

INCOME MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Thursday, April 16, 2026

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

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

Minutes

Invitees

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

☐	Barbara Honsa - DCF	☐	Lauren Heitman – DHS Area Admin
☒	Kent Ellis - DCF	☒	Aftin Locks – DHS BEOT
☐	Annie Griggs – DCF	☐	Suzanne Cone – DHS BSM
☐	Jessica Lange – Jefferson County	☐	Darin Petesch – DHS BSM
☐	Darsell Johns – Ozaukee	☐	Christina Tuenge -Great Rivers
☐	Michael Poma - MilES	☐	Shauna Grossman - DHS
☐	Tim McGuire - MilES	☐	Shelli Essmann DHS Area Admin
☐	Mac Strawder - MilES	☐	Carol Waulet – Door County
☐	Brenda Belanger-Red Cliff	☐	Amber Taylor – Adams County
☐	Wendy Corbine - Bad River	☒	Melissa Benner – DHS BEEP
☐	Renee Lyman – Dodge County	☐	Raelle Allen - Lac du Flambeau Tribe
☐	Carol Sjoblom – Columbia County	☒	Maria Delagado – Southern
☒	Amy Bell Ferries – Area Admin	☒	Roxann Binkowski – Waushara County
☒	Heidrun Kovach – Dane County	☒	April Ferstl – DCF
☒	Mitch Birkey – Calumet County	☐	Deb Bohlman – Fond du Lac County
☐	Kesha Cole – Ozaukee County	☐	Amy Beranek – Dodge County
☐	Michele Chiuchiolo – Dane County	☐	Melissa Todd – DHS BEEP
☐	Deb Williquette – Manitowoc County	☐	Rob Klingforth – Moraine Lakes
☐	Ron Redell – Dane County	☐	Cortney Hebel – Dane County
☐	Kara Ponti – Dane County	☐	Charlie Morgan – WI Legislature
☐	Chris Gokey – Lac Courte Oreilles	☐	Nasbah Hill – Oneida
☐	Linda Sallerud – Forest County Potawatomi	☐	Michele Shawano – Sokaogon
☒	Maggie Calhoun – Forest County Potawatomi	☐	Ashley McGeshick – Sokaogon
☐	Wendy Corbine – Bad River	☐	Jaime Jameson –Sokaogon
☐	Gloria Cobb – Lac du Flambeau	☒	Krystal Ellis -WKRP
☐	Raelle Allen - Lac du Flambeau	☐	Dylana Kaquatosh –Menominee
☐	Taryn Williams – Lac du Flambeau	☐	Jessica VandeKamp – Oneida
☐	Shannon Drake-Buhr-DHS BEEP	☐	Kristin Latus – WKRP
☐	Jolyne Wallace – OIG	☒	Jenny Hoffman (co-Chair)
☒	Dustin Feeney -WKRP	☒	Heather Ondik – Bay Lake
☐	Deba Hagamon – Lac du Flambeau	☒	Kristine Bovee – DHS BEOT
☒	Mary Augustine – DHS BEEP	☒	Megan Boiteau - DHS BEOT

AGENDA

Welcome (Katie Sepnieski & Jenny Hoffman)

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

Approval of February 19, 2026, 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)

Healthcare

- There state legislature passed and signed four new bills in March 2026.
 - **Wisconsin Act 102 – Postpartum Coverage**
 - Wisconsin Act 102 was signed into law March 18, 2026.
 - Currently, coverage continues until the end of the month following the 60th day after the pregnancy ends.
 - Effective July 1, 2026, coverage for pregnant and postpartum individuals will continue until the end of the month following the 365th day after the pregnancy ends.
 - **Wisconsin Act 115 - Next of Kin**
 - Wisconsin Act 115 was signed into law on March 27. It relates to admission of incapacitated individuals to certain health care facilities and other health care-related decisions by a newly established category of representatives called “patient representatives”. These patient representatives can be certain family members or even a close family friend and they do not require a petition for guardianship or protective placement.
 - For eligibility purposes, the bill also authorizes the patient representative to enroll an incapacitated individual in Medicaid to the same extent as a guardian until a guardian is appointed, the individual is discharged to a non-facility setting, or a health care power of attorney is established.
 - The Department is analyzing the impact of this bill, and further details will be shared once available.
 - **Wisconsin Act 233 - Pre-Release Coverage**
 - Assembly Bill 604 relates to coverage under the Medical Assistance program for incarcerated individuals was signed into law as Wisconsin Act 233 on April 8, 2026.
 - The Department is required to submit a waiver to the federal government to provide incarcerated individuals with case management services, medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorders, and a 30-day supply of prescriptions up to 90 days before release.
 - This does not change eligibility. These services could be available during the 90-day pre-release period while the individual is in suspended status.
 - **Wisconsin Act 225 – MAPP**
 - Assembly Bill 253, relating to: independence accounts, was signed into law as Wisconsin Act 225 on April 8th.

