



**AGING & INDEPENDENCE SERVICES**  
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO • HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY  
**LONG TERM CARE INTEGRATION PROJECT**

**Aging & Independence Services (AIS)**  
**Long Term Care Integration Project (LTCIP)**  
**Update for the Health Services Advisory Board (HSAB)**  
**June 18, 2015**

The goal of the Long Term Care Integration Project (LTCIP) is to improve the delivery of health care and long term services and supports for older adults and persons with disabilities.

**Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)**

San Diego County's Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) is a shared, core partnership between Aging & Independence Services (AIS) and Access to Independence, the Independent Living Center (ILC). The ADRC provides persons of all ages, abilities, and incomes, their caregivers and service providers with free, comprehensive information about long term services and supports (LTSS); a no wrong door access to important programs, resources, services, planning and communication tools; care transition and case management services; and application assistance for entitlement programs.

The San Diego County ADRC Advisory Committee was unable to meet this month due to scheduling conflicts. However, the ADRC continues to move forward with its work as a member of the Administration on Community Living's (ACL) Learning Collaborative Initiative for Targeted Technical Assistance to build the *Business Capacity of Community-Based Aging and Disability Organizations for Integrated Services Partnerships*. The intent of the technical assistance is to help enhance the ADRC's business capacity by establishing a long term plan to sustain and expand access to a network of quality HCBS providers to support the rapidly growing aging and disabled population in our community. The ADRC recently completed an in-depth assessment of core services in order to evaluate our network's service delivery and assess what our current and future capacities are within the local marketplace. This assessment is part of a comprehensive market analysis that will help identify potential opportunities to expand the ADRC's relationships with integrated care entities to provide community-based, long term services and supports. The ADRC is being supported in this endeavor by national consultants sponsored by the ACL.

In July, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) will hold its annual conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. San Diego County's ADRC Leadership has been invited to deliver a panel presentation at the conference on the Home and Community-Based (HCBS) Brokerage, a conceptual model created by AIS and a Design Team comprised of subject matter experts from across the healthcare and social service industries. A HCBS Brokerage would provide easy access to a network of high quality community-based providers for managed care organizations as well as other healthcare payors and providers, and expedite assessment, care planning and care coordination of essential services for individuals with complex medical and social needs.

**The Community-based Care Transitions Program (CCTP)**

The San Diego Care Transitions Partnership (SDCTP), a partnership between AIS and Palomar Health, Scripps Health, Sharp HealthCare and the UCSD Health System (13 hospitals) began year three of the Community-based Care Transitions Program (CCTP) on January 1, 2015. The SDCTP is targeting over 19,000 high-risk, fee-for-service (FFS) Medicare patients across the thirteen participating hospitals this year. From January 1, 2015 through April 30, 2015, 5,958 high risk patients received specialized care that included support from transitional care nurses, licensed pharmacists, healthcare coaches and social workers. Cumulatively, the program has served 31,802 patients.

The SDCTP was recently awarded a 2015 National Association of Counties NACo Award. By leveraging best practices, the SDCTP continues to improve the care that high-risk patients receive during their

hospitalization and for up to 30 days after they leave the hospital. In addition to their medical needs, their social determinants of health are being addressed through CCTP to reduce the risk for an avoidable readmission. This coordinated, person-centered approach has resulted in a significant reduction in readmissions (over 65%) for high-risk Medicare patients and a significant savings to the Medicare Program.

In July, program representatives from all four health systems and the County will travel to Baltimore to share the many successful components of the SDCTP model with leadership from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Innovation Center (CMMI), the CMS CCTP Team, and other CCTP sites across the country. The focus of the meeting will be on long-term sustainability for innovative care transition services. Information about the federal Health and Human Services goal of tying FFS Medicare payments to quality or value payments through alternative payment models will be shared by the CMMI.

### **The Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI)**

As the Regional Aging and Disability Service and Advocacy Coalition for San Diego County funded by The SCAN Foundation, the LTCIP has actively supported the rollout of the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) in San Diego County by assisting with both the CCI Advisory Committee and the CCI Communication Workgroup. At the June 3, 2015 CCI Advisory Committee meeting, updates on consumer experience were provided by key stakeholders. The CCI Advisory Committee discussed the current state of CCI implementation in San Diego County and strategized ways that the committee could assist in increasing participation in Cal MediConnect. The CCI Communication Workgroup will be utilizing various types of resources to inform the creation the next generation of outreach materials.

In San Diego County, the opt out rate among In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) recipients is high. In fact, that rate hovers around 75%. To educate IHSS recipients about Cal MediConnect and the benefits of care coordination, the CCI Communication Workgroup is planning to host a TeleTown Hall for all San Diego County IHSS recipients in the near future. Many IHSS recipients fear that their IHSS benefit will change if they enroll in Cal MediConnect. The TeleTown Hall will reassure IHSS recipients that Cal MediConnect will not impact the number of hours they currently receive through IHSS, and that they can continue to hire, train and manage their care provider in Cal MediConnect just as they always have. By providing factual information about Cal MediConnect and a testimonial from an IHSS recipient about how Cal MediConnect has helped to coordinate the individual's health care and long term services and supports, the CCI Communication Workgroup is hopeful that the IHSS TeleTown Hall will result in an increase in enrollment into Cal MediConnect of many of San Diego's IHSS recipients.

As of May 1, 2015, 18,745 San Diegans were actively enrolled in Cal MediConnect (CMC). Passive enrollment into CMC was set to end in March; however, there are 82 pending enrollments for the month of June. The main challenges that continue to impact beneficiaries enrolled in CCI are continuity of care, balance billing, and problems related to disenrollment. In San Diego County, out of the approximately 56,000 dual eligible beneficiaries who were eligible to enroll in Cal MediConnect, only 37% are currently enrolled. The overall opt-out and disenrollment percentage in San Diego County is about 60%.

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