

# PENNSYLVANIA PROVIDERS COALITION ASSOCIATION

## PA PCA ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 7, 2010

PA PCA



PROMOTING QUALITY FMS AND  
HCBS SERVICES

### ***A message from the President;***



***Tina Seidel***

PA PCA continues to be a viable and recognized association; teamwork, partnership and transparency are entwined within our membership which has made us very successful.

This year proved to be another challenging year due to an exorbitant number of issues the membership needed to expend their expertise and time on, including, but not limited to the following;

- Office of Long Term Living and PA Department of Aging Waiver Policy Changes directly impacting Consumers and Providers
- F/EA Certification
- Case Management Certification
- FMS Rates and CM Rates

As we complete our second year together as an official association, we look towards future accomplishments and challenges we may encounter together with a new administration and another year of strong collective advocacy for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) in what is projected to be the most challenging budget year we will have to face thus far.

Together, we will need to move forward to continuously advocate for HCBS to individual members of the legislature, but grass roots activity from all segments of our membership is needed to ensure adequate funding is adopted in next years' budget.

There were a host of challenges (Cost Reporting, Fee For Service Definition, SAS90, Transfer Standards, Fraud and Abuse, OHCDS and National presentations to name a few) that took an extraordinary amount of time on the part of members whose collective effort, expertise and skills were crucial to PA PCA position papers.

Appreciation and Recognition go to PA PCA members who exerted an enormous amount of time on behalf of PA PCA in 2010; Debbie Bacon, Kim Bitner, Linda Bradley, Gary Brandt, Greg Coleman, Joan Hardaway, Beth Hennigan, Tracy Hunt, Roxanne Huss, Cindy Landis, Helen Logan, Greg Manz, Joan Martin, Kris Pate, Marty Puschak, Dot Robinson, Lou Anne Rudy, Margaret Rybinski, Duane Seidel, Marybeth Tearpock, Kim Winhauer, Nadine Yanarella and Debbie Zielinski.

I want to acknowledge the Board and Committee Chairs; William Kepner and Carl Berry, of the Executive Committee; and Donna Boyer, Regina Stewart, Lily Altman, and Mary Lou Knabel; for all of their dedication and commitment throughout this past year.

Our association continues to expect the unexpected, and is prepared to make adjustments should the need arise -- as it almost always does. We'll focus on our hopes for a bright future for Consumers, Quality Consumer Fiscal Management Services and Home and Community Based Services - and for us. Then we'll continue to go out and do everything we can to make that future happen.

# Meetings

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*Collaboration  
Collaboration*

***MESSAGE FROM THE PA PCA VICE—PRESIDENT******WILLIAM KEPNER***

I feel very fortunate to be a part of the PAPCA as it continues to evolve and grow as an important provider vehicle for advocacy and collaboration. I continue to marvel at the cooperation and cohesiveness that our broad group of providers who also compete with each other, willing share as well as the vital information we provide each other to ensure the mission of quality service to our consumers and stability for our employees.

A great example of collaboration this past year was our ability to work with the Pennsylvania Homecare Association, National Private Duty Association and UCP of Pennsylvania to combine our resources for legal representation. Through this collaborative effort our legal injunction successfully challenged the Governor's Executive Order number 2010-04 and his legal right to implement the Consumer Workforce Council and recognize a new union as the exclusive representative for consumer model employees. Unfortunately, the Governor has unlimited legal resources and is using them to find additional legal avenues to try appeals and find a way to implement this Executive Order quickly before our new Governor rescinds it. However, since we have formed this coalition, it enabled us to make this legal challenge and continues to enable us to meet these additional legal battles as we fight on to ultimate victory. The PA PCA providers have the most to lose if the EO is upheld and could not have sustained this legal journey on our own without the significant help of our collaborative partners. I am proud to be part of an organization that can create and sustain these kinds of significant alliances and know that it will continue to serve us well in future years.

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***PA PCA SECRETARY/TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT******CARL BERRY***

The year of 2010 saw our membership grow as more provider organizations find value in banding together for a common good. Financially, our revenues in the form of membership dues covered our anticipated expenses well. However, unexpected challenges resulting from anticipated workers compensation issues and an executive order from Governor Rendell placed a strain on our finances, resulting in a special legal fund assessment and ongoing legal expenses.

Although there were unexpected additional costs, we wish to point out that by sharing these costs, our members receive results at costs significantly below what could have been borne by each member, were each member to address the issues individually. From some of our successes, we see that our collective effort can yield a result exceeding our individual efforts.

As we grow as an association in 2011, we expect continue to face new and continuing issues. Alas, we also foresee somewhat higher expenses. Rest assured that the Pennsylvania Providers Coalition is endeavoring to continue to create a positive cost/benefit value for you, the membership. Our most recent financial statement is included with this annual report.

Respectfully submitted,

**Carl H. Berry, Secretary / Treasurer**

PA PCA FINANCIAL / FMS COMMITTEE      *CHAIR, REGINA STEWART*

In several committee meetings and in communications amongst our members it became abundantly clear that 2010 should go down in PA PCA history as the year of the *Number Crunchers!* Key emphasis was placed on how to define, financially, what we provide programmatically. Organizations throughout PA, as willing or unwilling parties, must recognize the value of sound financial practices in order to prevail in unsettling economic times and to meet the increased demands by funding sources for accountability.

I remain impressed by the large degree of collective input, varied expertise and sharing of experiences this committee offers. Truly I do not know how a provider can survive in these times without this committee (all bias set aside, of course). Together we accomplished:

- Continued healthy doses of provider feedback to ongoing initiatives, standards and rates to the Office of Long Term Living, P4A, REAL, First NonProfit and other stakeholder entities,
- Continued efforts to improve on Best Practices for Providers to assure Workers' Compensation costs remain low and affordable by consumers who choose the self-directed model,
- Support for initiatives of other Committees of the PA PCA,

Assistance to providers with the Q-Met Process, and so much more.

I remain hopeful that this committee can provide, and will continue to provide, integrity-driven solutions to the complex issues inherent in Provider Services. I, too, hope that as a Provider Organization we collectively stand-up for those values consistent with those of that larger stakeholder group we call Consumers. Nothing about us, without them!

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Stewart, FMS/Financial Committee Chair

PA PCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



L to R, President, Tina Seidel; Vice President, William Kepner; Secretary/Treasurer, Carl Berry; Program Chair, Donna Boyer; Financial Chair, Regina Stewart and Policy Chair, Lily Altman.

## PA PCA PROGRAM COMMITTEE *CHAIR, DONNA BOYER*

I would like to thank all the members of the Program Committee for their time and cooperation this past year. We resolved many issues that were brought to our attention due to the collaboration of the whole team!!

The Program Committee was very busy this past year with frequent conference calls discussing a variety of issues. As new initiatives were beginning in the OLTL, the Committee would discuss concerns that were brought to our attention by other Coalition members. During our conference calls we would "brainstorm" areas we felt needed to be addressed and communicated with various departments within OLTL. Some of the areas we tackled were:

- Intake and Enrollment - Maximus
- Independence Waiver Renewal
- Letter to OLTL regarding service coordination case load size and rate reimbursement
- OHCD- letter addressing temporary out of state services, submitted questions to the State
- Letter addressing concerns such as late ISP approvals, some as long as several months, primarily in CSPPPD
- Fraud And Abuse
- New Service Plan – letter stating our concerns
- County Assistance office issues and concerns
- HCSIS
- Provider Choice in Compass

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## PA PCA POLICY COMMITTEE *CHAIR, LILY ALTMAN*

The Public Policy Committee, under former chair, Cathy Brown, developed a system of reviewing, prioritizing and monitoring items of legislative interest. Through this monitoring process, the Committee was able to recommend membership positions on key legislative issues that impact PA-PCA's membership, such as the Family Caregiver Support Act and the Adult Protective Services Act that was recently signed into law.

Two ad-hoc committees were formed to address the Integrated Care Initiative/Health Care Reform and Medicaid Fraud and Abuse reporting changes. These remain priorities heading into next year along with advocacy for the State Budget and continuing work in collaboration with the Program and Finance Committees on the multiple service delivery and rates challenges.

Thanks to all Committee and ad-hoc members who lent their expertise to the process. Membership has been able to have our voices heard through the stronger collective voice of the PA-PCA. In the upcoming year, we will continue to work together to review legislative and regulatory priorities and to educate membership, funders, and legislators on our needs.

Respectfully, Lily Altman

## **PA PCA RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

***CHAIR, MARY LOU KNABEL***

The Resource and Development Committee of the Pennsylvania Providers Coalition Association is an ad hoc committee which responds to the needs of the organization in the development of policies and projects as directed by the officers and association members. As such, the committee has an open membership which recruits from the talents of the overall association membership in response to requested projects.

