

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Instructions: [F-01922A](#)

Name of Governmental Body: Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Council			Attending: Council Members: Liz Hecht, Patti Becker, Kelly Blaschko, Sharon Fleischfresser, Mitch Hagopian, Chris Hanten, Pamela Hencke, Wendy Heyn, Barbara Katz, Katy Morgan-Davies, Angela Radloff, Walt Schalick, Lisa Stephan, Beth Swedeen, Sandra Tierney, Maddie Valent, Cherie Purdy
Date: 1/13/2021	Time Started: 9:00 a.m.	Time Ended: 2:10 p.m.	Absent: Council Members: Nissan Bar-Lev; Naomi Beahm; Todd Breaker; Kirsten Menningen; LaKesha Pettigrew. Public Attendees: Bill Perez, Kim Ray Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) State Staff: Deb Rathermel, Autumn Knudtson, Kate Johnson, Dan Kramarz, Becky Granger, Jessica Gehr, Beth Gullickson, Gary Roth, Alex Cammilleri, Mary Schmierer, Lori Garsow, Brooke Anderson, Lisa Hanks
Location: Zoom Conference Call			Presiding Officer: Liz Hecht, Chair
Minutes			

Welcome and attendance

Council Member Updates

- Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Support Alliance has published a report "[Helping Wisconsin Families Navigate: A Survey Summary](#)"
- [Circles of Life Conference](#) was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19; but will be held virtually this year on May 6-7, 2021.
 - The Bureau of Children's Services (BCS) will plan to announce this opportunity to program staff.
- Membership Status: There are currently four openings for family members on the council. The council has a goal of family members representing the racial and ethnic diversity of the state, and would also like perspectives of parents with young children, and parents in rural areas.
 - Council members are asked to help with recruitment.

Operational

- Approval of October 14, 2020, draft minutes
 - Motion: Walt Schalick
 - Second: Katy Morgan
 - Vote: All approve

Public Comments: None

Briefing and Discussion: Biennial Budget Proposal-Disability Resource Center (DRC) for Children and Families



CDRsProposal2021.pdf
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- The council recommends implementing a statewide DRC for children and families in the Biennial Budget Proposal.

- The Wisconsin County Human Services Association (WCHSA) Long Term Care (LTC) Policy Action Committee (PAC) was briefed on this proposal in January. The LTC PAC reviewed and approved at that time. The proposal will go to the WCHSA Board in February; formal approval is pending.
 - The council also plans to brief DHS on this proposal.
 - Barb Katz, Motion: CLTS Council supports the contents and proposals recommended in this document, and recommend its inclusion as foundation for future council and bureau work moving forward.
 - Walt Schalick: Second
 - Vote: All approve

BCS Program Access Initiative Updates

- Series of Access Committee workgroup meetings concluded in December after working together over the last 20 months.
- This committee had representation from a variety of stakeholders including counties, state agencies, parents, state staff, and advocacy organizations, and was charged with developing an intake, eligibility, and enrollment solution for BCS-administered programs that was family-focused, consistent, transparent, financially feasible, and sustainable.
- The Compass Wisconsin: Threshold (CWT) pilot has sunsetted, and DHS is directly contracting this work through the transition. Pilot county waiver agencies will be responsible for Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waiver Program and Children's Community Options (CCOP) intake following the transition in a phased approach concluded in June 2021.
- Intake, eligibility, and enrollment for the Katie Beckett Program will continue to be operationalized through a statewide network.
 - DHS is preparing to seek budget authority from the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee under Wis. Stat. § 13.10 to access funding authorized in the current budget cycle for this work
- BCS staff continue to develop standardized materials recommended by Access Committee that will be used as part of the statewide solution.
- Continued progress on access work will be brought to the CLTS Council.

Break

BCS Updates/News

- State-Level CLTS Budget and Enrollment Administration
 - DHS issued a memo with initiative requirements, effective January 1, 2021
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dltc/memos/2020-08.pdf>
 - In January, full implementation of this initiative was achieved. The waitlist for the CLTS program is now state administered, and enrollees waiver services are funded at a state wide level. BCS will release a predetermined number (300) children per month to be enrolled, and these children will be fully funded.
 - Discussion: BCS is working closely with counties to build their capacity. Capacity is not an issue in all counties. There is potential that children could be funded but waiting to be enrolled at the county due to capacity.
 - Request from Council for BCS to provide additional data to the council regarding county capacity and which counties are currently struggling with enrollment and capacity. Request that BCS provide additional data that includes waitlist numbers, current enrollment, and the current number of kids in enrollable status (but waiting to be enrolled).
 - Counties remain responsible for the MOE (Maintenance of Effort) as established in
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dltc/memos/2019-04.pdf>
- BCS has updated the CLTS Waiver Manual: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02256.pdf>
 - The revised CLTS Waiver Program Manual was effectuated Nov. 30, 2020, as outlined in DMS Numbered Memo 2020-07.
 - Memo announcing Finalized Manual: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dltc/memos/2020-07.pdf>
 - Summary of Changes: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dltc/memos/2020-07-attachment.pdf>