- It allows individuals to deposit up to 100% of their earned income into an Independence account. Currently, a MAPP premium penalty is imposed if more than 50% is deposited.
- It also disregards up to \$40,000 in assets acquired by inheritances for MAPP eligibility.
 - DHS is still evaluating the changes that need to be made and when they will be effective and will share more information in the future.
- **Operations Memos:**
 - The following Healthcare related Operations Memo's published in April 2026.
 - Operations Memo 26-12 was published April 9, 2026, and announced that state SSI and SSI-E payments will increase by 10% beginning in May.
 - An amendment to the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) operations memo is planned for publication on April 10, 2026, because the increased state SSI and SSI-E payment amounts will result in changes effective May 1, 2026.
 - EBD Medicaid categorically needy income limit
 - Institutional Medicaid home maintenance allowance maximum
 - Waiver Medicaid basic needs allowance
 - An amendment to Operations Memo 25-11, Changes to Treatment of Annuities for Medicaid, will be published in April 2026, that clarifies how individual retirement annuities owned by an ineligible spouse are not counted as assets.

FoodShare

- Wisconsin Act 116 was signed into law in March 2026. This bill provides state funding to make up for the drop in federal administrative funding from 50 percent to 25 percent and also provides funding for staffing resources to focus on quality control, with the goal of avoiding federal financial penalties triggered by payment error rates above 6 percent.
- Wisconsin Act 116 also directs the Department to request a federal waiver to restrict the purchase of candy and sugary beverages using FoodShare benefits. The Department is analyzing this requirement, and no implementation date has been determined. The steps to implement this policy do include requesting a waiver and completing a procurement for some of the technology related to food purchases.
- Wisconsin is approved for a waiver for FoodShare members living in Menominee, Portage, Shawano, and Waupaca counties will have until April 22, 2026, to request replacement benefits because of lost food due to recent ice storms, severe weather, and power outages on April 2, 2026. Members in other counties had 10 days from the day they lost food to request replacement benefits.
- The Department is in the process of requesting extra time for members to submit food replacement requests from storms that occurred during the week of April 13, 2026. The request will include Dane, Jefferson, Crawford, Waukesha, Columbia, Milwaukee, Brown, Outagamie, Winnebago, Waupaca, Shawano, Vernon, Juneau, Racine, Kenosha, and Marathon counties.

Subcommittee Updates (Income Maintenance Agency Subcommittee Co-Chairs)

- Income Maintenance Operational Analysis (IMOA) subcommittee met on March 6 and April 10, 2026. Lorie Graff shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is May 10, 2026.
- Call Center Technical subcommittee met on March 9, March 30, and April 13, 2026. Cindy Drury shared key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is May 11, 2026.

- The Performance Monitoring subcommittee met on March 19, 2026. Ann Kriegel shared key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is May 20, 2026.
- The Elderly, Blind, Disabled/Long Term Care subcommittee met on March 17, 2026. Heather Merten shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is May 19, 2026.
- The Fraud and Program Integrity subcommittee met on February 10, 2026. Shelby Jensen/Jesse Wolf shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is May 12, 2026.

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

- Discussions pertaining to Act 116 Income Maintenance Contract amendment have begun and will proceed until the amendment is finalized.

Consortia Feedback (Jenny Hoffman)

- None

Administrative Memos (Alicia Grulke & Jenny Hoffman)

- Administrators Memo 26-02, 2026 Income Maintenance Consortia Administrative Allocation, was published.

Regional Enrollment Network (Lorie Graff)

- Special Enrollment Period training by Covering Wisconsin happened March 17, 2026.
- Partners continue to work with individuals to effectuate their marketplace coverage. These individuals have applied, selected a plan, but have not paid the first premium to activate the coverage.
- Covering Wisconsin is developing outreach information for immigrants related to sharing of information with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
- Wisconsin Primary Healthcare Association (WPHCA) is raising awareness amongst Community Health Centers that express enrollment is allowable for some Medicaid (Children, Family Planning). Many aren't aware that they can do this and haven't set up access.
- There is a proposal to end auto-enrollment that would impact the upcoming open enrollment, however, it is unclear if this is for Advanced Premium Tax Credit (APTC) individuals only. Assistors have expressed concern about the impact this has on uninsured rates.
- Next Meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2026.

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.