

MINUTES
October 16, 2008
Income Maintenance Advisory Committee
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
Department of Health Services

County/Tribe Attendees:

Julie Arendsee, Sauk Co.	Liz Mahloch, Sheboygan Co.
Sara Bartz, Shawano Co.	Elizabeth McDowell, Stockbridge Munsee Tribe
Barb Bellin, Dane County	Susan McMurray, AFSCME
Jackie Bennett, Racine Co.	Wendy Metcalf, Columbia Co.
Sheila Drays, Dodge Co.	Susan Moeser, Milwaukee Co.
Christy Duhr, Richland Co.	Lorie Mueller, La Crosse Co.
Linda Halvorson, Dunn Co.	Luann Page, Waukesha Co.
Barbara Hernesman, Crawford Co.	Sandy Potter, Washington Co.
Jane Huebsch, Marathon Co.	John Rathman, Outagamie Co.
Kara Jenkins, Jackson, Co.	Joyce Rockman, Ho-Chunk Health Care Center
Jill Johnson, Jefferson Co.	Amy Roland, Outagamie Co.
Ann Kriegel, Winnebago Co.	Patsy Rolo, Langlade Co.
Doreen Lang, Wood Co.	Sue Schweickert, Washburn Co.
Chris Machamer, Waupaca Co.	Cindy Sutton, Rock Co.

State Attendees:

Gail Chapman, DHS	Tricia Janssen, DHS
Barry Chase, DHS	Pamela Lohaus, DHS
Angela Dombrowicki, DHS	Doug Lynch, DHS
Sara Edmonds, DHS	Mike McKenzie, DHS
Brian Fangmeier, DHS	Audrey Roecker, DHS
Theresa Fosbinder, DHS	Jodi Ross, DHS
Kathy Gugel, DHS	John Stillmank, DHS
John Haine, DHS	

Administrative Items - Angela Dombrowicki

- Meeting Minutes from July and August were amended and approved.
- December's meeting will be held at the ballroom in the Dane County Job Center.
- The UW Population Health Institute will be doing an evaluation in the upcoming months about BadgerCare Plus. They are asking counties and tribes to volunteer for interviews. Milda Aksamitauskas is coordinating the evaluation and will be taking names of participants. If interested, please contact Milda Aksamitauskas (Milda.Aksamitauskas@wi.gov).
- No scientific data from participants will be requested. The evaluation will examine:
 - Program simplification policy

- Affordability and crowd-out
 - Cost-sharing and its effectiveness
 - How do rates compare to other states?

Fraud Program Update and Discussion – Brian Fangmeier

- There has been additional interest in the FPI program
 - Fraud program staff met with Dane County and Milwaukee County. Plans include continuing to meet with both counties.
- Fraud program staff will continue to work with the Department of Children and Families in regard to implementing a new process for public assistance overpayment collections. It is estimated that FS and MA collections would be doubled with this new process, which would in turn increase the fraud program revenue.
- Fraud program staff continues to meet with the Central Wisconsin Consortium (CWC). A CWC participant gave positive feedback.
- Barry Chase handed out and discussed data spreadsheets (See IMAC web page).
 - The 2008 Overpayments and Savings handout covers all non-pilot counties for the period of 1/1/08 to 9/30/08.
 - Many counties show zeroes for savings and benefits. Part of the problem is due to CARES data entry. Cases that remain open on CARES do not get picked up in the monthly reports. There are many agencies that have claimed that they have reimbursement from fraud investigation, but show zero benefits.
 - Many counties show a variation in the way they estimate one month's savings for each program investigated. Obtaining uniformity will need to be addressed.
 - Two factors that indicate a problem:
 - Whether savings are approximately equal or greater than the reported overpayments, which generally points to a problem with overestimating savings.
 - Ratios between the overpayments reported and savings. If there are very little overpayments and relatively large amount of savings, this flags an issue with prioritizing cases or estimating the savings.
 - The 2008 Overpayment and Savings for Pilots handout lists the lead county first for each consortium. Highlights included:
 - Ashland Consortium shows an improved data entry process.
 - Columbia Consortium is estimated to have a higher cost-benefit ratio over time than the recorded amount, because many cases have not been closed out.
 - Dane County has not been able to contribute much data for overpayment or fraud investigation due to turnover in a personnel position.
 - Douglas County Consortium shows a rate of 7.39. It was recommended that Iron and Washburn Counties develop more activity.

