



# AGING & INDEPENDENCE SERVICES

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO • HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

## LONG TERM CARE INTEGRATION PROJECT

### Long Term Care Integration Project (LTCIP)

### STAKEHOLDER MEETING

October 19, 2011

Please join us on **Wednesday, October 19, 2011 from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM** for a LTCIP Stakeholder Meeting. The meeting will be held in the JA Training Room at the **Ageing & Independence Services (AIS) Headquarters located at 5560 Overland Ave., Suite 310, San Diego, 92123.** There is two hour visitor parking behind the building and also on the first floor in the parking garage, which can be accessed from Farnham Drive. Please contact Cindy Vogel at (858) 514-4652 or [cindy.vogel@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:cindy.vogel@sdcounty.ca.gov) if you have any questions about the parking or need directions.

In 2010, AIS, the lead agency in San Diego's Aging and Disability Connection (ADRC), was awarded a grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Administration on Aging, administered by the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS), to implement Eric Coleman's evidence-based Care Transitions Intervention (CTI) Program. The CTI Pilot began on August 12, 2010 through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between AIS and Sharp Memorial Hospital. In March 2011, AIS was also awarded a Tech4Impact (T4I) Grant by the Center for Technology and Aging (CTA), one of only five in the country, to engage CTI patients in using the AIS Network of Care Web resource to support health self-management. The CTI Pilot has successfully reduced the rate of hospital readmissions for high-risk, chronically ill patients and generated cost savings for the hospital.

Several months ago, CMS released a solicitation for the Community-based Care Transitions Program (CCTP) which is mandated by section 3026 of the Affordable Care Act. CCTP provides funding to test models for improving care transitions for high risk Medicare beneficiaries. The goals of the CCTP are to improve transitions of beneficiaries from the inpatient hospital setting to other care settings, improve quality of care, reduce readmissions for high risk beneficiaries, and document measureable savings to the Medicare program. The CCTP engages the community in working together to improve quality, reduce cost, and improve patient experience across the continuum. Hospitals with high readmission rates that partner with community-based organizations (CBOs) or CBOs that provide care transition services are eligible to apply for CCTP. In selecting CBOs to participate in the program, the statute requires that preference be given to AoA grantees that provide care transition interventions in conjunction with multiple hospitals and practitioners. The CCTP builds upon an

ADRC's care transition efforts by pairing an ongoing payment mechanism with care transition interventions to reduce readmission rates in hospitals, especially hospitals with high readmission rates, while maintaining or improving quality of care.

AIS is partnering with several hospital systems in the county to apply for the CCTP. Jennifer Wieckowski MSG, Care Transitions Program Director for the Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG), the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for California, will be the guest presenter at the LTCIP meeting. QIOs across the country are funded by CMS to support formation of community coalitions, conduct community-specific root cause analysis, select and implement interventions that will reduce the rate of readmissions for Medicare beneficiaries and assist with the CCTP application. Ms. Wieckowski will provide an overview of the CCTP and outline the planning process.

Other updates on the LTCIP strategies will be provided by Mark Meiners Ph.D and Brenda Schmitthenner. More information about the LTCIP is available at [www.sdltcip.org](http://www.sdltcip.org). Please do not hesitate to contact Brenda Schmitthenner, Manager of the LTCIP, at [brenda.schmitthenner@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:brenda.schmitthenner@sdcounty.ca.gov) or (858) 495-5853 with questions.