

Crossroads of Healthcare

“Finding Solutions to Critical Issues” was a fitting theme for the conference, and for most attendees, the most critical issue was PASRR. Attendees from 13 different states, along with CMS and SAMSHA, nursing facilities, developmental disability consumers, and advocacy groups gathered in the largest group of PASRR professionals to date.

PASRR compliance, systems, and implementation solutions were presented at the conference and states formed workgroups to network and exchange ideas. As a result of these workgroups, the National Association of PASRR Professionals (NAPP) was formed. The NAPP Committee is chaired by Dennis Temple (Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities) and Willard Mays (Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction). DDM offered to provide a forum for PASRR professionals to interact and will host a website, www.PASRR.org, for NAPP members and others to exchange information and share resources and education with anyone interested in PASRR.

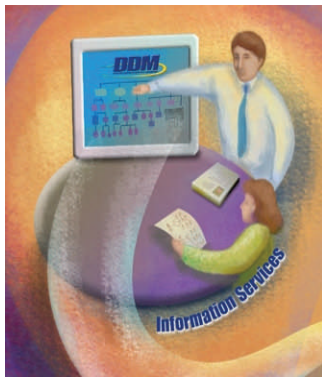
The conference was such a resounding success that a 2007 Conference Planning Committee, chaired by Mitch Magnus, was established to begin discussions about the next conference!



Newsletter Spotlight

CMS has developed a tool for states to **self audit** their compliance with regulatory language.

New Forum for PASRR Professionals



PASRR.org

A Forum for PASRR Professionals

Created following the largest gathering of PASRR professionals to date at the “Crossroads of Healthcare” conference in August of 2006. This site will offer a public forum for all PASRR professionals to utilize and share valuable information. Important regulatory updates, links to resources and tools for quality will also be provided by members and the PASRR.org site sponsor, DDM. We welcome your feedback about improving this site, it belongs to *you*, the PASRR Professional community.

Presentations at Crossroads Conference:

Available to view

and download

at PASRR.org

Dan Timmel, CMS, *PASRR: Not Just for Nursing Facilities*
Dennis Temple, TN DMHDD and Nancy Shanley, DDM, *Provider Training and Compliance*
Deborah Sumruld, DDM, *Level I Compliance*
Michael Cartwright, DDM, *Keynote: Crossroads*



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Planning Committee Minutes

The energized conference participants were so enthusiastic about synergies and strategies to build stronger advocacy programs that they coordinated an ad hoc committee to discuss next steps. With representatives from AR, NC, NJ, OK, FL, TN, NY, KS, CT, CA, NM, WY, ND, and CMS, they identified goals of:

- Developing a website (pasrr.org) to facilitate information exchange and offer interactive bulletin board features
- Developing a dedicated PASRR conference committee which will consider timing and content of the next conference. The group identified the 'best' time as the first part of each fiscal year (early spring or late fall) and suggested avoiding June or winter months. They will evaluate sites which offer Southwest hubs, to take advantage of reduced airfare opportunities. The importance of CMS participation was strongly emphasized and representatives committed to 'getting the word out' to relevant constituencies within their states (Medicaid, MH/MR Authorities, Health Departments, Olmstead groups, etc.).
- Strengthening the State/CMS collaboration to ensure that the 3 goals/advocacy of PASRR are emphasized with states.
- Video conferencing strategies, partnering all PASRR enactors (MR, MH, SA, Ombudsmen),
- Developing methods of outreaching constituencies from a variety of groups to participate and attend the next conference, including representatives from state MR, MH, Medicaid, Aging/Elder Departments, Health Departments, Olmstead Groups, NASMHPD, Housing Authorities, NCNHR, CMS, SAMHSA, and consumer representatives.
- Developing strategies for building an email/list serv, encouraging contiguous states and contacts to access the website/bulletin board forum for networking.
- Working with CMS to resolve 'burning questions' related to compliance with regulatory language. States specifically identified: a) authority over admissions that occur without appropriate Level I/II screening; b) clearer explanations regarding application of convalescent stay criteria; c) clarification of how dementia is/should be viewed; d) implementation of CMS' pending audit tool, and; e) the conundrum of DRGs and their impact on PASRR
- Developing a state survey protocol to obtain information regarding PASRR instrumentation, structure, potential conference presenters, methods for increasing advocacy potential for PASRR, methods for generating an advocacy collaboration with Olmstead partners, IT solutions/Data management methods, MDS integration, and solutions to DRG issues.

Planning Committee Members

Hats off to the volunteers of each of the committees. If you are interested in participating in one of the committees, you may note your interest on pasrr.org
Any changes to your contact information can be reported on that site, as well.

Conference Committee		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>State</i>
Mitch Magness, chair	MI	OK
Dave Caloiaro	MR, MI	NV
Jennifer Glick	MI	CT
Alexandra O'Hannon	Medicaid	AZ
Ginny Johnson	MR, MI	NM
Deborah Sumruld	MI/MR	TN
Nancy Shanley	MI/MR	TN

Association Committee		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>State</i>
Dennis Temple, chair	MI	TN
Willard Mays, chair	MI	
Jennifer Glick	MI	CT
Kathy Yates	DD	OK
Dorothy Ukegbu	Medicaid	AR
Sherri Proffer,	Medicaid	AR
Sam Fante	MI, MR	FL
Nancy Shanley	MI, MR	TN
Pam Raby	MI, MR	TN
Brenda Vittatoo		AZ

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