

ATTACHMENT C

Essential Elements of Self-Direction Kansas Statewide Emergency Backup Plan

Emergency planning is an essential component of self-direction. The types of situations which constitute emergencies, the types of services required in emergency situations, and the types of informal, formal and assistive services available to individuals vary widely, which means that emergency backup plans will be as individualized as the people using them. Emergency backup plans will all contain four components:

The levels of emergency backup provisions presented below, while providing necessary services, still reflect the philosophy of consumer choice. While adding additional layers of protection for the participant, it allows the consumer to select the plan that best fits his/her needs. The consumer will continue to rely on the TCM as the first resource.

Levels of Emergency Backup

The TCM will ensure the consumer's health and safety in the event of an emergency by following hierarchy of backup protections. The levels vary by degree of emergency need. Generally a consumer will access these levels of backup in order, starting with Level 1. In case of extreme emergency, however, they may need to go directly to Level 4.

1. Emergency backup planning as part of self-direction planning
2. Identification and organization of supports and services offered by informal support networks
3. Identification and organization of formal supports and services offered as respite, emergency, backup and fee-for-service
4. Emergency management services

Level 1: Consumer Plan of Care Emergency Backups

All consumer-directed service plans will identify emergency and backup supports and services. These plans will include identification of people or providers who have been engaged to provide critical supports as part of the consumer's individual service plan. Self-directed emergency and backup plans will also identify any assistive service needs associated with emergency backup situations, organize a plan for obtaining needed assistive services and

All consumer-directed service plans will include a specific document that will identify emergency and backup supports and services. These plans will include identification of people or provider agencies that have been engaged to provide critical, emergency, and backup services as part of the individual service plan. Self-directed emergency backup plans will also identify any assistive service

needs associated with emergency situations, and how those needs will be anticipated and met.

A copy of the form which will be emulated to document backup and emergency planning is attached. This form has been approved in form and substance for another Kansas program, W.O.R.K.:

http://www.workinghealthy.org/downloads/WORK%20Emergency%20Backup%20Plan%2011_06_07.pdf

In addition all consumers on the HCBS waivers included in MFP are offered a service that pays for installation and rental of personal emergency response units (PERS). These units provide an emergency button that when activated prompts an immediate responder via the speaker unit that has been installed in the individual's home. The responder asks the individual about the situation and based on response contacts the appropriate supports. The consumer provides names and contact information for four people they would want contacted in the event of PERS activation when the unit is installed. When necessary the responder can also contact 911 on behalf of the individual.

Level 2: Informal Network

In the event that the backup providers listed in the individualized service plan are not able to provide backup as planned, consumers may reach out to their network of family, friends, and neighbors to provide interim supports. Most consumers already rely on family and friends to provide supports and services, and in the event of an emergency, informal supports and services play a large role in supporting critical needs for self –directing consumers.

Level 3: Enrolled Medicaid Provider Network

In building community capacity, one of the key components will be to re-purpose the services offered in institutional settings to meet critical needs in home and community settings. Identifying and eliminating regulatory, financial and other obstacles to supporting consumers' ability to access emergency, respite and backup services that may be available through medical providers and nursing facilities will be a key component in building an emergency and backup response system for consumers self-directing their care in their communities.

Level 4: Extreme Emergency Backup

Beyond the above-required emergency backup plans, and in the event of an extreme emergency, the following services can be utilized.

Adult Protective Services

In an emergency situation where there is possible abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation, Adult Protective Services (APS) can be contacted. There is a

statewide toll free telephone number available 24 –hours a day that receives and triages reports. The TCM and community service providers ensure information and the telephone number is given to all consumers and their families upon enrollment. If a case is opened then it will be investigated until a safe resolution for the consumer is made. In addition, APS will investigate reports by any citizen that suspects abuse or neglect. This toll free number is widely published across the state.

Division of Emergency Management

In the event of a natural or man-made disaster, the Kansas Department of Emergency Management coordinates disaster relief through County Emergency Management Agencies. These regional offices in turn coordinate with community-wide organizations in the event of a disaster. Each state agency has in place contingency plans for their particular constituency in the event of fire, tornado, flooding, or terrorism. These plans include assisting individuals with disabilities with evacuation and/or continuity of critical services.

911

All consumers are advised to call the emergency telephone number 911 in the event of a crisis where health or safety are in immediate jeopardy.