

Comments on the WPCF Funding Document to Date:

Dear WPCF Members,

Thanks for the comments received to date from those who've been able to do that. I can appreciate commenting on this document can be a real head scratcher, particularly for all of you who are very busy otherwise. We do not have a revised version of the Funding Document for your review as I'm still collecting general comments before we take another pass at it. We will discuss this at the WPCF Steering Committee Meeting on 8/7 but the general direction we're heading is:

In order to put this process in play in time for this to be incorporated into the Project Proposal submission in November, we need to sign off on this document at the September Meeting to be approved by the ACH Board in the October Meeting. This means I'll be collaborating with a small group to incorporate the best thinking of the group in August to present a well-vetted document at the September meeting. David Olson has kindly agreed to be on such a small group and I may tap one or two of you if there are no other volunteers. Comments to date are generally in the realm of:

1. Structure: We need to (and will) clean up the document to put all the contextual material at the front and process parts to follow. Currently the flow is a little convoluted. We'll also make language consistent (e.g. "change plans" vs. "transition plans". Lots of other editing.
2. Stage 1 Planning Awards: There is a desire to look at both the amount of the initial planning awards as well as the use of both rank in number of encounters and percent of Medicaid/total business. Several people expressed a desire to make sure the result is rational & reasonable as well as to make sure spending this on the planning phase is appropriate to the ultimate outcome. We'll do some scenario testing and are gathering information on it.
3. Stage 2 Implementation Awards: I've received a few comments about the point awards. One point of view is that points should map more closely to achievement of PCMH-A or MeHAF standards (criteria 1 & 2) since they are the evidence-based guidelines designed to get outcomes. Some suggestions to consolidate other points (e.g. criteria 3-10) or to move them to the "non-scored" sections as essential proposal elements or minimum requirements. Getting this right will be important and your input is extremely valuable.
4. Clarify expenses that are appropriate to fund: I received a few comments with concerns about some of the things listed as appropriate expenses such as "retreats" and "capital expenses for facilities in the implementation phase. We'll look at the CMS & HCA guidelines and discuss this further.
5. Outcome Scoring and awards: We'll discuss this briefly at the 8/7 meeting. The intent in years DY4&5 is to reward the ACH based on achievement of outcomes. We need to reach greater clarity about this with the HCA to determine exactly how the ACH will be funded and then tie the rewards to

individual providers to the same metrics. There is obviously some complexity and need for precision in this work and we don't want to get too far into this before it's well understood.

Thanks for your help on this,

Peter