In-Home Supportive Services Assessment and Authorization

PRESENTED BY:
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Department of Adult, Aging, & Medical Services
IHSS Social Worker Training

- Training provided by County Social Services
- Fundamental Training provided by IHSS Training Academy
  - IHSS 101
  - Assessment and Authorization
  - Special Areas in IHSS
  - Program Integrity/State Hearing
  - IHSS and Children
  - Medical Implications
IHSS Process Flow

1) Receive Request for IHSS from applicant

2) Request is screened by SW/Eligibility Screener

3) Initial Assessment at client’s home (or hospital, SNF, Rehab Center)

4) Annual Reassessment to determine continuing need for IHSS
IHSS Assessment Tools - continued

- Annotated Assessment Criteria
  - Criteria (includes general questions and observations during visit) to assist SW in determining the applicant/client’s functional abilities/limitations
IHSS Assessment Tools

- FUNCTIONAL INDEX SCALE (MPP-30-756)
  - 1) Independent
  - 2) Verbal Assistance
  - 3) Some Human Help Needed
  - 4) Lots of Human Help Needed
  - 5) Cannot Perform

*cited from IHSS 101 training manual*
IHSS Assessment Tools - continued

- **Functional Index Scales**
  - Include:
    - Housework
    - Meal Prep and Cleanup
    - Routine Laundry
    - Food Shopping and Errands
    - Bowel, Bladder, and Menstrual Care
    - Respiration
    - Feeding
    - Ambulation
    - Transfers
    - Bathing, Oral Hygiene, Grooming, and Routine Bed Baths
    - Bowel, Bladder, and Menstrual Care
    - Dressing/Prosthetic Devices
    - Memory
    - Orientation
    - Judgment
IHSS Assessment Tools - continued

- **Hourly Task Guidelines**
  - General Guideline created for “time per task”
  - Corresponds with Functional Ranking (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
  - Created to establish uniformity in assessment with regards to “time per task”

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Ex.</th>
<th>Bathing, Oral Hygiene, and Grooming</th>
<th>LOW (hrs/week)</th>
<th>HIGH (hrs/week)</th>
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Special Services

- Protective Supervision
  - To safeguard against accident or hazard by observing and/or monitoring the behavior of non self-directing, confused, mentally impaired or mentally ill persons
  - (ex. Developmental Delay, Dementia)
Special Services - continued

- **Paramedical Services**
  - services that require authorization and training by a medical professional before they can be provided.
    - Wound Care
    - Injections
    - Tube Feeding
    - Suctioning
    - Etc.
Other Home-Visit Items

- SOC873 – Health Care Certification Form
  - Form completed by applicant/recipient’s Licensed Health Care Practitioner which states applicant’s abilities/limitations and certifies need for IHSS. (REQUIRED FORM)
Additional Assessment Domains

- Medical Diagnoses
- Medications taken
- Alternative Resources
  - Regional Center
  - Adult Day Care
  - MSSP
  - Home Health
  - Meals on Wheels
  - Paratransit Services
  - Meal Allowance
Additional Assessment Domains – cont.

- Availability or Need for Durable Medical Equipment and other Assistive Devices
- Living Situation
- Household Composition
- Support System
In short...

TONS OF INFORMATION NEEDED AND COLLECTED IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH SERVICE PLAN AND AUTHORIZATION OF IHSS!
Advantages of Current Assessment

- Creates uniformity in assessment, especially in the event when a case is passed from one worker to another
- Not a Dx-driven program
- Gives SW autonomy to focus on relevant information
Easier to assess clients that have mostly physical limitations vs. clients with mental health dx
- No clear tool to assess mental health needs or issues of Dementia

Lack of ongoing monitoring/service planning
- (Reassessment is done 1x/year or when there is a change in condition)

Lack of Multi-Disciplinary Teams to convene and determine other needs and provide time for information sharing
Missing Components/Areas in Need of Improvement – cont.

- Insufficient medical information
- Health Care Certification (SOC873) provides little information to assist SW with needs determination
- Information on client’s participation in other community services is limited to services that may impact the IHSS hours. (Needed: Wraparound Services, etc.)
- Minimal collaboration with other services in place to maintain client’s independence to live at home safely
No uniform BioPsychoSocial Assessment questions
No risk assessment scale for risk of institutionalization
No link to a data system that will allow for reporting on specific fields or risks
Multiple docs used to assess special services
○ (i.e. Paramedical Services Needs Assessment)