

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: IRIS Advisory Committee			Attending: Danielle Smith, Fil Clissa, James Valona, Jason Glozier, Kathi Miller, Kathy Meisner, Kelsey Mowery, Martha Chambers, Melanie Cairns, Ramsey Lee, Rosie Bartel, Sue Urban, Thomas Gierke
Date: 9/26/2023	Time Started: 9:32am	Time Ended: 2:40pm	
Location: Zoom Webinar			Presiding Officer: Alicia Boehme, DHS, Director, Bureau of Quality and Oversight, Christian Moran, DHS, Director of Programs and Policy

Minutes

Members absent: Adam Brabender

DHS Staff present: Shelly Glenn

Presenters: Daniel Bush, Sheldon Kroning, Amy Chartier, Sue Urban, Dana Raue

Meeting Call to Order – Alicia Boehme, Christian Moran

- Meeting was called to order at 9:32am
- Agenda Reviewed
- Motion to approve minutes with that update by Martha Chambers. Second by Kathi Miller.
 - Melanie Cairns abstained
- Minutes approved

Follow Up Items – Alicia Boehme, Christian Moran

- Alicia and Christian reviewed the IAC workplan and DHS responses

Committee feedback/discussion

- HCBS Settings rule applies to non-res as well
- Equity presentation would need to be IRIS focused and not long term care
- Participants are having trouble obtaining supportive home care workers with the disparity in wages between MN and WI
- Would like self-advocates and committee to have input on the handbook to ensure plain language is incorporated
 - Use a proactive approach rather than having the review after the revisions are made
 - DHS can explore how to use committee input in development, find a way to make sure there is that engagement
- Consider rewording some questions for the functional screen as some are upsetting to participants
- DHS should review the CDC definition of health equity, fair and just opportunity to achieve highest level of health, social determinates of health and health disparities (paraphrasing)
- Member offered to assist with presenters
- Same presenter to LTCAC should be presenting to IAC to focus on consistent messaging throughout

Department Updates – Alicia Boehme, Christian Moran

- IAC workplan, Annual topics reviewed
- Dana Raue provided an EVV update

Committee feedback/discussion

- GT has developed information on ICA compliance and has shared it. GT, Acumen and iLife are working on outreach with individuals. They are attempting to get to a point to share that information in real-time.
- Member finds EVV frustrating. Dana will reach out after meeting
- Glad there will be an extension for compliance, and happy for IC talking points
- Are participants aware of the pause in the process?

- There will be a complete reset if compliance gets to 80%
- DHS can be contacted for EVV issues at DHSIRISQuality@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Fiscal Updates – Dan Bush

- Presentation shared with committee
 - Presentation distributed to committee after meeting

Committee feedback/discussion

- 2023 calculations were more accurate than 2022 in general for estimating costs for participants overall when comparing the amount of the IBA to costs
- Explicit goal of the project is to align rates with Family Care rates
- What are we doing for people ages 35-62 who do not have family in the area or who may have aging parents themselves? Caregiver crisis is real.
- Is there a crosswalk between NCI data and this data? Are we tracking outcomes from amendments?
 - It is much more labor intensive to obtain that type of detailed analysis
- We are a national leader in the program. Other states may have larger budgets, however, waiting list are 5-7 years to get in the program

Ombudsman Update and Review – Kathi Miller

- Reporting for both DRW and BOALTC
- Both are hearing the same issue – workers not being paid, both current workers and establishing new workers

Committee feedback/discussion

- One specific FEA has been problematic in not communicating with workers and participants.
- There are continuing to work on concern involving nurse consultants and home and vehicle modifications
- Most are not getting paid because of issues on the FEA side
- Member indicated appreciation for specific SDPC nurse, message will be relayed

Public Comment

- Julie – Indicated the structure of the IAC was changed under duress pursuant to a March 2018 memo from DHS to the committee. The committee was more collaborate at that time, and the agenda was developed together. The IAC expressed concern with how the waiver was written. Additionally EVV has a difficult onboarding process. Survival did a report on onboarding
- Sheryl – Currently guardian for a participant in an ICA under CAP. Expressed concern with lack of feedback for services requested over two months ago. There is confusion with the process and a lack of transparency. There should be a flow chart of this process
- Larry – IC has not been helpful. ICs should be treating participants with respect and professionalism, and that has not been his experience.
- Melissa – Is there are new target timeline for hard launch of EVV? Push back seems to be primarily due to fear, because once the system is rolling, it has been successful
- Margi – (written comment submitted) Would like participants and guardians to be able to access budget reports online and to be able to see the details of expenses compared to budget. It would be more efficient that the current process of printing and mailing the reports.

