

INCOME MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Thursday, January 15, 2026

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Zoom: <https://dhswi.zoomgov.com/j/1616714667>

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 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 type="checkbox"/>	Laurie Teubert – DHS BEEP
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Great Rivers – Kathy Welke (co-chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WKRP – Kimm Peters
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Great Rivers – Ronda Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Wetherbee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stephanie Krueger – DHS BEEP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tami Berg - OIG
<input type="checkbox"/>	WKRP – Katie Kasprzak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Ewing – DHS BEOT
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kent Ellis - DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aftin Locks – DHS BEOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Annie Griggs – DCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	Suzanne Cone – DHS BSM
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jessica Lange – Jefferson County	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darin Petesch – DHS BSM
<input checked="" 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 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"/>	Melissa Benner – DHS BEEP
<input 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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Deba Hagamon – Lac du Flambeau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kristine Bovee – DHS BEOT
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mary Augustine – DHS BEEP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Megan Boiteau - DHS BEOT

AGENDA

Welcome (Katie Sepnieski & Jenny Hoffman)

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

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

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

Policy Updates (Department of Health Services)

Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP)

- Changes were made last fall to improve the premium payment process for the Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP) program.
- Changes included systems changes to support ongoing monthly payments through ACCESS, steps to prevent duplicate payments and make it more clear to members when a premium is due, and the process of paying initial premiums to the Income Maintenance (IM) agencies while paying ongoing premiums via the Departments fiscal agent.
- The main change is providing an extra month for MAPP members to pay premiums, so eligibility is maintained until the month after the premium was due.
- January 2026 is the first time the extra month is applied and members that do not pay premiums for December 2025 by January 16, 2026, adverse action will be disenrolled from MAPP.
- Resources that have been shared related to this included an Operations Memo, updates to the Medicaid Eligibility Handbook, Process Help and talking points for IM agencies. The Partner Toolkit on the [Department of Health Services \(DHS\) website](#) includes copies of the letters and messages sent to members, FAQs, relevant forms, and timeline.

Community Engagement Requirements

- The Department is at the beginning stages of the system, policy and process changes that are needed to support new community engagement requirements for Medicaid, due to the federal budget reconciliation act passed this summer.
- The requirements will go into effect for new applicants that are BadgerCare Plus childless adults on January 1, 2027, and for existing members who are BadgerCare Plus Childless Adults, at the next renewal after January 1, 2027.
- Formal outreach to members about the requirements will begin in September 2026 and continue to communicate with members on a rolling basis as renewals are due.
- There are several ways to meet the new requirements, including through employment, volunteer hours, education or having an exemption.
- States have some flexibility in determining when applicants and current members need to demonstrate compliance with community engagement requirements. The Department plans to require that applicants demonstrate compliance in the month preceding the application. For example, an applicant is applying in January 2027, must demonstrate compliance in December 2026.
- At renewal, members must demonstrate compliance for any one month of the certification period. For example, a member renewing in December 2027 must demonstrate compliance in any month of 2027.
- The Department is working based on the guidance from federal partners to minimize coverage losses when requirements are in effect and will provide updates on the details of the new requirements.

Operations Memos

- The Department will publish the Operations Memos announcing annual updates, including:
 - 2026 Federal Poverty Level Changes for ForwardHealth Programs, and
 - The annual Earned Income, Homestead, and Other Tax Credits memo, which provides
 - Information on tax credits and tax preparation services available to working families in Wisconsin for the 2025 tax year;
 - A reminder to Wisconsin Works (W-2) and Income Maintenance (IM) agencies of the importance of notifying program participants of the financial advantages of federal and state tax credits; and
 - A reminder on how to count federal and state tax refunds when determining financial eligibility.

Subcommittee Updates (Income Maintenance Agency Subcommittee Co-Chairs)

- Income Maintenance Operational Analysis (IMOA) subcommittee met December 5, 2025, and January 9, 2026. Jenny Hoffman shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is February 6, 2026.
- Call Center Technical subcommittee met on November 24, 2025, December 8, 2025, and January 12, 2026. Cindy Drury shared key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is January 26, 2026.
- The Performance Monitoring subcommittee met on November 19, 2025. Ann Kriegel shared key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is January 21, 2026.
- The Fraud and Program Integrity subcommittee met on October 21, 2025. Robert Klingforth shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is February 10, 2026.

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

- 2026 Income Maintenance Contracts have been routed for signature to consortia and some have signed. The remaining contracts that were not signed, were removed from DocuSign because of an error regarding federal funding information on the Income Maintenance agreements. Once the information is updated contracts will be shared back with those remaining agencies for signature. The focus right now is the contracts that were not previously signed prior to this finding. The Bureau of Fiscal Accountability and Management will determine the need for an amendment for contracts that were already signed.

Consortia Feedback (Jenny Hoffman)

- None

Administrative Memos (Alicia Grulke & Jenny Hoffman)

- Administrative Memo 26-01, Customer Service, has been published.
- Administrative Memo 25-04, Fraud Prevention and Investigation Program Allocations and Guidelines for Calendar Year 2026, has been published.

Regional Enrollment Network (Lorie Graff)

- With open enrollment ending January 15th, final enrollment data will be shared in the coming weeks.
- In preparation for the upcoming new community engagement requirements for Medicaid, the Departments outreach team is looking for up to 35 BadgerCare Plus members willing to meet with DHS to share the experience with the BadgerCare Plus program. DHS shared a flier that partners can use to assist with recruiting, with a particular interest in ensuring participation from rural areas. If they meet the criteria, DHS will pay participants \$50.

- While the House passed a 3-year extension of the enhanced premium tax credits, it appears there is little support in the Senate for extending the credits.

Public Comment

- None

Announcements

- 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.