

INCOME MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Thursday, February 16th, 2023

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Zoom: <https://dhswi.zoomgov.com/j/1619409056>

Minutes

Invitees

| Attendees (X = Attended) | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|
| X | Jonelle Brom – DHS BEOT | X | Beth Stiner – DHS BEOT |
| X | Alicia Grulke – DHS BEOT | X | Elizabeth Olsen – DHS BEOT |
| | <i>Stevey Poppe – DHS BEEP</i> | X | Pang Xiong – DHS BEOT |
| | <i>Autumn Arnold – DHS BEEP</i> | X | Angela Stanford – DHS BEOT |
| X | Becky David – DHS BEEP | | <i>Elisabeth Berkelman – DHS BEEP</i> |
| X | Nick Kwaw – DHS BEOT | X | Jody Noble – DHS BEOT |
| X | LaTanya Baldwin – DHS BEOT | X | Jori Mundy – DHS BEEP |
| X | Lars Brown – DHS BEEP | | <i>Molly Thomas – DHS BEOT</i> |
| X | Sammy Choi – DHS BEEP | X | Melissa Todd – DHS BEOT |
| X | Michelle Brownlow – DHS BEOT | X | Kristine Bovee – DHS BEOT |
| X | Laurie Teubert – DHS BEEP | X | Becky Luebke – DHS OIG |
| X | Melissa Benner – DHS BEEP | X | Mary Augustine – DHS BEEP |
| X | Jeanie Ortiz – DHS BEEP | X | Brooke Slamka – DHS BEEP |
| X | Allan Goetsch – DHS BEOT | X | True Lor - DHS |
| X | Jatinder Singh – DHS | X | Tim McGuire - DHS |
| X | Shauna Grossman - DHS | X | Julie Taylor - DHS |
| X | Tami Berg – DHS OIG | X | Candice Canales – DHS OIG |
| X | Tony Gehring – DHS OIG | X | MilES – Tonya Evans |
| X | Bay Lake – Chelsey Groessl | X | MilES – Mike Poma |
| | <i>Bay Lake – Becky Hetfield-Salentine</i> | X | Moraine Lakes – Mia Anderson-Inman |
| X | Capital – Shawn Tessmann | | <i>Moraine Lakes – Robert Klingforth</i> |
| X | Capital – Tony Sis | X | Northern – Steve Budnik |
| X | Central – Nicole Rolain | | <i>Northern – Jeanine Spuhler</i> |
| X | Central – Kris Weden | X | Southern – Kate Chambers |

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| X | East Central – Ann Kriegel | X | Southern – Mark Nelson |
| X | East Central – John Rathman | X | Western – Lorie Graff |
| X | East Central – Annett Mooney | | <i>Western – Tricia Wavra</i> |
| | <i>Great Rivers – Kathy Welke</i> | X | WKRP – Amberlyn Yohn |
| X | Great Rivers – Ronda Brown | X | WKRP – Kimm Peters |
| | Guests: | | |
| X | April Ferstl - DCF | X | Gage Winkelmann - DCF |
| X | Barbara Honsa - DCF | X | Annie Griggs – DCF |
| X | Kent Ellis - DCF | X | Darsell Johns – DCF |
| X | Tabbie Mellenberger - DCF | X | Nicole Huffman – DHS BEEP |
| X | Jamie Kuhn – DHS AO | X | Nicholas Hayward – DHS BEEP |
| X | Abbey Graf – DHS BEEP | X | Bruce Kress – DHS BEEP |
| X | Shena Smith – DHS OIG | X | Nick Haught – DHS BEEP |
| X | Jolyne Wallace – DHS OIG | X | Katie Quaintance – DHS BEEP |
| X | Kristina Smith – DHS OIG | X | Michael Turner - DHS |
| X | Charlie Morgan - LEGIS | X | Michael Wolter - DHS |
| X | Lisa Nagle – Marquette County | X | Adam Chorlton - Capital |
| X | Carol Sjoblom – Columbia County | X | Jessica Schultze - Jefferson County |
| X | Mitch Birkey – Calumet County | X | Maria Delgado – Rock County |
| X | Cheryl Kawlewski – Portage County | X | Heather Merten – Fond du Lac County |
| X | Michele Chiuchiolo – Dane County | X | Roxann Binkowski – Waushara County |
| X | Nina Taylor – Kenosha County | X | Stacey Stewart – Washington County |
| X | Ashley Mundy – Kenosha County | X | Jaymie Hammer – Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe |
| X | Amy Beranek – Dodge County | X | Renee Lyman- Dodge County |
| X | Kathy Busler – Jefferson County | X | Rose Strege – Mohican Tribe |
| X | Amanda Brooks – Portage County | X | Carol Waulet – Door County |
| X | Kesha Cole – Ozaukee County | X | Wendy Corbine - Bad River Tribe |
| X | Mary Donahue – Rock County | | |

AGENDA

Administrative Updates (Jonelle Brom & Lorie Graff)

- Report attendance by replying to an email from DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Approval of January 19, 2023, Meeting Minutes (Jonelle Brom)

- Motion to approve the minutes made by Tony Sis and Ann Kriegel and approved by consensus.

