

INCOME MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Thursday, April 17, 2025

1:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Zoom: <https://dhswi.zoomgov.com/j/1601074465>

Minutes

Invitees

Attendees (X = Attended)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Katie Sepnieski – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tarah Richardson – DHS BEOT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alicia Grulke – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	LaTanya Taylor – DHS BEOT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ashley Schabel – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Paul Michael - DHS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jody Noble – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Autumn Arnold – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pungnou Her – DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Brookelynn Slamka – DHS BEEP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Valerie Hayes -DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Valeri Kazakhetsyan – DHS BEEP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Angela Stanford – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laurie Teubert – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alexia Hamilton – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Huffman – DHS BEEP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nick Kwaw – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	True Lor – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Linsey Donaldson – DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Hanson – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Victoria Conley – DHS BEEP	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rebecca David – DHS BEEP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bay Lake – Chelsey Groessl	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moraine Lakes – Mia Anderson-Inman
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bay Lake – Becky Hetfield-Salentine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moraine Lakes – Heather Merten
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Capital – Shawn Tessmann	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Northern – Steve Budnik
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Capital – Adam Chorlton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Northern – Jeanine Spuhler
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Central – Nicole Rolain	<input type="checkbox"/>	Southern – Kate Chambers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Central – Amanda Brooks	<input type="checkbox"/>	Southern – Laci Bainbridge
<input type="checkbox"/>	East Central – Ann Kriegel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Western – Lorie Graff (co-chair)
<input type="checkbox"/>	East Central – Annett Mooney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Western – Tricia Wavra
<input type="checkbox"/>	Great Rivers – Kathy Welke (co-chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WKRP – Kimm Peters
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Great Rivers – Ronda Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Wetherbee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stephanie Krieger – DHS BEEP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tami Berg - OIG
<input type="checkbox"/>	WKRP – Katie Kasprzak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Ewing – DHS BEOT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Thor Neng - DCF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crystal L. Malone
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cheryl Kawlewski – Portage County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Traci Cahill
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gage Winkelmann – DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Koch - OIG

<input type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Honsa - DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lauren Heitman – DHS Area Admin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kent Ellis - DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shine Baby– DHS BSM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Annie Griggs – DCF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Cone – DHS BSM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jessica Schultze – Jefferson County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Darin Petesch – DHS BSM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Darsell Johns – Ozaukee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Christina Tuenge -Great Rivers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael Poma - MilES	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shauna Grossman - DHS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tim McGuire - MilES	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shelli Essmann DHS Area Admin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mac Strawder - MilES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carol Waulet – Door County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brenda Belanger-Red Cliff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amber Taylor – Adams County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wendy Corbine - Bad River	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kris Weden – Marathon County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renee Lyman – Dodge County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Raelle Allen - Lac du Flambeau Tribe
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carol Sjoblom – Columbia County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maria Delagado – Southern
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rebecca Luebke – Area Admin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roxann Binkowski – Waushara County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Heidrun Kovach – Dane County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	April Ferstl – DCF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mitch Birkey – Calumet County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deb Bohlman – Fond du Lac County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kesha Cole – Ozaukee County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amy Beranek – Dodge County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Michele Chiuchiolo – Dane County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Melissa Todd – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deb Williquette – Manitowoc County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rob Klingforth – Moraine Lakes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ron Redell – Dane County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cortney Hebel – Dane County
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kara Ponti – Dane County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Charlie Morgan – WI Legislature
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Gokey – Lac Courte Oreilles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nasbah Hill – Oneida
<input type="checkbox"/>	Linda Sallerud – Forest County Potawatomi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michele Shawano – Sokaogon
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maggie Calhoun – Forest County Potawatomi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ashley McGeshick – Sokaogon
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wendy Corbine – Bad River	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jaime Jameson –Sokaogon
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gloria Cobb – Lac du Flambeau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tina Weiterman –Stockbridge Munsee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Raelle Allen - Lac du Flambeau	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dylana Kinewayg –Menominee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Taryn Williams – Lac du Flambeau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jessica VandeKamp – Oneida
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shannon Drake-Buhr-DHS BEEP	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kristin Latus – WKRP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jolyne Wallace – OIG	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenny Hoffman (co-Chair)

AGENDA

Welcome (Katie Sepnieski & Jenny Hoffman)

- Report attendance by replying to the email from DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov.
- The May 2025 IMAC meeting will be a hybrid meeting offering an in person and video conferencing option. The meeting will be held at the Department of Corrections at 3099 E. Washington Ave. Madison, WI 53704.

Approval of February 20, 2025, Meeting Minutes (Katie Sepnieski)

- Motions made to approve the minutes by Steve Budnik and Adam Chorlton, then approved by consensus.

Policy Updates (Department of Health Services)

FoodShare

Waiver for Replacement Benefits

- Wisconsin was granted a waiver to give households additional time to report food loss for replacement FoodShare benefits due to power outages from ice storm Fannie. This waiver covers six counties in northeastern Wisconsin: Forest, Langlade, Florence, Menominee, Oneida, and Marinette.
- Members will have until April 30th to request replacement benefits. The replacement amount is for the food lost (not to exceed the household's monthly allotment). On average 60% of the households in these counties had power outages for 12 hours. There are 8,670 households in these six counties receiving FoodShare benefits and approximately 5,200 FoodShare households lost power and may request replacement benefits. A CARES Coordinator Notice (CCN) and DHS communications provided information on extended replacement benefits to Income Maintenance (IM) agencies and public sites.

