

JOHNSON COUNTY
KANSAS
Human Services
Area Agency on Aging

February 10, 2017

Chairperson Vicki Schmidt
Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee
Kansas Legislature
Topeka, KS

RE: Support of Targeted Case Management for HCBS waiver populations- SB 153

Good afternoon, Chairperson Schmidt and members of the Committee,

My name is Angela Pelger, Aging Program manager of the Johnson County Area Agency on Aging (AAA). We are charged by the Older Americans Act to serve as the public advocate for the development and enhancement of comprehensive and coordinated community-based services.

Our AAA serves as the "single point of entry" for aging services in Johnson County. We provide early navigation, information and guidance to those looking for long term care options. Our approach in assisting people is effective primarily because we provide multiple programs. We can provide these service options based primarily on what the individual's functional and financial needs.

From 1997-through December 2012, I provided Targeted Case Management services to a caseload of Frail Elderly waiver clients. During this time, I was the point of contact for the clients and their family members, a resource they could call if there were problems with service provision, their needs increased or decreased and adjustments to their plan of care needed to be made. Based on client choice, I could contact providers to find out who could staff the hours on the service plan and implemented these within the approval process time frames so that a client would not go without services. In addition, I could connect them with needed community resources such as utility assistance, food pantries, assistance with LIEAP application completion, Meals on Wheels, etc. As a Targeted Case Manager, I could also help them complete their annual recertification paperwork for continued Medicaid eligibility, eliminating clients from losing their benefits, cases closing and then having to reapply. Another important role a TCM played was in facilitating issues with client obligation including assisting with submitting receipts to the DCF office and then sending out the Notice of Action to inform the client and provider of the change.

The mission of the Johnson County Area Agency on Aging is to advocate for and assist older adults in maintaining their independence and dignity through community-based services.

Area Agency on Aging

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Senate Public Health and Welfare

Date 2-13-17

Attachment 33.1

In January 2013, Targeted Case Management was eliminated with the implementation of KanCare and then replaced with Care Coordination. In my opinion Care Coordination is not enough for many of the seniors we serve and assess in the community. There is still a need for Targeted Case Management.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 153. I will be happy to stand for questions.

Sincerely,

Angela Pelger, Aging Program Manager
Johnson County Area Agency on Aging PSA 11