

Monitoring Grants Growth and Success

A Case Study on Grants Management

Background

Over the past decade, both the President and Congress have developed initiatives designed to improve health and employment services for people with disabilities. The President's New Freedom Initiative, for example, provided the impetus for States to improve the infrastructure of health, mental health, housing, and transportation systems for disabled people of all ages. In addition, in 1999 Congress passed the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Act, which established grant and demonstration programs designed to improve employment opportunities for people with disabilities (or potentially disabling conditions) by improving access to appropriate health services.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has been given major responsibilities for implementing and monitoring many of the grant programs established through these initiatives, including the Real Choice Systems Change (RCSC) Grants, the Medicaid Infrastructure Grants (MIGs), the Demonstration to Maintain Independence and Employment (DMIE), and most recently the Hospital Discharge Planning Model (HDM) Grants.

Core Objectives

- CMS has very specific strategic action plan objectives that they use to measure success. Among these are:
- Creating and sustaining a skilled, committed, and highly-motivated workforce.
- Create an environment of high value health care with accurate and predictable payments.
- Educate the public and have confident, informed consumers that are part of their own health care process.

- Establish beneficial collaborative partnerships with other government agencies and subcontractors to help them with their mission and objectives.

Support Methods

Ascellon Corporation has many years of experience in providing grant management technical assistance, administrative support on national programs, and major programs supports for these important grant initiatives.

The Grants Management Team at Ascillon Corporation provides support to CMS in programmatically managing the grants in the CMS Disabled and Elderly Health Programs Group (DEHPG). The nature of support is three-fold:

Performance Reporting

The Ascillon Grants Specialists monitor and document the grantees' progress in meeting goals, work plan objectives and tasks, time lines, outcomes, budget, and all other issues stipulated in the grant's and terms and conditions.

Targeted Monitoring

The Ascillon Grants Specialists provide detailed monitoring and assistance to the CMS PO for grantees that have encountered obstacles in meeting their work plan deliverables.

Administrative and Technical Support

The Ascillon Grants Specialists provide administrative and technical support to the grantees and CMS staff. For grantees, this administrative support includes answering grantees' process questions, monitoring, and analyzing administrative requirements (e.g., charting the financial performance of grantees against their budget).

To assist in managing these diverse programs effectively and



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efficiently and developing the foundation of information needed for its future reporting responsibilities, CMS looks to the Ascellon Grants Management Team to efficiently meet its grants management goals.

For More Information about Ascellon's Grants Management for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Contact:

Sheila Scott, Vice President/COO

Phone: 240-737-2025

E-mail: sscott@ascellon.com