

Fellow Public Administrators:

We had a very good meeting with DMH yesterday in Jeff City and Felix Vincenz presented information to us about the Health Home Initiative and I have attached the power point he graciously forwarded to me to share with all of you.

For years I have been concerned about persons that are a part of the mental health system with chronic and persistent mental health disorders and the very medications they take and coordination of what the physician outside provides. The Health Home will not replace or take over the services of a person's personal physician, but enhance this care with this plan. The hope is that it may actually give us a better picture of medical and mental health combined for the person and providers and hopefully lower Medicaid expenditures on the State level. It is true that this is a pilot plan that the Federal level is trying in Missouri. I did add that I believe also that dental and eye care should be added as those that are currently served in independent living and assisted living with Medicaid are currently denied these services. The feedback from Mr. Vincenz was good and understanding about this comment. He did not promise this could happen, but sees the importance especially for the dental care inclusion, as the medications persons are taking do effect their dental needs as well as their physical health.

The next meeting is May 22, 2012, 1:00pm to 3:00pm. I would mention that at this meeting you will have chosen a new President.

Terry L. Edwards, NCG