372 Report – Sheldon Kroning

- Presentation reviewed with committee

Committee feedback/discussion

- Does Appendix D include natural supports?
 - Do not recall if that language was used, but it does cover non-waiver services
- Needs panel was created to determine if needs were being met, whether or not the need is a waiver service
 - Safety equipment should be part of the ISSP and should be discussed in the IC

- The functional screen is used to assess needs
- Participants used to have access to the needs panel, is that still available?
 - It is not sent out like the support plan, however, a PDF of the document can be requested from the IC
- The program has so much paperwork and documentation that the providers and vendors must complete to be in the program.
 - There are credentialing requirements for someone to provide services. Nothing in the presentation is new in that regard.
- Member requested additional information on the definition of restrictive measures
 - Information sent to committee post-meeting
 - Generally locking mechanism for behavioral support to participants
- Requested that when using an agency, the name address and phone number of the agency and supervisor are provided to the participants
 - DHS staff will take that suggestion back for the provider agreement

SDPC Overview – Sue Urban

- Reviewed presentation with committee

Committee feedback/discussion

- Member inquired about covid booster.
 - Directed to public health or his primary care physician
- Member pointed out page 4 of the presentation regarding different nursing roles, expand on bullet 3 – Nurse consultant review
 - The IRIS Policy Team is working on the state plan, and when the language was developed there was only one ICA

Policy Tracker/Update – Amy Chartier

- Provided a brief update on current policy development
- Additional updates will be sent by email following the meeting

No Committee feedback

Committee Feedback on Provider Agreement Changes – Open Discussion

Committee feedback/discussion

- BOALTC reviewed the provider agreement from a participant rights perspective which is why they had no comments
- Concern about participants considered over budget when looking at monthly vs annual budget. It doesn't always reflect what's authorized
 - DHS is working on that change
- When WISITS was developed year ago, those concerns were supposed to have been addressed
 - DHS will look into that
 - Another member was on the committee, and expressed it was never completely addressed. The budget is easier to read currently, and participants have a better understanding because ICs have a better understanding
- How does Article 9.E.3, page 118 work with EVV? Is this overly burdensome for PHWs?
 - EVV would be in place of a paper time sheet
 - Live-in caregivers are not required to comply with EVV, they can use paper
 - EVV is preferred. It is nice to get rid of paper timesheets
 - EVV doesn't cover all services
 - Paper timesheets are still allowed, not aware of them going away
 - iLife is different with EVV because of their system. EVV systems aren't going away, just the format of in and out timesheets.

Committee Business – Alicia Boehme, Christian Moran

- 1-2 Bed AFH certification changes are going out for public comment in the next week
- Provided an update on MAPP premiums
- ICAs are contact participants in October to obtain Income Maintenance information
- 2023 is the 15th anniversary of the IRIS program
- Request for updated PHE Unwinding-related disenrollments for IRIS Participants, specifically regarding a media release recently
 - An update will be provided at the next meeting or by email during the interim
 - Additional question from member working with CMS, why are workers leaving and not coming back? Would like DHS to provide insight at next meeting
- Reviewed the membership recruiting process and timeline
- Christian addressed a prior question regarding non-res HCBS Settings, Heightened Scrutiny does apply. WI had no deficiencies in that category
- DHS attempted to have an IAC in-person meeting, however there are different interpretations on policy which affected that decision
 - If there is an in-person meeting, there is a request that a virtual option remain in the event of an in-person meeting
- Request made for something to share on how comments were taken for the provider agreement and what the proposed changes were
- Curtis is no longer with DMS
- Committee requested updates from the HCBS Conference in Baltimore
- Committee member is presenting at the self-determination with DHS staff

Adjourn

- Kathi Miller motioned to adjourn, Seconded by Rosie Bartel
- Meeting adjourned at 2:40pm

Prepared by: Shelly Glenn on 9/28/2023.

These minutes are in final form. They were approved by the governmental body on: 11/28/2023