2025 Clock Reset Reminder

- Due to the three-year period for the FoodShare work requirement reset that occurred in January 2025, March 2025 was the first month that able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD) not meeting the work requirement or an exemption began losing eligibility.
- Due to the timing of the loss of the geowavier in Milwaukee in October 2024, the Department anticipated a larger number of ABAWDs using the third countable month and losing eligibility at this time. These ABAWDs do not have to wait until the next three-year clock restarts in 2028 to reapply. These ABAWDs do not have to wait until the next three-year clock restarts in 2028 to reapply.
- ABAWDs that lost eligibility due to reaching 3 countable months may regain eligibility through several different paths:
 - Verifying that the work requirement was met for any 30-day period prior to application or verifying that the work requirement will be met within 30 days of the new filing date.
 - Becoming exempt.
 - Reporting an exemption or good cause causing one more prior countable month so it can be removed.
- Additional communication will be shared soon to remind former ABAWDs that lost eligibility that there are different options for reapplying. The communications include:
 - A one-time letter to individuals that recently lost eligibility due to the FoodShare work requirement.
 - A question-and-answer document and talking points for agencies with information on regaining eligibility.

- Department of Health Services (DHS) external web page updates to highlight information on regaining eligibility.
 - A partner email with information like what will be shared via the question-and-answer and talking points.
 - The notice of decision already received following March Adverse Action also includes information about how to reapply.
- Individuals cannot use the FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) program to regain eligibility due to the requirement to be FoodShare eligible to participate in FSET.
- The Department encourages these ABAWDs to connect with the FSET program after eligibility is regained, as FSET workers are familiar with the work requirement and can assist the member remain in compliance, in addition to the top-notch employment, training, and supportive services offered.

Handbook Update

- The FoodShare Wisconsin Policy handbook update was released on April 9, 2025.

Healthcare

- The Department continues to make progress on Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP) Premium Payment improvements for October 2025. More information will be shared in the coming months.
- Enhancements from the February Administrative Renewals project is in effect this month.
 - The process to complete administrative renewals at the individual level is now fully automated, and over 41% of cases were fully administratively renewed, and 44% of individuals.
 - Updated renewal letters have begun being mailed.
 - As a reminder, the administrative renewal and 45-day renewal letters have been updated. It will be clear which household members could and could not be administratively renewed, who needs to take what action, for which program(s), and by when.
- The BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid Eligibility handbooks were updated on April 9, 2025.

Subcommittee Updates (Income Maintenance Agency Subcommittee Co-Chairs)

- Income Maintenance Operational Analysis (IMOA) subcommittee met March 4 and April 4, 2025. Jenny Hoffman shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is May 9, 2025.
- Call Center Technical subcommittee met on February 10, March 10, and March 31, 2025. Kris Weden shared key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting was held on April 14, 2025.
- The Performance Monitoring subcommittee met on March 19, 2025. Nicole Rolain shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is May 21, 2025.
- The Fraud and Program Integrity Subcommittee met on February 11, 2025. Robert Klingforth shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is May 13, 2025.

CARES Releases (Department of Health Services)

- Shawn Thomas presented on information for the June 2025 CARES Release, Alert Modernization. See attachment for details.
- Elizabeth Mertens presented on information for the June 2025 CARES Release, Continuous coverage. See attachment for details.
- Elizabeth Mertens presented on information for the June 2025 CARES Release, FoodShare Unclear Information. See attachment for details.

- Elizabeth Mertens presented on information for the June 2025 CARES Release, Medicaid Redetermination. See attachment for additional details.

Income Maintenance (IM) Funding and Contract Updates (Alicia Grulke & Jenny Hoffman)

- Planning for the 2026 IM Contract Negotiations have begun. The first negotiation meeting will occur in June 2025.

Consortia Feedback (Jenny Hoffman)

- Consortia report that there was information in the IM manual that addressed who IM Agencies can disclose information to without consent. This information is not in the FoodShare Wisconsin Policy Handbook.

Administrative Memos (Alicia Grulke & Jenny Hoffman)

- None

Regional Enrollment Network (Lorie Graff)

- March 11, 2025, Regional Enrollment Network updates:
 - Covering Wisconsin has not received information on the actual amount of the 90% cut to the federal Navigator grant. This could be a decrease of almost \$3 million per year for Wisconsin.
 - The steering committee held the first meeting to plan for the Fall Enrollment Conference.
 - Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released the proposed rule, 2025 Marketplace Integrity and Affordability. The proposal includes the following:
 - To end the availability of the monthly special enrollment period (SEP) for individuals with household incomes below 150% federal poverty level (FPL).
 - To increase pre-enrollment verification requirements.
 - To shorten the annual Open Enrollment Period by ending it on December 15.
 - The rule would also exclude DACA recipients from enrolling in Marketplace coverage. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-takes-aim-reduce-improper-enrollments-and-promote-more-affordable-health-insurance-marketplaces>
- April 8, 2025, Regional Enrollment Network Updates:
 - Planning for the Fall Enrollment Conference continues.
 - Send feedback by April 11, 2025, for the proposed rule by CMS for 2025 Marketplace Integrity and Affordability.
 - The next meeting is May 13, 2025.

Public Comment

- None

Announcements

- For upcoming meetings in 2025, send agenda items to the WHCSA Tri Chairs or Bureau of Eligibility Operations and Training operations associate at DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov.