



MINUTES
Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, 3/16/23 from 10:00AM - 12:00PM
Held via: Zoom Webinar

Attendance: Ann Potoczak, Denise Nash, Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre, Krista Gilbert, William Walker, Carrie Beth Duran, Cathy Spinney, Cory Shomphe, Jayla Austin, Deb Bogle, , Mark Mills, Stephanie Patrick, Tyler Jacques, Karen Blake, Mary St. Jacques, Mary Ann Wisell, Lesley Beerends, Krista Stephani, Sandy Feroz, Abby Conger, Laurie Vachon, Jessica Kennedy, Jess Gorton, Lindsey Magee, Peggy Sue Greenwood, Drew Smith, Montrel Tennessee, Denise Garcia (CART)

Note: Members of the public who joined as attendees in listen-only mode are not included in this list.

Please reference the corresponding slide presentation for the detailed agenda, including topics and themes covered in the meeting and corresponding takeaways and applicable action items. This document provides context into areas of substantive discussion which took place during the meeting.

Major Topics and Themes	Key Discussion Areas
<p>7/1 Readiness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BDS provided an overview of upcoming trainings for service providers and service coordinators to prepare for the July 1 compliance deadline. • BDS provided a high-level overview of initial data collected from the Provider Readiness Survey released in January 2023. The overview identified respondent demographics and areas of additional training requested by respondents.
<p>Workgroup Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BDS provided an overview of activities from the Rate Workgroup in the absence of Ellen M (WG Representative). The update included the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 3/10/23 meeting was not held • During the February rate work group meeting, hourly wage information was presented for industries that compete with service providers for the Direct Support Professional (DSP) workforce. Myers and Stauffer was asked to perform additional research for some specific positions. These positions were reviewed and the results were provided. • Current Progress of Rate Setting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Myers and Stauffer completed validating cost reports. Data is currently under analysis and evaluation for rate setting. Once analysis is complete, then the initial draft rates for each service will be calculated for discussion. ● Future Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The next BDS Systems Work Rate Structure Work Group meeting scheduled for Friday, April 14, 2023. It is planned to present the initial draft service rates and components with the Rate Work Group members to receive feedback on the calculations. These discussions will continue to future BDS Systems Work Rate Structure Work Group meetings until all service rates are discussed. ● Discussion during report out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An Advisory Member requested that information related to PDMS wages be collected from families. BDS identified that this would be taken under consideration. ○ A Member requested additional information about how staff costs for supporting individuals with multiple disabilities would be accounted for. BDS discussed how the Supports Intensity Scale would assist in identifying people with more complex support needs and be factored into the rate development process. ○ A Member raised discussion about how families who provide additional PDMS management functions will be accounted for in rate development. BDS reviewed how cost reporting was conducted and identified that the question would be raised with M&S for consideration. ● BDS provided an overview of activities from the Waiver Workgroup in the absence of Jenn P (WG Representative). The update included the following information: ● The March meeting covered a final review of draft proposed waiver services and confirmation that the group was ready to have the information presented to the Advisory Committee and Rate Workgroup ● In April the Waiver Workgroup will meet to begin reviewing provider requirements for proposed draft services ● BDS provided an overview of upcoming waiver amendments to the Committee. These included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Current Amendment covering addition of Dental Services ○ Upcoming Amendment covering changes for 7/1 compliance - Cost of Care and Direct Bill ○ Anticipated additional amendment to add new services and rates in Fall 2023
<p>Proposed Draft Waiver Services Overview</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BDS provided a presentation of proposed draft waiver services for the fall amendment. Services included residential, day, and support services. ● During the presentation, the following discussions occurred: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A member requested how BDS can help promote independent living options, focused on apartments owned or leased by the individual receiving services and how greater housing options can be made available.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ BDS discussed the importance of adding additional services into the waiver to support independent living options is an important first step. BDS also clarified that the waiver cannot cover room and board expenses but new services to assist someone with initial “start up” costs for moving into their own apartment were being proposed. BDS also discussed some current initiatives underway in NH to develop additional integrated housing/apartment options.● Members also discussed opportunities and community resources to support individuals in applying for mortgages and other independent living options.● BDS reviewed how continued monitoring is needed to ensure addition of new services will meet cost neutrality requirements under the waivers.● A Member requested a glossary of key terms be developed and shared with all stakeholders to support consistent terminology and understanding of services and processes.● A Member requested a review of the allowance for paying guardians to be paid caregivers be reviewed. BDS agreed to re-review federal guidance and requirements.● Discussion around payment for recreational services among members was had. BDS shared that support time where a DSP is supporting an individual during a recreational activity could be reimbursed but the cost of the recreational activity could not be reimbursed using waiver funds, per Federal guidance. BDS proposed collaborating with other community organizations to identify ways to cover the recreational activity cost (i.e. paying for rental of a bowling lane or shoes) outside of waiver funds to develop resources to individuals and families seeking these supports. BDS also clarified that therapy-based services are allowable, but non-credentialed, recreational services are not.● A Member requested BDS present this information to families to support messaging. BDS will review the request.● A Member requested a review of adding additional flexibility to Supported Employment services so that supports can be provided either on-site or off-site of an employment location. BDS agreed to review options.● A Member requested clarification regarding language posted on the BDS website regarding the Supports Intensity Scale as the planning tool for person-centered planning. BDS clarified that it was one tool, but not the only tool and identified that a review of that language was underway to provide further clarification.
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