

INCOME MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Thursday, January 21st, 2021

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Zoom: <https://dhswi.zoom.us/j/88695359976?pwd=NGRMM0lDbnd1ZUJFbU5FTes1dEc0QT09>

Minutes

Non-State Attendees:

Nicole Rolain	Marathon County
Chelsey Groessl	Brown County
John Rathman	Outagamie County
Mitch Birkey	Calumet County
Kimm Peters	Kenosha County
Kris Weden	Marathon County
Annett Mooney	Marquette County
Cheryl Brickl	Sauk County
Robert Klingforth	Waukesha County
Kathy Welke	Eau Claire County
Michele Chiuchiolo	Dane County
Nina Taylor	Kenosha County
Ann Kriegel	Winnebago County
Cindi Flynn	Adams County
Doreen Lang	Northern Consortia
Anthony Sis	Dane County
Nikia Morton	Dane County

State and Federal Attendees:

Elizabeth Dehling	DHS
Michael Poma	DHS
Angela Stanford	DHS
Alicia Grulke	DHS
Debbie Waite	DHS
Jonelle Brom	DHS
Rebecca McAtee	DHS

AGENDA

1. **Administrative Issues (Debbie Waite & John Rathman)**

- Report attendance by e-mailing to this mailbox DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov
- John Rathman recognized Rachel Pantaleo – Moraine Lakes Consortium – for her many years of service in Income Maintenance and her valuable contributions to IMAC and its

subcommittee structure. Rachel is retiring in February. Rachael introduced Darsell Johns as her replacement at Ozaukee County.

2. **Approval of November 19th, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Debbie Waite)**

- Motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded and approved by consensus.

3. **Policy Updates/COVID-19 Policy updates (Rebecca McAtee)**

- The National PHE has been extended through April 21st, 2021. COVID related healthcare policies will be extended out to align with this extension. The earliest date in which the policies will go back into effect is July 2021.
- Healthcare Renewals continue to be pushed out at this time.
- DHS does not have authority at this time to extend out FoodShare renewals for the original COVID deferred review months of March, April and May of 2020. As a result, approximately 30,000 FS renewals are slated to be completed for March 2021. Notices to members will be going out in mid-February for those March renewals. If approved by FNS, other FoodShare renewals that had not already been pushed out for a 12 month period will be extended through June 2021. More information will be shared out as it becomes available. **Consortia Question:** Will reports be sent to agencies regarding FS renewals for March? **Response:** Case information should be available in IMMR.
- The temporary 15% FoodShare benefit increase was approved for February and continues through June.
- Emergency FoodShare Allotments for January will be loaded on January 24. With the state PHE having been extended, DHS will request emergency allotment authorization for February benefits.
- The new Federal Pandemic Unemployment Insurance (FPU) payment of \$300/ week is not countable as FS income at this time. The BEEP policy team is putting together a chart on treatment of the various types and treatment of unemployment insurance payments for agency use.
- The policy on disregarding wages earned from census employment had originally expired in October 2020 but is now being extended.
- DHS has submitted an initial plan for approval to FNS to offer PEBT benefits for the 2020-21 school year. DHS will provide more information regarding implementation and timelines once available.

4. **Subcommittee Updates**

- The IMOA subcommittee met on January 8th, 2020. John Rathman shared key discussion points and action items from that meeting (see attachment). Next meeting is February 5th, 2021.
 - Reviewed the subcommittee charter and approved the final 2021 Charter document.
 - Received progress report from AIMS staff on status of project to draft and finalize three CARES security manuals. A confidential cases policy manual will be created in addition.
 - Heard that two consortia and MILES still need to complete their 2020 Security access spreadsheet updates. The 2021 spreadsheet update process will begin in April 2021.
- Performance Monitoring Subcommittee met on January 20th, 2021. Ann Kriegel shared key discussion points from that meeting (see attachment). Next Meeting is March 17th, 2021.
 - Reviewed the subcommittee charter and approved the final 2021 Charter document

- Identified an interest in doing more focused and detailed overviews of individual IMMR reports at future meetings.
- Reviewed Error Review Committee meeting findings including active error root causes.
- CCA/Genesys subcommittee met on December 14th, 2021. Kris Weden shared key discussion points and action items from that meeting (see attachment). Next meeting is January 25th, 2021.
 - Heard update on status of Genesys business requirements
 - Reviewed timetable for project which includes subcommittee starting to meet more frequently in February.
- EBD/LTC subcommittee met on January 19th, 2021. Elizabeth Dehling shared key discussion points from that meeting (see attachment). Next meeting is April 21st, 2021.
 - Had 132 participants in the meeting which focused on providing feedback to DHS staff to inform 2021 project to re-write the MA handbook.

5. **Regional Enrollment Network (John Rathman)**

- The REN group:
 - Shared expectation that new federal administration may increase funding for Navigator grants.
 - Reviewed trend information from 2020 open enrollment, which varied by region of state.
 - Discussed concerns by navigators and CACs about the workload bubble for next year when COVID policy on no-terminations phases out.
 - Discussed potential for new Administration to reopen another open enrollment period in the early months of 2021 or open a specialized enrollment period for certain populations.
 - Provided feedback that January suspension vs termination stakeholder call was valuable.

6. **Income Maintenance (IM) Funding and Contract Updates (Debbie Waite & John Rathman)**

- 2021 IM contracts have been sent out to all consortia via docu-sign. Six signed contracts have been returned with four outstanding: Western, WKRP, IM Central and Southern.

7. **Consortia Feedback (John Rathman)**

- Consortia requested that DHS consider holding a 2021 Statewide Information Technology Summit to include county IT directors. This will be proposed to BSM.
- Consortia would like to re-invigorate the conversation around the Worker Productivity Reports from several years ago.
- In order to facilitate workload planning, Consortia asked if DHS could generate an adhoc report, showing county by county expected caseload data of individual and families that will lose Medicaid by month once COVID non-termination policy ends.
- Consortia shared that post CARES release Q and A sessions were an important forum for staff and should be continued. To make them more effective, it was suggested that a) timing for session be pushed out at least 1 month post release b) Agency staff be encouraged to submit release related questions to the mailbox as they come up and not just upon solicitation c) availability of the Q and A sessions be publicized heavily to agency staff

by including session information and mailbox links in release information d) dates and times of Q and A sessions be calendared for 2021.

- Consortia shared that the Stakeholder calls are valuable for IM staff but recognize that technical questions for DHS should be raised in the Q&A sessions.

8. Administrative Memos (Debbie Waite)

- Draft of the estate recovery memo covering payments for Q2 and Q3 of 2020 was sent out for consortia for formal review. Consortia were asked to sign off on draft by February 12, 2021. Consortia Question: Is there any way for individual consortia/counties to manually calculate their recovery amounts to compare again DHS numbers?
- Other Admin Memos are either officially published or close to publication: FPIP for 2021 and update to Training Administrative Memo 17-07.

9. Gap Case Monthly Update / Public Comment

- GAP Case Numbers – See “GAP Case Report” – November 2020 & December 2020. Numbers continue to look different this year due to COVID-19 policies. Normal end-of-year termination policy did not apply due to COVID, so active GAP participants at end of year have been carried over to 2021.

10. Tentative February Future Agenda Topics

- COVID and Other Policy Updates
- Upcoming CARES Release Projects
- How will feedback be provided for future CARES projects?

