

**Social Work Conference Call
Meeting Summary
February 3, 2010**

Facilitators: Paige Hector, LMSW with CARES; Laura Townsend with JacksonWhite Law and Joe Bestic, NHA, BA with HSAG

Conference calls are regularly scheduled meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 12:30 PM. Call 1-888-482-3813 and enter the pass code of 3813 to join in!

Topics Discussed:

- Dental 2 U is a new service being promoted to skilled nursing facilities in Arizona. The premium is paid from resident's Share of Cost. Contact Paul Granzier at 440-250-8960 for more information. Below are excerpts from their website, www.dental2u.com

How can you be sure your loved one is getting the proper dental care they need?

Providing quality dental care for your loved one just got easier. Up to this point, receiving consistent dental care and maintenance has been an ongoing challenge for residents in nursing facilities. Arranging for transportation for your loved one to the dentist and costly payments are just part of the problem. In many cases, unless there is an emergency, routine preventative procedures such as cleanings and exams have to be paid from the resident's/guardian's pockets as there is no coverage for these procedures under current Medicaid laws. As a result, these simple procedures-which can be vital in the detection of more serious conditions- are neglected. Studies show poor dental hygiene in seniors can lead to more serious health consequences-such as bone loss, cardiovascular disease, and stroke.

Insurance coverage that brings the dentists directly to the facility — at no cost to Medicaid residents!

Finally, there is a new solution; one that brings quality dental care directly to the resident at no cost to the Medicaid resident. Dental2U has contracted with a leading national mobile dental company to deploy dentists to visit the facility regularly, and through an individual dental insurance policy issued by a reputable Insurance carrier, residents get the consistent, comprehensive dental care they need. As a guardian concerned with getting the best care for your loved one, you have enough to worry about. Receiving quality dental care shouldn't be one of them!

- A resident was erroneously determined to be deceased by Social Security and as a result, ALTCS benefits were discontinued. The facility social worker is being persistent by calling Social Security until the issue is resolved and the benefits are reinstated. All efforts (every phone call) are being documented as well.
- Encouraged everyone to join the social work listserv hosted by the Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research. There are thousands of participants across the country. Questions are posed, challenges discussed and resources shared, much like the conference call we do monthly in Arizona, but on a national basis. Some recent interesting topics have included culture change, sexual expression between two residents with dementia and family councils. To join, send an email to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.SC.EDU, leave the subject line blank and in the message area type "Subscribe IASWRLST" and then type your first and last name.

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