑ Create public awareness of Link Network and incorporate the Link Logo into brochures and other outreach materials.
 - ❑ Create greater public awareness of services available to target populations.
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Core Partners Responsibilities

- Create and maintain aging and disability resource directories containing reliable and up-to-date local long term living resources for both public and private pay individuals.
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Core Partner Responsibilities

- Work with and provide information to the Office of Long Term Living
 - Collaborative Committee members
 - Scheduled and completed trainings
 - Community Resource Team activities
 - Planned and completed outreach events for the public to publicize Link Network
 - Outreach to critical pathways (medical profession, discharge planners, nursing facility staff, libraries etc.)
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Core Partner Responsibilities

□ Monthly Data

- # of Information and Assistance individuals served
 - # of individuals served who were over/under the age of 60
 - # of individuals served with physical disabilities
 - Other activities that have contributed to streamlining access to services
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Requirements of Partner Agencies

- Participate in a Collaborative Committee composed of Link Network Partners and consumer representatives of targeted populations.
 - Link Networks must include: AAA, CIL, or local OLTL Service agency, CAO and other local agencies that provide support services for target populations (housing, transportation, employment, county government agencies).
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Partner Agencies/Collaborative Partners

- ❑ Assist in developing and maintaining aging and disability resource directories.
 - ❑ Develop a Link Network cross training schedule and participate in cross training.
 - ❑ Develop a Link Network public education and outreach plan
 - ❑ Promote services of agencies in the Link Network.
 - ❑ Designate a liaison to serve as point of contact for Link Network partners.
 - Referrals
 - Problem solving
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Collaborative Committee Responsibilities

- Meet bi-monthly for first 6 months and not less than semi-annually thereafter.
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LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

- ❑ Continue to establish partnerships with organizations in the community.
 - ❑ Cross-train partner organization liaisons and staff in organizations.
 - ❑ Develop a hard copy and internet accessible common resource directory of aging and disability resources.
 - ❑ Ongoing education of the public through Senior/Disability Fairs and presentations to community groups.
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