Issue 30, February 2015

TM COMMUNICATOR

WORDS FROM TAMMY

Providing services to participants with disabilities (physical, intellectual, mental health, or neurological) raises many challenges for transition managers. The role of the transition manager can mean that you are in many intimate situations with clients and their friends and families. You may have access to private or confidential information. You may also encounter situations where you are confronted with needs, requests, or demands for services or support that are not within your role as a transition manager. The role of a transition manager is to build, support, and strengthen the existing social, family, and community network of a person. The role of a friend is different from the role of transition manager and constitutes a conflict of interest in doing your job. Transition managers may find this difficult as participants are often isolated, lonely, and in need of friends, but it is the role of a transition manager to help build friendships, not to be the friendship. Please keep the following tips in mind when setting appropriate boundaries with Idaho Home Choice participants.

- It is important to be clear about your role, goals, and objectives right from the beginning.
- Discuss your role with the participant or family right at the beginning, and be sure to set limits about inappropriate or unreasonable requests.
- Review how you are doing from time to time.
- Keep your own family and personal life private and separate from your work – be careful about self-disclosure and providing too much personal information about yourself.
- Ask for help when you need it – Transition Management can be isolating with high levels of independence and responsibility.
- Discuss any concerns or worries about your work with the Idaho Home Choice Project Manager.
- Transition managers also have an obligation to report concerns of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of any vulnerable adult.

Please contact me anytime you have any questions or concerns about your role as a transition manager. Thanks for all you do for the Idaho Home Choice Program.

Tammy Ray - IHC Project Manager

WHAT SARAH HAS TO SAY

Watch this - Person Centered Dementia Care

Sarah Spaulding - IHC Project Coordinator

TRAINING TIPS - 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

Signs of Alzheimer's	Typical age-related changes
Memory loss that disrupts daily life.	Sometimes forgetting names or appointments, but remembering them later.
Challenges in planning or solving problems.	Making occasional errors when balancing a checkbook.
Difficulty completing familiar tasks at home, at work, or at leisure.	Occasionally needing help to use the settings on a microwave or to record a television show.
Confusion with time or place.	Getting confused about the day of the week but figuring it out later.
Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships.	Vision changes related to cataracts.
New problems with words in speaking or writing.	Sometimes having trouble finding the right word.
Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps.	Misplacing things from time to time and retracing steps to find them.
Decreased or poor judgment.	Making a bad decision once in a while.
Withdrawal from work or social activities.	Sometimes feeling weary of work, family, and social obligations.
Changes in mood and personality.	Developing very specific ways of doing things and becoming irritable when a routine is disrupted.

Sources: http://www.alz.org/alzheimers_disease_10_signs_of_alzheimers.asp#signs

Question of the Month:

What is Dementia ?

Dementia is a general term for a decline in mental ability severe enough to interfere with daily life. Memory loss is an example. Alzheimer's is the most common type of dementia.

SHOUT OUTS!

BLTC and BDDS staff who are keying the prior authorizations. We really appreciate you! Thank you for being so great!!!

As of 2/20/2015

We have transitioned…

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IHC   MFP