

# INCOME MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Thursday, January 16, 2025

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Zoom: <https://dhswi.zoomgov.com/j/1601074465>

## Minutes

### Invitees

Attendees (X = Attended)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Katie Sepnieski – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tarah Richardson – DHS BEOT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alicia Grulke – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LaTanya Taylor – DHS BEOT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ashley Schabel – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paul Michael - DHS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jody Noble – DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Autumn Arnold – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pungnou Her – DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brookelynn Slamka – DHS BEEP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Molly Thomas – DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Valeri Kazakhetsyan – DHS BEEP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Angela Stanford – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laurie Teubert – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alexia Hamilton – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Huffman – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nick Kwaw – DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	True Lor – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Linsey Donaldson – DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Hanson – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Victoria Conley – DHS BEEP	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rebecca David – DHS BEEP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bay Lake – Chelsey Groessl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moraine Lakes – Mia Anderson-Inman
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bay Lake – Becky Hetfield-Salentine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moraine Lakes – Heather Merten
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Capital – Shawn Tessmann	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Northern – Steve Budnik
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Capital – Adam Chorlton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern – Jeanine Spuhler
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Central – Nicole Rolain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Southern – Kate Chambers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Central – Amanda Brooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Southern – Laci Bainbridge
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	East Central – Ann Kriegel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Western – Lorie Graff (co-chair)
<input type="checkbox"/>	East Central – Annett Mooney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Western – Tricia Wavra
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Great Rivers – Kathy Welke (co-chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WKRP – Kimm Peters
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Great Rivers – Ronda Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Wetherbee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	East Central – John Rathman (co-chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tami Berg - OIG
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WKRP – Katie Kasprzak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Ewing – DHS BEOT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Thor Neng - DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crystal L. Malone – crystal.malone@mohican-nsn.gov
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cheryl Kawlewski – Portage County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Traci Cahill –traci.cahill@redcliff-nsn.gov

<input type="checkbox"/>	Gage Winkelmann – DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Koch - OIG
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Honsa - DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lauren Heitman – DHS Area Admin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kent Ellis - DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shine Baby– DHS BSM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Annie Griggs – DCF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Cone – DHS BSM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jessica Schultze – Jefferson County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Darin Petesch – DHS BSM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Darsell Johns – Ozaukee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Christina Tuenge -Great Rivers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael Poma - MilES	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shauna Grossman - DHS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tim McGuire - MilES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shelli Essmann DHS Area Admin
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mac Strawder - MilES	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carol Waulet – Door County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Belanger-Red Cliff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amber Taylor – Adams County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wendy Corbine - Bad River	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kris Weden – Marathon County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renee Lyman – Dodge County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Raelle Allen - Lac du Flambeau Tribe
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carol Sjoblom – Columbia County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maria Delagado – Southern
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rebecca Luebke – Area Admin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roxann Binkowski – Waushara County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Heidrun Kovach – Dane County	<input type="checkbox"/>	April Ferstl – DCF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitch Birkey – Calumet County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deb Bohlman – Fond du Lac County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kesha Cole – Ozaukee County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amy Beranek – Dodge County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Michele Chiuchiolo – Dane County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Melissa Todd
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deb Williquette – Manitowoc County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rob Klingforth – Moraine Lakes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ron Redell – Dane County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cortney Hebel – Dane County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kara Ponti – Dane County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Charlie Morgan – WI Legislature
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Gokey – chris.gokey@lco-nsn.gov	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nasbah Hill –Nhill1@oneidanation.org
<input type="checkbox"/>	Linda Sallerud –lindassallerud@fcp-ncn.gov	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michele Shawano – michele.shawano@scc-nsn.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maggie Calhoun – Maggie.calhoun@fcp-nsn.gov	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ashley McGeshick –Ashley.mcgeshick@scc-nsn.gov
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wendy Corbine – fep@badriver-nsn.gov	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jaime Jameson –jaime.jameson@scc-nsn.gov
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gloria Cobb – gcobb@ldftribe.com	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tina Weitrman –tina.weitrman@mohican-nsn.gov
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Raelle Allen –rallen@ldftribe.com	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dylana Kinepowayg –dkinepoway@mitw.org
<input type="checkbox"/>	Taryn Williams –taryn.williams@ldftribe.com	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jessica VandeKamp – jwallenf@oneidanation.com
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shannon Drake-Buhr-DHS BEEP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stephanie Krieger – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jolyne Wallace – OIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Valerie Hayes -DHS BEOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kristin Latus – WKRP		

## AGENDA

### Welcome (Katie Sepnieski & John Rathman)

- Report attendance by replying to the email from [DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov).
- John Rathman, Wisconsin County Human Service Association (WCHSA) Tri Chair, announced his retirement on March 7, 2025. Discussions are occurring with WCHSA for a replacement.

### Approval of November 21, 2024, Meeting Minutes (Katie Sepnieski)

- Motions made to approve the minutes by Adam Chorlton and Steve Budnik, then approved by consensus.

