



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES**

**CCD Long-term Services and Supports Task Force  
Annual Report for 2015**

**2015 ACTIVITIES**

**Legislation and Capitol Hill Work**

- **Opposition to Block Grants or Caps:** Held meetings with Energy and Commerce members to discuss the importance of Medicaid to people with disabilities and CCD's opposition to block granting or capping Medicaid.
- **Complex Rehab Technology:** Supported the Ensuring Access to Quality Complex Rehabilitation Technology Act (H.R. 1516/S. 1013) which currently has 156 cosponsors in the House and 14 in the Senate.
- **Caregiving:** Heard from AARP staff about the Assisting Caregivers Today (ACT) Caucus and RAISE Act (H.R. 3099/S. 1719), providing CCD members an opportunity to support the legislation. Also supported reauthorization of and funding for the Lifespan Respite Care Program, which received a \$1 million increase in FY 2016.
- **PACE:** Congress passed legislation that authorizes HHS to waive applicable general and Medicaid requirements of the Program of All-Inclusive Care for Elderly (PACE) in order to conduct demonstration projects of PACE with younger populations. The LTSS Task Force will continue to work with the National PACE Association to ensure that the PACE protocol will adequately serve younger people with disabilities.
- **Senate Finance Chronic Care Workgroup:** Working with LCAO and other CCD Task Forces, submitted feedback to the Finance Committee's request for input on how to improve care coordination for Medicare beneficiaries with chronic conditions.
- **Better Care, Lower Cost Act:** Met with Senator Wyden's staff to express our concerns with the bill.
- **Transition to Independence Act (S. 1604):** Hosted Rodney Whitlock from Senator Grassley's office to discuss the bill and with other CCD Task Forces, submitted a letter supporting the bill's intent with suggestions to avoid unintended consequences.

**Regulations**

- **HCBS Regulation:** Continued to monitor implementation of the updated definition of home- and community-based services under Medicaid 1915(c), (i) and (k).
- **Medicaid Managed Care:** With other CCD Task Forces, submitted comments to CMS on its proposed rule to modernize Medicaid managed care.
- Monitored the **DOL Home Care Rule** which took effect on October 13, with enforcement and prosecutorial discretion starting November 13.

**National Quality Forum**

- A Home- and Community-based Services Quality Committee was established and has representation from the aging and disability community including Joe Caldwell of NCOA.

- A Disparities Committee was established.
- NQF submitted to CMS a final report on persons dually eligible; measure gaps that CCD advocated for were included.

### **FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

- Continue to advocate for protection of Medicaid as an entitlement program; passage of the Ensuring Access to Quality Complex Rehabilitation Technology Act; funding and legislation that would better support our nation's caregivers; and other legislation impacting LTSS.
- Continue to weigh in on the Senate Finance Committee's work around care for people with chronic conditions.
- Continue to ensure that any PACE demonstration projects properly serve younger people with disabilities.
- Continue to monitor federal regulations impacting LTSS.
- Continue to monitor work of the National Quality Forum and engage as needed.

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