- Eau Claire Consortium shows a high cost benefit ratio (11.93). An advantage is the two full-time investigators on staff.
 - Milwaukee County shows little data from CARES.
 - Overall, the benefit-cost ratio is 6.16%. This rate will go up as more cases are added to the system.
 - If counties need further information or assistance with training, please contact Brian Fangmeier (Brian.Fangmeier@wi.gov) or Barry Chase (Barry.Chase@wi.gov).
- 2008 Annual Fraud Investigation Expenditures spreadsheet were discussed.
 - Shows the allocations for counties' fraud investigation, not program integrity, per CARES data. Parentheses indicate a negative amount where counties have exceeded their state allocation.
- FTE's from various counties were highlighted on the FPI Allocation per County/Tribe handout. The FTE amounts were calculated based on August 2008 caseload data. This information will help with estimating the number of agencies needed in forming a consortium.
 - Benefits in forming a consortium include an increase in caseload data and increased funding.
 - Please contact Barry Chase if there are any discrepancies with the data. Standards for entering data are found in chapter 3 of the IM Manual. More guidelines on data entry will be sent out by the State.

PERM Reviews – Brian Fangmeier

- Refer to the July 2008 minutes. There are no changes made since then.
- First sample will be pulled the first week of November 2008. Review consists of individuals rather than cases, but case errors will still be reported for correction purposes.
- Ops Memo for PERM is currently being worked on.

FoodShare Update – John Haine

- FS handout distributed and discussed (See IMAC web page).
 - Date on FS Payment Error Report should be changed from August 18, 2008 to October 13, 2008.
 - 70 out of 79 agencies have had at least one completed review. A random sample is pulled every month. Eighty to eighty-five percent of reviews are second party.
 - Majority of errors are agency preventable.
 - 6.7% is the current error rate for Wisconsin and will likely be the rate for 2008, unless a dramatic event occurs before the end of the year.
 - Milwaukee County is the driver for the high percentage rate. However, Milwaukee County's rate has dropped somewhat since last year.
- Regarding sanctions, there is a two year cycle for any liability exposure for FS errors. If there is no improvement in 2009, then we'll be subject to a sanction by the federal government.

- Five or six meetings have been set up over the next several months to come up with recommendations regarding sanctions. If we were sanctioned now, it would be close to \$300,000.
- The national average is currently 4.6%.
- Information on process improvement regarding earned income will be sent to agencies.
- Process improvements involving Child Support were recommended. John Haine will follow up on this issue.
- It was noted that the agency error type on the FS Negative Action Reviews (NAR) spreadsheet is 96%, not 75%. An Ops Memo has been sent on how to minimize the negative action review rate. NAR is a good indicator of customer service.
- FSET
 - An Admin Memo and Q & A were recently published.
 - Includes language about right of first referral
 - 30 day period to respond and submit a plan
 - Plan deadline is November 11th
 - CY 2009 allocations attached
 - Plan and component guidelines attached
 - FSET symposium coming up on November 14th
 - Best practices presentations by priorities

County-State Ad Hoc Workgroups/Meetings Update – Theresa Fosbinder

- Premium Process Improvement Meeting
 - PowerPoint handout was discussed (see IMAC web page).
 - The September 30th meeting discussed the various premium issues:
 - Non-payments
 - Late payments
 - Parameters in the systems world
 - Potential solutions
 - Providing an additional month
 - Flat initial premium amount with no free month
 - Basing premium on non-verified income
 - Automation of paying online would help reduce CARES and counties' workload.
 - There is no need to change the statutes; changes can be implemented as soon as possible. System changes are already in progress.
- BadgerCare Plus Childless Adults Meeting
 - The PowerPoint and minutes from this meeting will be posted to the IMAC web page.
 - Feedback is important, but the decision to move forward with this program has been made.
 - An enrollment service center will be created. It's a service delivery program that works specifically with the childless adult population. Scenarios of when an individual should be directed to the enrollment service center or to the county were discussed.
 - A concern is that 50% of agencies do not have computers in their lobbies.

- “Scan First” will be implemented: counties will scan in information and then send to the State. This is considered time sensitive scanning. If scanning is not an option, then information will be faxed.
- Angela Dombrowicki sent a data request letter to IMAC prior to this meeting. It requests enrollment data of transitioning CLA participants from non-Milwaukee counties.
- Central processing of CLA health care cases was decided awhile back. The referral process will be handled as it is now in CARES.
- Counties expressed concern about their involvement in the decision process of reducing workload as related to the CLA population. County agencies would like to be involved further in future discussions about caseload reduction.
- Workload and Finance Meeting
 - Deferred to next IMAC meeting

Update on Systems Priorities and Update on Managed Care Expansion

- Both agenda items were deferred to the next IMAC meeting.
- BEM Systems Priorities and BEM Systems Projects in Progress handouts are posted under this month’s IMAC minutes.

Next Meeting: November 20, 2008 at Fen Oak