DRAFT

COMMUNITY AND IN-HOME OPTIONS TO INSTITUTIONAL CARE FOR THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED (CHOICE)
Board Meeting Minutes – May 15, 2008

Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room C
402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46204

CHOICE Board Members in Attendance: Blake Jackson, Prudence Twigg, Noble Stallons, Nick Petrone, Senator Jean Breaux, Senator Vaneta Becker, Bill Boothe

CHOICE Board Members Absent: Thomas Williamson, Pete Emigh, Glenda Russell, Linda Stephan, Representative Peggy Welch

Visitors in Attendance: Jean Macdonald, Humbert Lopes, Rebecca Carter, Dee Ann Hart, Ed Gottschling, Linda Wolcott, Ruth Ratzlaff, Jacklyn Wood, Cynthia McQuigg, Becky Koors, Becky Johnson, John Cardwell, Jade Luchauer, Celeste Stinson

Call to Order: Chairperson Blake Jackson brought the meeting to order. There was not a quorum to vote on the previous meeting minutes.

Division of Aging Update: Jade Luchauer gave an update on the Money Follows the Person Demonstration Grant, or MFP. The Division of Aging hopes to have final approval from CMS very soon, at which point services under the program can begin.

The Division of Aging has not received any new requests for applications to apply for the two vacant CHOICE Board positions. Jade has contacted different organizations and followed up on leads, but has not found anyone to apply. She asked the Board and audience to submit names of potential applicants to the Division of Aging.

Jade reviewed data from the Quarterly Financial Review, or QFR. As of March 2008, there were 4,289 individuals on the CHOICE wait list and 1,770 on the Medicaid Wavier wait list. Director Megan Ornellas will answer any questions related to the QFR at the next CHOICE Board Meeting.

Jade provided an update on CHOICE's Self-Directed Attendant Care program and said there are currently 473 providers. At the next meeting, she will provide more detailed data on the program, as well as Medicaid's Consumer Directed Care program.

The Division of Aging acquired an additional $1.8 million for SSBG, which will be distributed to the Area Agencies on Aging. This money allowed the Division to increase the income eligibility for SSBG clients to 300% of the federal poverty level. The Division of Aging hopes the extra funding will help move people off the CHOICE wait list and on to SSBG services.

Chairperson Jackson asked for data on the CHOICE wait list and Waiver wait list to be presented at the next meeting.

Jade presented a CHOICE Case Study to the Board that was requested at the previous meeting. The Case Study details the steps a client goes through from the time he or she calls an AAA/ADRC for assistance to the point where he or she receives services. Chairperson Jackson requested a similar Case Study for a Waiver program to be presented at the next CHOICE Board Meeting. Senator Becker asked that the person in the Waiver Case Study end up in an Assisted Living or Adult Foster Care facility.

Noble reviewed the adjusted meeting schedule for the Commission on Aging and Chairperson Jackson and the other CHOICE Board Members agreed to adjust their meeting schedule as well, so the next meeting will be on June 19th instead of July 17th.

John Cardwell completed a question and answer session for the Board. Noble inquired as to who provides leadership for the collaborative effort and John responded that the leadership comes from many sources instead of a single source.

Chairperson Jackson asked John for the top three issues that the conversations discovered. John responded that those issues are: additional money to provide resources, such as CHOICE and Medicaid Waivers; a change in the long term care culture, including the way programs are administered; and keeping a constant dialogue with constituents so they feel their voices are heard.

Public Comments:
Jean Macdonald, Director of Regulatory Affairs of the Indiana Association of Home and Hospice Care (IAHHC), provided public comments. She requested the opportunity to make a presentation at the next CHOICE Board Meeting regarding changing licensure requirements for personal service agencies.

Jean thanked The Generations Project for their study and voiced some concerns regarding the study, including how participants were chosen, statistical methods used, which specific Medicaid Waivers were discussed, and minority populations served.

With no further public comments, Chairperson Jackson adjourned the meeting with a reminder that the next meeting is scheduled for June 19.