



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
Office of the Secretary
208 Hurricane Lane, Suite 103
Williston, VT 05495
www.humanservices.vermont.gov

Douglas A. Racine, Secretary

[phone] 802-871-3009
[fax] 802-871-3001

November 28, 2012

Representative Richard Marek, Chair
Legislative Committee of Administrative Rules (LCAR)
c/o Legislative Council
115 State Street
Drawer 33
Montpelier, VT 05633-5301

RE: Attendant Services Program Regulations

Dear Representative Marek,

Enclosed please find all Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living (DAIL) materials as they pertain to Rule Title, Attendant Services Program (ASP) Regulations, schedule for consideration on Thursday, December 13th, 2012. We appreciate your consideration of the rules change.

Our Public Input Summary describes the Rulemaking Process that occurred between July 2011 and November 2012, during which we received input from over 30 stakeholders, 25 of whom are program participants. In addition, the Final Proposed Rule Coversheet, and the Responsiveness Summary indicate details of our continued participant engagement.

While we value the formal means of engagement included in the current regulations, including reactivation of the Annual Meeting (which did not occur during the past few years), and the continuation of our Annual Consumer Satisfaction survey, we would like to make note of our committed intention to engage our stakeholder community in developing new opportunities for relevant conversations between DAIL and the Attendant Services Program participants and stakeholders.

To that end, if the proposed regulation changes are adopted, we intend to hold a planning meeting by February 2013 to invite participation in structuring these new opportunities. It is critically important to us that stakeholders are part of this discussion from the inception of the process. In addition to program participants, we will include representatives from VCIL, DRVT, and VT Legal Aide. Planning will include use of technology to increase the opportunity for participation by all stakeholders. An outcome of that meeting will be to develop a planning roadmap that results in a consensus agreement of meaningful ways to communicate and engage our participant population.

Representative Richard Marek, Chair
RE: Attendant Services Program Regulations
November 28, 2012

We are confident that a committed group will find solutions to engage a broad spectrum of participants in matters pertaining to the Attendant Services Program. Challenges such as time commitments, travel, and regional locations can be resolved to support this.

The Agency of Human Services looks forward to a continued partnership with our ASP stakeholders. We believe that the proposed regulations fully support this partnership.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Douglas Racine
Secretary
Agency of Human Service