

Cash and Counseling Demonstration and Evaluation

Policy Implications

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Alliance for Health Reform Briefing

July 29, 2005

HHS - A Proud Co-Sponsor of Cash and Counseling

- Consumer direction, Medicaid policy innovation
- Medicaid modernization/LTC reform
- Value of research
- Research informing policy

Key LTC Reform Goals Exemplified by C & C

- Encouraging independence
- Sustaining natural supports
- Access to dependable home care
- Overcoming “institutional bias”
- Setting predictable budgets
- Empowering consumers

HHS is Committed to Improving Home Care Access/Quality

- President's New Freedom Initiative ---
Olmstead Ruling
- CMS Quality Initiative

HHS Committed to Medicaid Cost Control

- Medicaid LTC cost control efforts must be strategic
- Target – alternative LTC financing

Cost Containment Must Support, Program Goals

- Savings illusory
- C & C meets disability needs, reduces nursing home costs

Budget Neutrality

- C & C budget neutral by design
- No abuse of funds
- Almost no one chose “cash”
- Support services prevent fraud

Moving Beyond Experimental “Demonstration”

- C & C has influenced Medicaid policy
- Independence Plus initiative
- Exploring C&C in state plan services

Conclusion

- ADA Anniversary
- C&C improves quality of life
- Cost-effective improvements in access, quality
- DHHS will work to eliminate federal barriers