

INCOME MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Thursday, November 20, 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 type="checkbox"/>	Ashley Schabel – DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Michael - DHS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jody Noble – DHS BEOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Autumn Arnold – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pungnou Her – DHS BEOT	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Huffman – DHS BEEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nick Kwaw – DHS BEOT	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moraine Lakes – Mia Anderson-Inman
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bay Lake – Becky Hetfield-Salentine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moraine Lakes – Heather Merten
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Southern – Kate Chambers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Central – Amanda Brooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Southern – Laci Bainbridge
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Great Rivers – Ronda Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Wetherbee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephanie Krieger – DHS BEEP	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gage Winkelmann – DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Koch - OIG

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Honsa - DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lauren Heitman – DHS Area Admin
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kent Ellis - DCF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aftin Locks – DHS BEOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Annie Griggs – DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Cone – DHS BSM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jessica Lange – Jefferson County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darin Petesch – DHS BSM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Darsell Johns – Ozaukee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Christina Tuenge -Great Rivers
<input 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 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"/>	Melissa Benner – DHS BEEP
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rebecca Luebke – Area Admin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Roxann Binkowski – Waushara County
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Heidrun Kovach – Dane County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	April Ferstl – DCF
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitch Birkey – Calumet County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deb Bohlman – Fond du Lac County
<input 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 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"/>	Krystal Ellis -WKRP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Raelle Allen - Lac du Flambeau	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dylana Kaquatosh –Menominee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Taryn Williams – Lac du Flambeau	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jessica VandeKamp – Oneida
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shannon Drake-Buhr-DHS BEEP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kristin Latus – WKRP
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jolyne Wallace – OIG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jenny Hoffman (co-Chair)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dustin Feeney -WKRP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Heather Ondik – Bay Lake
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deba Hagamon – Lac du Flambeau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kristine Bovee – DHS BEOT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mary Augustine – DHS BEEP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Megan Boiteau - DHS BEOT

AGENDA

Welcome (Katie Sepnieski & Lorie Graff)

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

Approval of October 16, 2025, Meeting Minutes (Katie Sepnieski)

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

Policy Updates (Department of Health Services)

FoodShare

- As government shutdown has ended, FoodShare issuances resumed and is funded through September 2026.
- Based on recent direction from Federal Nutrition Services (FNS), the Department issued a CARES Coordinator Notice to announce our November 1, 2025, implementation of the new policies from H.R.1 regarding Able Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD).
 - In the short term, until system changes are made to support the policy change, the Department is using discretionary exemptions to minimize negative impacts for members.
 - Due to the limited number of discretionary exemptions, system changes were recently made to expand the ABAWD definition to include adults age 55 to 59, as well as parents that do not have a child age 13 or younger in the home.
 - As a result, some members will begin time-limited benefits in December.
 - Member notices and the work requirement script have been updated to reflect these changes, and members will be notified of the change in status before the work requirement goes into effect.
 - The February 2027 CARES release will include the remaining ABAWD related changes from H.R.1, including work requirements for members aged 60 to 64 and loss of stand-alone exemptions based on homelessness, veteran's status and status as a former foster care youth.

HealthCare

- The annual update to Private Pay Nursing Home and Group B Plus Waivers Rates will be published through an Operations Memo in November 2025.
- The 2026 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Medicaid Operations Memo is expected to be published in November 2025.
- The Annual Update to Income Thresholds for Determining Whether a Child or Tax Dependent is Expected to Be Required to File a Tax Return, is expected to be published in early December 2025.
- Beginning in December 2025, the handbook releases will include an updated cover sheet to list the changes by type and to provide a more detailed description of what the changes are.

Subcommittee Updates (Income Maintenance Agency Subcommittee Co-Chairs)

- Income Maintenance Operational Analysis (IMOA) subcommittee met November 7, 2025. Lorie Graff shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is December 5, 2025.
- Call Center Technical subcommittee met on October 27 and November 10, 2025. Cindy Drury shared key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is November 24, 2025.

- The Training subcommittee met on October 27, 2025. Jesse Wolf shared key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is January 26, 2026.
- The Elderly, Blind, Disabled/Long Term Care subcommittee met on October 21, 2025. Kara Ponti shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is January 20, 2026.

Management Evaluation Review (Kris Bovee)

- Kris Bovee presented on information on the Management Evaluation Review. See attachment for details.

Income Maintenance (IM) Funding and Contract Updates (Alicia Grulke & Lorie Graff)

- The Department and the Wisconsin Human Services Association (WHCSA) have concluded negotiations for the 2026 Income Maintenance (IM) contract. After the internal review is complete, the contract will begin routing to consortia for signature.

Consortia Feedback (Lorie Graff)

- None

Administrative Memos (Alicia Grulke & Lorie Graff)

- Consortia are reviewing the funding Administrator Memo's for 2026. Approvals for these memo's is provided to the Department.

Regional Enrollment Network (Lorie Graff)

- Open Enrollment began November 1, 2025.
- Plans are showing increases in premiums or deductibles, resulting in more explanation for consumers to understand the actual cost of available plans.
- Navigator staffing has decreased, creating some strain; however, Certified Application Counselors (CAC) are also assisting. Covering Wisconsin's website is updated to assist consumers with easier navigation.
- Next meeting December 9th, 2025.

Public Comment

- None

Announcements

- The December 2025 IMAC meeting is cancelled.
- For upcoming meetings in 2026, send agenda items to the WHCSA Tri Chairs or Bureau of Eligibility Operations and Training operations associate at DHSBEOTAdmin@dhs.wisconsin.gov.