Geriatrics and Extended Care Programs With Caregiver Focus

26 October 2010
....to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan
Budget and Workload

FY 2011

- Total LTC: $6.7 Billion. $5.4 Billion in NH, $1.3 Billion in HCBS
- Percent Increase in Budget over FY 2010: 14.0% Overall. 12.2% in NH, 21.6% in HCBS
- Average Daily Census: 38,286 in NH – 3.2% increase over FY 2010, 62,320 in HCBS – 11.9% Increase over FY 2010
- In FY 2011, HCBS is 19.8% of LTC Budget
VA Goal: Meet Enrollees Demand for VA’s Mandated H&CBC Services
H&CBC Actual ADC and Estimated Targets to Meet Demand by FY2011
The Challenge

“As the number of aging Veterans increases over the next decades, the Department will need to expend more resources for their care. Expanding services for old chronically ill patients will cause disquietude among some in the Department.”

Dr. Paul A.L. Haber, ACMD for Extended Care on establishment of the Office of Extended Care, 1975
Long-Term Care Risk Groups

- **Low-Risk of NH Placement**
- **Medium-Risk of NH Placement**
- **High-Risk of NH Placement**
Programs with Specific Caregiver Focus

- Homemaker/Home Health Aide
- Adult Day Care
- In-Home Respite
- Veteran Directed HCBS
Framework for Understanding These Programs

- Eligibility
- Administration
- Funding Levels
Eligibility

- Largely Same for Each Program – Enrolled in VA for Health Care
- 4 Target Populations
- Dependent in 3 ADLs
- Dependent in 2 ADLs/2 IADLs and 2 Other Conditions
- Enrolled in Hospice
Access and Administration

- Veteran/Caregiver Assessed for Care Needs
- VA Establishes Authorization
- Referred to Service/Agency under Contract
- Authorization should follow need assessment
- Respite Care beyond 30 days/year requires VAMC Director approval
Funding Levels in FY 2009

- Homemaker/Home Health Aide - $264.1 million – 54,000 Veterans
- Adult Day Care (Community & VA) - $54.0 Million – 8,800 Veterans
- In-Home Respite - $20.0 Million – 6,600 Veterans
- VA Nursing Home Respite - $51.9 Million – 3,800 Veterans
- Community Nursing Home Respite - $3.4 Million – 1,000 Veterans
Veteran Directed Home and Community Based Services: In Brief

- Joint partnership between VHA-AoA combining the experience and AoA's Aging Network with the commitment and resources of VHA to provide Veterans with additional opportunities to remain in the community, supported by family and friends.

- Under the VD-HCBS program, the Veteran and Veteran's Caregiver will: manage a flexible budget; decide for themselves what mix of services will best meet their personal care needs; hire their own personal care aides, including family or neighbors; and purchase items or services to live independently in the community.

- Veterans in this program receive an individualized needs assessment, support in developing their personalized care plan and assistance in paying workers in accordance with local, state and federal laws from a trained service coordinator and financial management service.
Emerging Challenges and Needs for All HCBS Programs

- Diverse Veteran Population
  - Aging Veterans: Difficult to manage and high level of need
  - Younger Veterans
  - Veterans with special needs: Spinal Cord Injury, Traumatic Brain Injury, ALS

- Growing demand for more flexible and consistent caregiver support

- Identified need in rural areas

- Preference for HCBS options