Opportunities for
Living Life (OLL) Newsletter

THE OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

What is OLL?

Opportunities for Living Life (OLL) is charged with developing, operating and administering new program initiatives for SoonerCare. Additionally, OLL is charged with developing collaboration among state and private agencies, community organizations, and stakeholders in creating a system of health care, long-term care support and home- and community-based services support that meets the needs of every Oklahoma citizen.

Sign up to receive the OLL Newsletter by e-mailing OLL@okhca.org or calling Dena @ 405-522-7343.

OLL Mission Statement

To enhance quality of life for target citizenry by delivering effective programs and facilitating a partnership with the community.

FINDINGS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH FUND 2007 NATIONAL SURVEY OF CULTURE CHANGE IN NURSING HOMES

Culture change in nursing facilities is defined as the extent to which nursing homes have adopted policies to improve not only the quality of care but also the quality of life for nursing home residents. In the culture change model, aimed at deinstitutionalizing long-term care, residents "enjoy much of the privacy and choice they would experience if they were still living in their own homes," according to a May 2008 report, "Culture change in nursing homes: how far have we come? Findings from the Commonwealth Fund 2007 National Survey of Nursing Homes."

The phrase "culture change" implies lasting structural and social changes in attitudes, beliefs, values, procedures, and relationships, and that these changes are embraced at all levels within the organization or institution. For example:

Residents are given greater control over their daily activities, meal times, bed times, etc., and in turn, nursing aides responsible for day-to-day care are given greater autonomy to care for the residents, and so on, making the facilities themselves less institutional, and encouraging buy-in at all levels within the facilities.

The Commonwealth Fund found that nursing homes that were "culture change adopters" reaped benefits such as staff retention, higher occupancy rates, better competitive position, and improved operational costs. In this survey, 31 percent were categorized as Culture Change Adopters; 25 percent were Culture Change Strivers; and 43 percent maintained a traditional approach to nursing facility organization and patient care.

The survey was conducted with a random sample of 1,435 of the more than 16,000 facilities nationwide. For more information about the Commonwealth 2007 National Survey, visit www.commonwealthfund.org. The entire report, authored by Michelle Doty and colleagues, is available on the Web site.

Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
A Pilot Program and Partnership between OHCA and the Cherokee Nation
The First Native American PACE Program in America

 Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) serve people ages 55 and older who live in an established geographic service area, qualify for state nursing home level of care, and can be safely cared for in a community setting at the time of enrollment. Rather than place people in nursing homes, PACE programs provide a comprehensive range of services that enable the people they serve to continue living in the community. PACE programs receive a capitated monthly payment from Medicare and Medicaid in exchange for all health and aging services required to meet the needs of the people they serve. PACE is a permanent provider under the Medicare program and a state option under state Medicaid programs.

 Focus: The PACE model empowers individuals to have choice and control of their services, and it is centered around the belief that it is better for the well-being of seniors with chronic care needs and their families to be served in the community.

 Objectives:

1. Provide medically necessary services to Native American and non-Indian Medicaid-eligible recipients.
2. Provide integrated comprehensive and client-centered primary, acute and long-term health care and social services support to eligible frail older adults.
3. Enable individuals to live independently within the community and with a high quality of life.
4. Transition eligible recipients from long-term care facilities into the PACE program.
5. Provide care 24 hours a day, seven days per week with a full range of health care services.

 Eligibility Requirements:

- 55 years of age or older.
- Nursing home eligible.
- Able to live safely in the community at the time of enrollment into PACE.
- Reside within the counties of Cherokee, Delaware, Mayes, Muskogee or Adair and be within one of the following zip codes: 74427, 74441, 74451, 74452, 74464, 74471, 74347, 74368, 74352, 74364, 74423, 74434, 74401, or 74403.

 Fast Facts: Enrollment as of March 1, 2009

- 85 percent female, 15 percent male.
- 55 percent Native American, 45 percent non-Indian.
- Average age 78.1 years.

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