### Policy Updates (Department of Health Services)

#### FoodShare

#### *FoodShare Work Requirement Text and Email Campaigns*

- On January 8, 2025, DHS sent a one-time mailing, text message, and follow-up email to individuals that lost eligibility due to accruing the third Time limited benefits (TLB) in November 2024 or earlier.
  - The goal of this letter and communications was to let individuals know that the new three-year period for the FoodShare work requirement has started, and people who lost eligibility due to not meeting the work requirement can choose to reapply.
- Beginning February 24, 2025, the Department will implement an ongoing text campaign targeting members subject to the work requirement and members that accrue the second and third TLBs.
- These new text and email communications will align with the timing of existing written notices.
- The texts and emails will be sent at the same time, so that the individual can reference the email or written notice for more detail.
- The first set of text and email messages will be sent to all members determined to be subject to the work requirement following eligibility determination or if there is a change on the case.
  - This timing will align with the sending of the notice of work requirements and in most cases, the member will have just received the work requirements script as part of their interview.
  - Relevant changes on the case that will prompt the sending of this first set of messages will include instances where someone on the case becomes subject to the work requirement or if someone is added to the case and is subject to the work requirement.
- The second set of text and email messages will be sent in the middle of the month the member will accrue the second time-limited month. This timing will align with the sending of the TLB warning letter, which is sent after the second Saturday of the month.
  - Due to the February 24 implementation date, the first set of two TLB messages will be sent later in the month of February.
- The third set of text and email messages will be sent in the middle of the month the member will accrue their third month. This timing will align with the sending of the Notice of Decision, which is sent after Adverse Action.
  - The first month members will receive the third set of messages will be March 2025 due to the timing of the January three-year period reset.
- The Department is excited about this text campaign and the opportunity to reach members through more modern means.
- These communications have been translated into Spanish and Hmong.

## **Healthcare**

### *Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP)*

- The Department plans to make significant improvements to the premium payment process for MAPP members to address issues that have been experienced since MAPP premiums were reinstated in August 2024.
  - These improvements will require significant changes to CARES and ACCESS, and will be implemented in October 2025.
  - Until these systems changes will be in place at the end of 2025, DHS will not disenroll MAPP members for non-payment of premiums.
  - Premiums will continue to be charged, and DHS expects members to continue to pay.
  - There are improvements forthcoming to the MAPP premium statement and envelope.
  - The Department is collaborating with Gainwell to change the format of the premium statement to include a window envelope, with the goal of making it easier for members to pay their premiums to the correct address.
  - Members will no longer have to find an envelope and write the address out.
  - This change is scheduled to occur in February 2025, for March 2025 premium statements.
  - Materials are being developed to share with income maintenance and other partners, and to post on the Department website to explain this change.

### **Upcoming Health Care Policy Operations Memos**

- Enhancements to Health Care Administrative Renewals (*Title subject to change*).
  - Several changes have been implemented to comply with federal requirements around administratively renewing health care at the individual rather than household level.
  - Members have been administratively renewing at the individual level, but the process will be fully automated with the February release.
  - Renewal correspondence will be modified to comply with federal requirements and provide clearer communications for members.
- Health Insurance Access No Longer Impacts Eligibility for BadgerCare Plus and BadgerCare Plus Prenatal Program New federal regulations prohibit waiting periods for CHIP (*Title subject to change*).
  - A limited number of children and pregnant persons in BadgerCare Plus whose coverage is funded through CHIP currently have coverage denied or terminated if there is current health insurance coverage or have access, or had past access in the last twelve months, to certain health insurance policies.
  - Members will no longer be denied or terminated for current or past access; and instead, will only be denied or disenrolled if they are currently enrolled in health insurance coverage.
- 2025 Federal Poverty Level Changes for ForwardHealth Programs
  - The annual federal poverty level (FPL) change for health care is expected in early February.

### **Subcommittee Updates (Income Maintenance Agency Subcommittee Co-Chairs)**

- Income Maintenance Operational Analysis (IMOA) subcommittee met January 10, 2025. John Rathman shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is February 7, 2025.
- Call Center Technical subcommittee met on November 25, 2024, and December 9, 2024. Kris Weden shared key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting was held on January 13, 2025.
- The Fraud and Program Integrity subcommittee met on November 12, 2024. Robert Klingforth shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is February 11, 2025.

## **CARES Releases**

- Katie Quaintance presented on information for the February 2025 CARES Release, *Add Functional Eligibility to LTC Enrollment*. See attachment for details.
- Shawn Thomas presented on information for the February 2025 CARES Release, *Administrative Renewals for Individuals*. See attachment for details.
- Darin Petesch presented on information for the February 2025 CARES Release, *Health Employment Counseling (HEC)*. See attachment for details.
- Suzanne Cone presented on information for the February 2025 CARES Release, *SSA (Social Security Administration) Data Exchange Modernization*. See attachment for details.
- Darin Petesch presented on information for the February 2025 CARES Release, *Caseworker Policy Assistant*. See attachment for details.

## **Income Maintenance (IM) Funding and Contract Updates (Alicia Grulke & John Rathman)**

- 2025 income maintenance contracts have been signed by all consortia.

### **Consortia Feedback (John Rathman)**

- Consortia noted that Wendy Metcalf's name still appears in the 2025 income maintenance contract and likely needs to be updated in a future contract amendment or revision.
- Consortia requested that agendas, attachments, and solicitation for feedback from partner agencies, at least four to five business days before the subcommittee meeting.
- Consortia requested for the February Income Maintenance Operational Analysis (IMOA) meeting to allocate at least 20 minutes to address answers to the New Worker Training questions.

### **Administrative Memos (Alicia Grulke & John Rathman)**

- Administrators Memo 24-05, Estate Recovery Incentive Funds, was published on December 15, 2024.
- Administrators Memo 25-01, Fraud Prevention and Investigation Program Guidelines 2025 and the attachment was published. The effective date is January 15, 2025.
- Administrators Memo 25-02, 2025 Income Maintenance Consortia Administrative Allocation, was published in January 2025.

### **Regional Enrollment Network (Lorie Graff)**

- 2025 Open Enrollment ended January 15, 2025.
- Open enrollment was at an all-time high in Wisconsin for 2025. Final reports will be shared once published.

### **Public Comment**

- None

### **Announcements**

- For upcoming meetings in 2025, send agenda items to the WHCSA Tri Chairs or Bureau of Eligibility Operations and Training operations associate at [DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov).