

INCOME MAINTENANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IMAC)

Thursday, June 18, 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 & Kathy Welke)

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

Approval of May 21 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)

Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT)

- As many of you know, Summer EBT is a yearly program that helps families of eligible children buy food during the summer months, when children are not in school and do not have access to free or reduced-price meals.
- Over the summer, families can get a one-time payment for each eligible child in their household. The amount provided to each child is set by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and like in past years, it will be \$120.
 - The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) completed the first Summer EBT issuance for 2026 on June 6, which was an issuance of around \$44 million.
 - Most children who are automatically eligible for Summer EBT will be covered in the first issuance.
 - DHS will continue to send benefits throughout the summer until the end of September to any other children who we determine are eligible.

FoodShare

- The Department released three Operations memos in June 2026 regarding upcoming policy changes:
 - Operations Memo 26-24, *Eligibility Changes for Non-Citizens*, announces new federal restrictions around which groups of non-citizens can qualify for FoodShare. Those changes will start to take effect July 1, 2026.
 - Operations Memo 26-18, *FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) Policy Requirements Related to ACCESS and CARES Worker Web (CWW)*, outlines new policy requirements for FSET agencies and income maintenance (IM) agencies related to implementation of new FSET system enhancements.
 - Operations Memo 26-22, *Changes to the FoodShare Standard Utility Allowance*, effective July 1, 2026.
 - FoodShare utility allowances are state-specific standardized utility deductions that households receive based on the type of utility costs they have.
 - The utility deductions are updated annually to reflect changes in how much the household pays for utilities.
 - Recent federal guidance updated the methodologies that states must use to calculate these amounts.
 - Wisconsin received federal approval to update utility deductions under the new methodologies. Effective July 1, 2026, most of the utility allowances will increase, but some utility allowances will decrease. However, for most members with a change in benefit, it will increase.
 - Households will receive a Notice of Decision if the new allowance amounts result in a change to their benefits.
 - Participants receiving Institutional Medicaid or Waiver Medicaid spousal impoverishment may see changes to their patient liability or cost share amounts because they are calculated using certain FoodShare utility deductions.

Healthcare

- The Department released five Operations memos regarding upcoming policy changes:
 - Operations Memo 26-16, *Change to Who Can Sign Health Care Applications and Long-Term Care Forms on Behalf of Incapacitated Adults*, announces a new patient representative's authority to sign applications and renewals and act on an incapacitated individual's behalf related to Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus, as well as enrollment, disenrollment, and changes in adult home and community-based long-term care programs.
 - Operations Memo 26-17, *Changes to Foster Care Medicaid* announces:

- A data exchange between eWisSACWIS and CARES Worker Web (CWW),
 - The generation of Foster Care Medicaid correspondence from CWW, and
 - Changes to how members transition from Foster Care Medicaid to other types of Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus, including transitions for Former Foster Care Youth.
- Operations Memo 26-20, *Aligning SeniorCare Overpayments and Authorized Representatives with Other Health Care Programs* announces:
 - The Department will no longer pursue recovery of overpaid SeniorCare benefits, and
 - There will no longer be a separate SeniorCare authorized representative.
- Operations Memo 26-19, *Spousal Impoverishment Income Allowance Federal Poverty Level Adjustment*, announces the 2026 amounts for the:
 - Spousal impoverishment community spouse income allowance minimum allocation,
 - Spousal impoverishment dependent family member income allowance standard, and
 - Shelter base amount.
 - The spousal impoverishment mass change will occur on the weekend of June 26, 2026.
- Operations Memo 26-24, *BadgerCare Plus 12-Month Postpartum Coverage*, announces an expansion of postpartum coverage through the end of the month following the 365th day after pregnancy ends, effective June 1, 2026.

Federal Rule

- There was an Interim Final Rule released on the One Big Beautiful Bill Act on June 1, 2026. This rule was approximately 400 pages long.
 - The Department is carefully reviewing and also reviewing summaries received from national organizations.
 - Each state is different, so the Department is reviewing the impacts for Wisconsin.
 - At this time, the Department does not have major changes as a result of the interim final rule, but will continue to share more information as it becomes available.
 - On June 18, 2026, the Department hosted a public webinar on the Medicaid Work Requirement, which is recorded and available on the DHS website.

Subcommittee Updates (Income Maintenance Agency Subcommittee Co-Chairs)

- Income Maintenance Operational Analysis (IMOA) subcommittee met on June 5, 2026. See key discussion points (see attachment). Next meeting is July 10, 2026.
- Call Center Technical subcommittee met on June 8, 2026. See key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is July 13, 2026.
- Performance Monitoring subcommittee met on May 20, 2026. See key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is July 15, 2026.
- Elderly, Blind, Disabled/Long Term Care subcommittee met on May 19, 2026. See key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is July 21, 2026.
- Fraud and Program Integrity met on May 12, 2026. See key discussion points (see attachment). The next meeting is August 11, 2026.

Income Maintenance (IM) Funding and Contract Updates (Alicia Grulke & Kathy Welke)

- The IM contract amendment for the 2025 Wisconsin Act 116 Funding for SNAP Quality Assurance Review is available for review and signature.

Consortia Feedback (Kathy Welke)

- Due to discussion that consortia have had on CWW & ACCESS system issues that occur, ESPAC is requesting a standing agenda that addresses CWW & ACCESS systems. We would like to hear data on the following:
 - System Uptime & Availability
 - Response Time
 - Server Capacity
 - Helpdesk volume and top 3 incident types
 - Incident Management

Administrative Memos (Alicia Grulke & Kathy Welke)

- None

Regional Enrollment Network (Lorie Graff)

- Outreach is being done with individuals that navigators assisted to enroll in the previous open enrollment to follow up on whether the premium was paid to answer additional questions regarding Marketplace Healthcare coverage.
- 2026 Fall Enrollment Conference planning has begun. The main conference will be September 16 -18 2026, from 8:30am-12:00pm.
- The Immigrant eligibility webinar covering Medical Assistance and Marketplace Healthcare coverage eligibility topics is scheduled for June 30, 2026.
- Benefit and Payment Parameter final rule was issued. This outlines various changes to Marketplace rules for upcoming open enrollments.
- The Department provided updates on the following topics:
 - Medicaid Work Requirement Webinar occurred on June 18, 2026. This webinar series focused on an overview of the requirements, the implementation timeline, and planned communication to Medicaid members
 - [ForwardHealth Policy Update Call Series | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#) provides information on the One Big Beautiful Bill Webinar series. Register for the new [listserv](#) to receive updates.
 - The Department will share available Federal updates on the [Medicaid and FoodShare Partner Resources: Federal Changes | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#).
- Next meeting is July 14, 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.