

*Policy Academy: Rebalancing
Long Term Care Systems toward
Quality Community Living and
Healthy Aging*

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Objectives of the Policy Academy

- To encourage policymakers to shift the financing focus of state long term care systems from institutional to home and community-based care;
- To improve the coordination of policy and service delivery efforts between health care systems, including behavioral and mental health, substance abuse, public health and social support systems; and
- To promote healthy aging and increased consumer control over health and long term care decisions.

Partners

- National Governors Association Center for Best Practices
- Administration on Aging
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- CRP

The Selection Process

- Request for Applications
- Advisory Committee
- Competitive Selection Process
- Announcement

States Selected

- Georgia
- Idaho
- Iowa
- Louisiana
- Massachusetts
- New Mexico
- Vermont
- Virginia

Academy Process

- Pre-Academy Site Visits: At least two to four weeks prior to the Formal Meeting
- Formal Policy Academy Meeting
- Post-Academy Site Visits: At least one month after the Formal Meeting
- Quarterly Reports - with Grants and Progress

Grants

- Each state received \$48,000 upon approval of their state plans
- 12 month period to complete the objectives
- Examples of possible uses: one FTE for a year, a few meetings or studies / reports

Mental Health Aspects

- All of the states included some aspect of mental health in their state proposals
- Some states are addressing mental health as part of their overall health goals for the project
- A few states are tackling mental health as a component separate from 'overall health'

Challenges

- Shifting Priorities
- Selling the Vision
- Maintaining Momentum

Successes

- Executive Orders
- Legislation
- MOUs, MOAs, inter-agency agreements

State Examples

- Louisiana – Long Term Care System Reform
- New Mexico – Committee
- Vermont – Dr. Wehry
- Virginia – Overall approach

Current Progress

- Just entered the 3rd Quarter for some states
- Progress Reports
- Renewed Focus

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