- There are extensive revisions to the manual that reflect the § 1915(c) and § 1915(b)(4) waiver applications. These revisions were completed through an iterative and transparent process, by drafting and finalizing each chapter individually. The process included incorporating comprehensive stakeholder input in the final version, and posting the final versions of each chapter to the DHS website as they were completed.
- Future Manual Updates are planned for quarterly to stay current and consistent with evolving federal and state policy. Ongoing manual updates will be announced via DHS Email Updates, which are also known as GovDelivery messages.
- Remote Service Provisions Memo:
 - BCS is expecting the release of DMS Numbered Memo 2021-01 in January, which will establish permanent policy for remote waiver services for both the CLTS Waiver Program and CCOP.
 - Permanent policy will continue the temporary allowances for remote waiver services that were put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Remote waiver services are a resource for participants to access program services, and should be used as a tool, in combination with all other available resources, to build complete individual service plans.
 - [All temporary policy for remote waiver services in the COVID-19: CLTS Program Operations Questions and Answers](#) will remain in place during the effective dates of [Wisconsin's § 1915\(c\) Appendix K \(WI.0414.R03.03\)](#).
 - Council Discussion: Continued concerns for families who do not have access to internet/broadband. CLTS Waiver has the ability to pay for internet access under the services of Personal Emergency Response System (PERS) and Assistive Technology/Communication aids, but cannot fund general access to internet/broadband. Governor Evers recently announced commitment to broadband access in 2021.
- COVID Updates:
 - Public Health Emergency (PHE) was extended through the end of April. The K Waiver is continued through the end of the PHE with a six-month transition period. At this point, BCS anticipates a continuation of K Waiver flexibilities through August.
- Briefing and Soliciting Input: Equity Information Memo



Equity Memo -
December 1, 2020.pdf

- Discussion included the following comments and questions:
 - Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) is developing a committee to address equity issues, called the Family Equity and Cultural Workgroup. This group will share activities with the CYSHCN network that are directly related to equity issues, act as a learning collaborative, and apply learning to programming.
 - Council requests additional data to be presented regarding enrollment by race, does the enrollment of the program mirror the diversity of the community? Can satisfaction survey results be broken down by race?
 - Milwaukee County—working on completing a quality review to look into services received by people of color in the program by looking at frequency and daily rate of plans.
 - How can this council be more effective at increasing diversity of family membership of the council?

Break

- Waiver Renewal Proposal Presentation:



Waiver App



CLTS Waiver Renewal



CLTS Waiver Renewal

Renewal_Timeline Extension Proposal Summary - Initiative - CLTS Council

- Proposed New Services—Discussion and Feedback:
 - Remote services and Equipment: This service would not help pay for general access to internet.

- Bereavement Counseling: This service might be something families decide to engage in after the child's death, and may not know this prior. Can this be expanded to provide counseling to participants who have experienced a loss? Can this be applied to siblings? How does this service interact with bereavement services offered through Hospice agencies?
- Health and Wellness: Positive feedback on flexibility and provider standards. Can this service be expanded to provide education on protective factors to prevent victimization and exploitation?
- Discovery and Career planning: Suggestion of requirement that opportunities be in inclusive rather than segregated settings.
- Supporting participant and family direction–discussion and feedback:
 - Participant and Family-Directed Goods and Services: Can a family hire someone to help advocate and understand service silos?
 - Translation Services: Will this help support participant/families who need help filling out forms for reasons that do not include English as a second language (ESL)?
- Updated Service names–discussion and feedback:
 - Personal Services: Will families be confused about the title and be confused about the difference between Personal Care through Medicaid?
- Plan to publish a draft of the waiver application in the spring for public comment.
- Council members are encouraged to email additional feedback on this proposal to BCS.

Future Agenda Items

- CCOP across the state, CCOP Committees' composition and impact of equity
- Tracking the budget process
- COVID-19 vaccination updates for children with disabilities and their families/caregivers.
- CLTS Council to review ongoing products and activities for Access Initiative work now that Access Committee has concluded.
- Next Meeting April 7, 2021

Meeting adjourned at 2:10pm

Attachments:



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Prepared by: Beth Gullickson on 1/15/2021.