Policy Updates/COVID-19 Policy updates (Department of Health Services)

Healthcare

- Public Health Emergency
 - On February 9, 2023, Health and Human Services (HHS) provided written notice to Governors that the Public Health Emergency (PHE) will end on May 11, 2023.
 - The PHE ending does impact some of the Departments benefits and service flexibilities, such as same-day rides for non-emergency medical transportation or some aspects of telehealth.
 - The passing of the Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA) that spoke to the end of the continuous eligibility requirement from the Families First Coronavirus Response Act means that the PHE is no longer linked in the same way to health care eligibility as it previously was.
- Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) Guidance on the Consolidated Appropriations Act
 - CMS issued guidance on January 27, 2023 on the changes in the CAA.
 - CAA requires states to make a “good faith effort to get up-to-date contact information.”
 - The Department believes that this requirement is being met as this this has been a priority throughout the last year. The Department is continuing to explore other ways to have updated contact information.
 - The CAA also requires states to contact members through more than one modality before terminating coverage based on returned mail.
 - The Department is actively working on how to meet the requirement, particularly in cases where returned mail is received without a forwarding address.
- Renewal distribution
 - The Department will be redistributing CARES renewal dates on February 18, 2023 at which point the 12-month projection of renewal volume will be shared with income maintenance agencies.
- Special Enrollment Periods
 - CMS has announced two new Special Enrollment Periods (SEP) related to unwinding.
 - Members enrolled in Medicaid were penalized for not signing up for Medicare during open enrollment.
 - A member no longer meeting program eligibility requirements will trigger a 6-month special enrollment period for Medicare.
 - The Department is working to make information and materials about this available as part of the partner toolkit.
 - Members who need coverage through Healthcare.gov because of no longer meeting program eligibility requirements for Medicaid.
 - Members currently have a 60-day SEP if no longer meeting the program requirements, but SEP is now extended to last from March 31, 2023 to July 31, 2024 for anyone who attests that they no longer meet Medicaid program eligibility requirements following the end of the continuous coverage provided by the temporary pandemic policies.
 - Members can report that they no longer meet Medicaid eligibility requirements and immediately start to find new coverage without having to provide proof no longer meeting the program eligibility requirements. Proof is not required to use this SEP.
 - The extension SEP time does not change the rule that the new coverage starts the first of the month **after** the member applies at the Healthcare.gov and chooses a plan. It is important for members to contact Healthcare.gov as soon as they become aware that they will no longer meet eligibility requirements for BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid.

FoodShare

- Emergency Allotments
 - There are three issuances left, including catch up runs. See attachment for additional details.
- Drug Testing and Student eligibility
 - With May 11, 2023 being the end date to the PHE, there are specific dates for when two of the temporary FoodShare policies that have been tied to the PHE will end.
 - The drug testing requirement will return for new applicants 30 days after the PHE ends. This means new FoodShare applicants with a filing date on or after June 12 will be subject to the drug testing requirements if they have been convicted of a drug related felony in the last 5 years.
 - Current FoodShare members that became FoodShare eligible during the suspension period will be required to provide “passing” drug test results at their next renewal, starting renewals due in July 2023, if they still have a drug felony conviction within the last 5 years.
 - The Department estimates the drug testing projection report for income maintenance agencies will be available in the beginning of March 2023.
 - The two temporary student eligibility exemptions, which are being eligible to participate in state or federally funded work study, regardless of participation, and having an estimated family contribution (EFC) of \$0 as determined by the institute of higher education are also ending.
 - New applicants who apply for FoodShare on or after June 12 will not be eligible for these exemptions. Existing members with these exemptions will retain them until their next renewal. Starting with renewals due in July 2023, FoodShare students will no longer be eligible for these exemptions.
- Non-work SSN
 - FoodShare policy states that a food unit participating in or applying for FoodShare must provide the SSN of each member requesting benefits. Failure to provide an SSN disqualifies the person from participating in the FoodShare program. An applicant does not need to provide a document or Social Security card. Applicants need to provide a number, which is verified through data exchanges.
 - Individuals without an Social Security Number (SSN) must apply for one before certification. Income Maintenance agencies should assist applicants with the application process if they have not previously applied. Assisting the applicant includes helping to file the SS-5 SSN Application form and obtaining a birth certificate or other documents needed for a successful enumeration process.
 - Immigrants who are not work authorized may have a valid reason to obtain a nonwork SSN. Eligibility for FoodShare is a valid nonwork reason to obtain a nonwork SSN.
 - DHS will be issuing the following new policy guidance in March regarding applicants in need of a nonwork SSN.
 - Applicant(s), meeting all FoodShare financial and non-financial eligibility criteria except having an SSN, will be eligible to receive a letter from the Department supporting the request for a nonwork SSN through the Social Security Administration (SSA). These criteria include, but are not limited to, receiving a verified immigration status from SAVE, and if needed, second level and/or third level verification results.
 - The letter states that the applicant meets all requirements for FoodShare except for having a SSN.
 - The letter and additional guidance are mailed to the applicant(s), who then presents the letter during their enumeration appointment with the SSA representative.
 - Specific processing instructions for income maintenance agencies will be provided.
- Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transaction Update (PEBT)
 - With the expected end of the PHE on May 11, 2023 School P-EBT will end in May, DHS is seeking clarification on what the last eligible date in May is for school aged children and Pre-6 aged children.
 - The expected end of the PHE on May 11th does mean Pre-6 children will NOT qualify for summer P-EBT. School aged children who qualify for free and reduced-price lunch and attended a national school lunch program participating school will qualify.
 - The summer benefit amount will be \$120 for the summer.
 - Wisconsin’s Summer P-EBT plan was approved on 2/23/23

- Nick Hayward and Katie Quaintance shared a presentation on Worker Prompt for FFM Transfers at Phone Renewal. See attachment for additional details.

Subcommittee Updates (Income Maintenance Agency Subcommittee Co-Chairs)

- Income Maintenance Operational Analysis (IMOA) subcommittee met on February 3, 2023. Lorie Graff shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is March 3, 2023.
- Performance Monitoring subcommittee met on January 18, 2023. Nicole Rolain shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is March 15, 2023.
- IM Training met on January 23, 2023. Mitch Birkey shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is April 24, 2023.
- Call Center Operational/Technical subcommittee met on January 30 and February 13, 2023. Kris Weden shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting occurred on February 27, 2023.
- FPIP Subcommittee meet on February 14, 2023. Key discussion points are available in the attachment (see attachment). Next meeting is May 9, 2023.

Income Maintenance (IM) Funding and Contract Updates (Jonelle Brom & Lorie Graff)

- The MA Unwinding contract is being routed to Consortiums for signature due to the decoupling of some policies from the Public Health Emergency and is effective 2/1/2023. WKRP and Capital have not signed.
- The ARPA Funding contract is being routed currently for signature. Capital and Southern have not signed. There will be a rush on amendments for contract language for agencies that have signed. The funding is still being reviewed.

Consortia Feedback (Lorie Graff)

- Consortia have asked if the Departments Limited Term Employment (LTE) staff can assist with work that's needed from the ad-hoc reports.
- Consortia are asking if an indicator will be in CARES Worker Web (CWW) to note which cases fall under 'new rules' (those that have gone through a review or applied after 3/31/23) and which are still under 'old rules.'

Administrative Memos (Alicia Grulke & Lorie Graff)

- Administrative Memo 23-02 Fraud Prevention and Investigation Program Allocations and Guidelines for Calendar Year 2023 has been published.
- Administrative Memo 22-05 Enhanced Federal Funding for Qualifying IM Activities has been published.
- Administrative Memo 23-01 2023 IM Consortia Administrative Allocation has been published.
- Administrative Memo 23-03 Estate Recovery Funds is being routed for approval. The consortiums have 45 days to review and provide feedback.

Regional Enrollment Network (Lorie Graff)

- Partners shared updates on what preparation is being done for unwinding. This included training and communications planning.
- Discussed the two new Special Enrollment Periods (SEP's) that will be available to those losing Medicaid coverage.
- Preparations have begun for the Fall Enrollment Conference.

Gap Case Monthly Update

- GAP Case Numbers – See attachment "GAP Case Report" – January 2023
- Due to the February 2023 CARE Release related to Gap Fill, this attachment will not be shared at ongoing IMAC meetings.

Public Comments

- No Comment

Announcements

- For upcoming meetings in 2023, send agenda items to the WHCSA Tri Chairs or Bureau of Eligibility Operations and Training operations associate at DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

DRAFT