DAAHR Briefing: The New Reality in Health Care

Disability Advocates Advancing Our Healthcare Rights (DAAHR) Forum
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Political Landscape – U.S.

• Presidential Race
  – Popular Vote - 46% Trump (62,985,105) to 48% Clinton (65,853,625)
  – Electoral College – 304 Trump to 227 Clinton

• United States Senate – 52 R – 46D – 2I (Caucus with Ds)
  – Senator Elizabeth Warren – Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP); Special Committee on Aging (focused on strengthening Medicare)

• United States House – 241 R – 194 D
  – Representative Richard Neal - Committee on Ways and Means
  – Representative Joe Kennedy - Committee on Energy and Commerce

• Governors – 31 R – 18 D – 1
Political Landscape – Massachusetts

- **Governor Charlie Baker – R**
  - Embraces health system transformation
  - Recently opposed wholesale repeal of the ACA and Medicaid Block Grants/Per Capita Caps

- **Massachusetts House**
  - 126D – 34R

- **Massachusetts Senate**
  - 34D – 6R
Personnel is Policy

Tom Price, Nominee for HHS Secretary

Seema Verma, Nominee for CMS Administrator
The Road Ahead
The Road Ahead – The Sprint

• Repeal of the Affordable Care Act

• Vehicles:
  – Trump Executive Order
  – Reconciliation

• Timeline – Late February/Early March 2017
  – Republicans in the Senate may offer an alternative that could push this date out
The Road Ahead – The 5K

- Medicaid Shift to Block Grants or Per Capita Caps
- Vehicle: Reconciliation
- Timeline – 2017
The Road Ahead – The Marathon

- Transformation of Medicare from a Defined Benefit to a Defined Contribution Program
- Replacement of ACA
- Timeline – 2018 and after
The Road Ahead – The Iron Man?

• Transforming Health System Transformation Initiatives
  – Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI)
  – Dual Eligible Demonstrations
  – State Waiver Programs

• Timeline – ????
How Does This Affect People With Disabilities?

- Medicaid
- Medicare
- Innovation
- Community First Choice Option
- Private Market
  - No pre-existing health conditions
  - No lifetime monetary caps
  - Community rating
  - Nondiscrimination provisions
    - essential health benefits
    - mental health parity
- Health-related provisions
How Does This Affect People With Disabilities in Massachusetts?

- Massachusetts has embraced the Affordable Care Act
  - Marketplace
  - Medicaid Expansion
  - General Insurance Reforms
  - For Seniors – the Donut Hole

- Massachusetts has a Robust Medicaid Program
  - Nine HCBS waivers

- Massachusetts has a Robust Innovation Agenda
  - MassHealth Restructuring – ACOs, CPs
  - Dual Eligible Demonstration Project: OneCare
  - Hundreds of Other Initiatives
Questions?
Action Steps!