- As an ad hoc committee, the Research & Development team has and will assist PA PCA in the following areas:
- Presenting amendments to the bylaws as needed (new amendments, dues and fees, survey changes)
- Development of benefit/health insurance options for direct care workers to be sponsored by PA PCA
- Creation of an information document on the PA PCA for incoming governor and transitional team
- Begin to develop strategies as Case Management/Service Coordination issues arise and Services My Way expansion continues

The Research and Development Committee will continue its current format working on any projects requested by the association members or its officers.

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### **MESSAGE FROM:**

#### **PA DEPARTMENT OF AGING / OFFICE OF LONG TERM LIVING**

At the PA Department of Aging (PDA) and Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL), we are fortunate to have solid working relationships with stakeholders, including the PA PCA. During the past year, our communication with PA PCA has proven that partnership can yield results. We value the straight forward feedback and advice, which has helped us to make important changes in a system that is undergoing a transformation.



***John Michael Hall***  
***Secretary of Aging***

## ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT

*ALEX RAHN, WANNER ASSOCIATES*

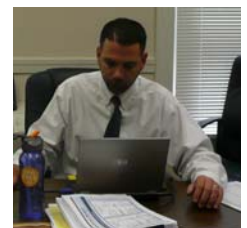
This year, PA-PCA advocacy helped raise issues of concern in the Aging and Long Term Living merger and ensured budget funding higher than expected for home and community based services.

This year, the Pennsylvania Legislature passed a \$28.05 billion state budget on June 30, marking the first on-time budget during the Rendell Administration. The Senate was first to pass an amended version of HB 2279 on the afternoon of the 30th. The Senate voted 37 to 13 in favor of the bill with twenty Republican votes and seventeen Democrat votes. Later the same day, the House concurred with the Senate passed budget bill by a 117 to 84 vote. Sixteen Republicans joined 101 Democrats in support of the measure.



The Governor signed the bill the following Tuesday, July 6th, touting the state's \$250 million increase in education funding during a budget-signing ceremony at a Mechanicsburg elementary school. However, he reiterated his disappointment that lawmakers were unable to enact a series of taxes that could have held off further spending cuts. In fact, the budget does not include many of the original revenue suggestions proposed by the Governor; New or increased taxes on cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco, Combined reporting, any expansion of the sales tax, and Elimination of the vendor allowance for sales tax collection.

The budget did include the assumption of \$850 million in additional federal Medical Assistance Program (FMAP) dollars, however FMAP funding ended up being \$250million less than this figure. This led to 1.9% cuts across many program lines, but not to Attendant Care Services, Service to Persons with Disabilities or Long Term Care.



Success on the budget and legislation was in large part due to PA-PCA member activity and support of our legislative agenda. PCA members conducted many legislative visits in both their local areas and Harrisburg, including an Advocacy Day. The PCA Policy Committee also reviewed and tracked over 70 different pieces of legislation of interest to the organization.

2011 begins a new Legislative Session with a new Administration and many changes within the Legislature. PA PCA's first challenge will to be educate the new Governor and his Agency Secretaries of the benefits of PCA Member Services as they negotiate a new budget with a projected \$5billion dollar deficit. Your continued advocacy will be needed and much appreciated.



# Pennsylvania Providers Coalition Association

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## PA PCA BOARD AND COMMITTEES

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

*Tina Seidel.....President*  
*Bill Kepner.....Vice-President*  
*Carl Berry.....Secretary/Treasurer*

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

*Lily Altman.....Chair, Policy Committee*  
*Donna Boyer.....Chair, Program Committee*  
*Regina Stewart.....Chair, Financial Committee*

### **AD-HOC COMMITTEES**

*Beth Hennigan.....Chair, Housing Committee*  
*Mary Lou Knabel.....Chair, Resource and Development Committee*  
*Joan Martin.....Chair, Budget Committee*

### **PA PCA Executive Committee Appointments:**

#### **OLTL Rates Committee**

*Mary Lou Knabel, Allied Services*  
*Duane Seidel, NEPA CIL*  
*Regina Stewart, Abilities In Motion*

#### **OLTL Service Plan Work Group**

*Kristy I. Dovichow, CRI*  
*Tracy Hunt, Allied Services*

#### **OLTL/PDA Fraud and Abuse Committee**

*Carl Berry, CRI*  
*Donna Boyer, JEVS*  
*Bill Kepner, UDS*  
*Lou Anne Rudy, accessAbilities*  
*Tina Seidel, NEPA CIL*  
*Regina Stewart, AIM*