**Appendix H**

**ii. Describe the process to periodically evaluate, as appropriate, the Quality Improvement Strategy-Please see proposed changes in track**

DHCF has in place several mechanisms to monitor and analyze EPD waiver performance. The LTCA Oversight and Monitoring Division conduct compliance reviews on performance measures of all waiver assurances. The LTCA Oversight and Monitoring Division is responsible for the discovery and remediation process of individual and systemic issues.

On a monthly basis the Division of Quality and Health Outcomes in concert with the LTCA Oversight and Monitoring Division convenes a Quality Management Committee (QMC). The purpose of QMC is to provide oversight of the EPD program to evaluate the performance and implement quality improvement strategies for continuous quality improvement

Performance measures are derived from the actual EPD waiver measures approved by CMS or other measures that the program feels are important to monitor. A report card of measures is maintained in the DQHO. The EPD staff submits performance rates to DQHO for tracking and trending. Once rates are submitted to the DQHO an analysis is completed on individual and overall measure performance.

The performance status for each measure is discussed at the monthly Quality Management Committee (QMC) meeting. Committee members include managers and staff within various administrations at DHC.

Additionally, DHCF utilizes a work plan that tracks performance and prioritizes improvement efforts and implementation of the Plan-Do-Check Act quality improvement process. The work plan will be utilized to formally develop the written quality strategy. This strategy will be in compliance with CMS’s national initiatives for home and community based settings This strategy will be aligned with the National Quality Strategy of better care, healthy people, healthy communities, and affordable care. This program will fit within the Agency’s strategic mission and strategic goals.

Task 1. The DQHO partners with the LTCA Monitoring and Oversight Division to conduct a comprehensive program analysis of the previous EPD waiver program. This evaluation will include an analysis of all components of the EPD waiver. It shall include an iterative process for assessing quality performance, identify opportunities for improvement, and outline recommendations for targeted quality improvement processes and measuring and monitoring of the quality program’s effectiveness. This evaluation will be completed by April 2017.

Task 2. The program analysis in addition to the work plan will be used to develop a comprehensive five year quality strategy. The quality strategy will included a process for assessing and revising performance measures at least annually.

Task 3. Provisions will be included to ensure that all applicable providers delivering services to waiver participants shall be subject to quality standards, including but not limited to, guidance issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and rules issued by DHCF related to quality improvement activities.  All applicable service providers shall be subject to quality standards that adhere to CMS and DHCF guidance related to DHCFs quality strategy, and provide for a continuous Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (QAPI) program consistent with these requirements.

The quality strategy will complete and implemented by December 2017.