

## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING**

**November 4, 2009 – 3:30 p.m.  
at Maplewood Manor**

PRESENT: Vice-Chairman Wood; Supervisors Barrett, Richardson, Southworth; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst; Janet Glenn, Public Health; Sandy Fisher, Maplewood Manor; Dale Angstadt, Mental Health

Vice-Chairman Wood called the meeting to order.

Mr. Richardson moved to approve the minutes of the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Barrett seconded. Unanimous.

Mrs. Glenn distributed copies of the Flu Clinic Update. She stated they ordered 2400 doses of the seasonal flu vaccine and scheduled 41 clinics. Of that 2400, we received 1000 doses, she said. We began with the employee clinics on October 1<sup>st</sup>, as at that time, the NYS Commissioner of Health mandated that our employees receive the seasonal influenza vaccine starting this year, she said. We then held clinics for health care workers and EMS, and we were told the remainder of our vaccine should arrive in mid-October, she stated. The week we were to hold our first large public clinic, we were notified by our supplier that they were not able to fill the remainder of our order. We had to tell all of our senior centers that we could not do the clinics because the vaccine was stopped being produced. Last week, the NYSDOH sent us 500 doses of the seasonal flu vaccine, and we immediately set up a clinic which was held yesterday at the Fire Training Center. At that clinic, we did 339 residents. To date, we have given 1500 seasonal flu vaccines. It does not look like we will receive any more seasonal flu vaccine, she stated.

Mr. Richardson asked why there is a shortage. Mrs. Glenn stated it is the same manufacturer that is now producing the H1N1 vaccine. Mrs. Southworth stated she received calls from some residents that stated yesterday's clinic was great and well organized.

Mrs. Glenn stated the H1N1 started in April. We are seeing an increased number of individuals with flu like symptoms. This virus targets younger children and pregnant women. We do not have a number of the confirmed cases of H1N1, as this statistic is being tracked under the general influenza A statistics. We have done a lot of education with the public and community partners regarding measures that can be taken to reduce the spread of the highly contagious virus, she stated. She said they met in August with school nurses and did an outreach with school superintendents and nursing home facilities. We participated in weekly conference calls with the Department of Health over current flu issues, she said.

Mrs. Glenn said the Governor issued an executive order declaring a disaster in the State. It is intended to provide NYSDOH and local health departments in the State the flexibility needed to ensure that once vaccine supplies are more abundant, we are able to

quickly and efficiently vaccinate as many individuals as possible. She stated the H1N1 vaccine is targeted for pregnant women, children, and young people ages 6 months to 24 years; individuals who care for infants under the age of 6 months; individuals 25-64 who have other underlining medical conditions that put them at risk for flu-related complications, and health care workers and EMS. She said they were told that there would be an adequate supply of the vaccine. She mentioned there are 106,000 individuals in Saratoga County who are in one of these categories. Our first doses of the H1N1 flu vaccine arrived the first week of October from NYSDOH, she said. She stated they order on Mondays, but they do not know when or how much of the order will arrive. Initially, we received 500 doses of the live nasal mist vaccine following 400 doses of injectable vaccine and administered all of that. The vaccine is slow in coming in, but the demand is high, she said. She stated their phone usage has been over 99.5%. We are putting individuals on a waiting list. Just yesterday we received some more vaccine, and we are doing a clinic on Friday and one on Monday. My staff should be commended for the time and effort they have put into this, she said. She said she has clerical people just doing phone duty. She said they are tracking the time spent in planning, implementing and vaccinating for the H1N1, as they will be able to receive reimbursement from the federal government for the time spent. We are eligible for approximately \$564,000 in funds for H1N1 related activities, she added.

Mrs. Glenn said in the middle of November/early December, vaccines will become available, and they will do flu clinics. Call us with questions, or e-mail me, she stated.

Ms. Fisher said by regulation, all of their residents are required to see a dentist within 28 days of admission and every year thereafter. She said their dental contract expires on December 31<sup>st</sup>. She said they received only one response for this from DentServ at an annual cost of \$50,127.48. She said DentServ has not had an increase since 2006. Their increase is \$2,386.98 which is 5%, and they will hold this rate through 2011 if we extend the contract, she said. **Mr. Richardson moved to authorize this contract with DentServ. Ms. Southworth seconded. Unanimous.**

Ms. Fisher stated their last private pay rate increase was in January at \$10/day. We are proposing an increase from \$259.70 to \$270.30. This is \$10.60/day with cash assessment through March, 2011. The cash assessment will be passed on to the private pay residents, and there are 28 of them, she said. She stated this new revenue will be minimal. **Ms. Southworth moved to approve an increase in Maplewood Manor's private pay rate to \$255/day plus New York State 6% cash assessment (\$270.30). Mr. Richardson seconded. Unanimous.**

Ms. Fisher said we are starting to see a number of our residents coming in with Medicare Advantage Plans, and if we do not have a contract with the plans, we cannot accept them. We are trying to accommodate more perspective residents, she said. The reimbursements are pretty high, she stated. It is similar to CDPHP and Blue Shield products, she added. She stated included in the rate are room and board, routine dental, routine medication and supplies. The contract would be effective for an indefinite period of time, and we must apply to a particular provider and be accepted. Ms. Southworth asked if they heard about

this because of an application, and Ms. Fisher said yes. We will have to renegotiate some daily rates over time, she said. **Mr. Richardson moved to approve an Empire Health Choice revenue contract. Mr. Barrett seconded. Unanimous. (Committee approval only).**

On a motion by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Barrett, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann