

INCOME MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Thursday, May 21, 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 & Lorie Graff)

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

Approval of April 16, 2026, 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)

Healthcare

- An amendment to Operations Memo 25-11, Changes to Treatment of Annuities for Medicaid, was published during the week of May 18, 2026.
 - This memo is being amended to clarify:
 - Individual retirement annuities owned by an ineligible spouse are not counted as assets. It is not necessary to verify the original funding if the ineligible spouse is the current owner.
 - Inherited IRAs are not considered retirement funds, for purposes of this exemption.
- A Common Law Marriage clarification memo is scheduled to be published.
 - This memo will announce a clarification to the definition of a spouse for Medicaid and FoodShare to align with federal law, which requires recognition of valid marriages performed in other states, including a common law marriage.
- 2025 Wisconsin Act 115 is scheduled to be published in May 2026.
 - This state law introduces a new type of patient representative, who can consent to admission of incapacitated individuals from a hospital to a nursing home or community-based residential facility without requiring a petition for guardianship or protective placement, under certain conditions and with a signed declaration.
 - It also authorizes the patient representative to make health care decisions and enroll the individual in Medicaid to the same extent as a guardian.
 - The Department is required to implement this mandate by June 1, 2026, which is done through Operations Memo and a CARES Coordinator Notice (CCN).
- The annual Spousal Impoverishment Income Allowance Federal Poverty Level Adjustment memo will be published in June 2026.
- An Operations Memo related to changes in notifications and coverage transitions for participants enrolled in FosterCare Medicaid will be published in June 2026.
- An Operations Memo announcing the 12-Month Postpartum Coverage Expansion will be published in June 2026.
 - Instead of postpartum coverage ending at the end of the month following the 60th day after the pregnancy ends, coverage will continue until the end of the month following the 365th day after the pregnancy ends.

FoodShare

- In June 2026, an Operations Memo outlining restrictions to FoodShare eligibility for certain non-citizens, as required under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act will be published. These new federal restrictions will start to affect FoodShare members in July 2026.
- In June 2026, an Operations Memo with policy updates related to FSET will be published. These updates are related to enhancements to ACCESS and MyACCESS that will be implemented in June,

that will allow FoodShare members and FSET participants to initiate a wider range of requests online, including FSET referrals, messages to FSET workers, appointment requests, participation hour submissions, good cause requests, and supportive services requests.

- In July 2026, an Operations Memo announcing a change in the FoodShare drug testing policy will be published.
 - Wisconsin state law requires FoodShare to drug test applicants and members that received a drug-related felony in the past 5 years. Current policy requires applicants and members to pass a 7-panel drug test.
 - Starting August 1, 2026, FoodShare policy will require applicants and members to pass a 5-panel drug test that screens for THC, opiates, cocaine, amphetamines, and PCP.
 - This change will align FoodShare policy with the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Standards Board's drug screening admin code and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) standard employment drug screening.
 - Income maintenance agencies have the option of continuing the current practice of testing for more than 5 drugs, but for FoodShare purposes, only a positive test for the five drug categories will affect FoodShare eligibility.

Subcommittee Updates (Income Maintenance Agency Subcommittee Co-Chairs)

- Income Maintenance Operational Analysis (IMOA) subcommittee met on May 8, 2026. Lorie Graff shared key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is June 5, 2026.
- Call Center Technical subcommittee was cancelled on May 11, 2026. The next meeting is June 8, 2026.
- The Training subcommittee met on April 27, 2026. Shelby Jensen/Jesse Wolf shared key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is July 27, 2026.

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

- 2027 income maintenance contract negotiations will begin in July 2026.

Consortia Feedback (Lorie Graff)

- None

Administrative Memos (Alicia Grulke & Lorie Graff)

- None

Regional Enrollment Network (Lorie Graff)

- Covering Wisconsin is offering healthcare literacy training. Participants that attend the training have included small businesses, schools, and college age individuals. The topics shared are
 - How to use health insurance
 - Terminology
 - Understanding different types of insurance plans
- WI Collaboration on Immigrants & Public Benefits website was transitioned from the UW-Madison website to the Covering Wisconsin website. On June 20, at 1:00pm, the collaboration will be holding an immigrant eligibility training. <https://coveringwi.org/immigrant-health>.
- Still unknown whether the proposed Marketplace change that would end auto-enrollment beginning with the next open enrollment period applies only to those individuals receiving subsidies or to all.
- A session being considered for the Fall Enrollment conference is Safety-Net programs (i.e. Charity Care) given the population of individuals losing healthcare coverage.
- Next meeting is June 9th

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.