

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: IRIS Advisory Committee			Attending: Alexa Butzbaugh, Andy Thain, Fil Clissa, Gabriella Leachmon, James Valona, Jonathan Claflin, Julie Strenn, Kathy Miller, Lynnea White, Melanie Cairns, Ramsey Lee, Rosie Bartel, Sue Urban, Tom Gierke
Date: 11/26/2024	Time Started: 9:30am	Time Ended: 12:30pm	
Location: Zoom Webinar			Presiding Officer: Alicia Boehme, DHS, Director of Quality and Oversight Christian Moran, DHS, Director of Programs and Policy

Minutes

Members absent: Jason Glozier, Kathy Meisner, Martha Chambers

DHS Staff present: Jenny Price, Sheldon Kroning, Rebecca Frank

Presenters: Grant Cummings

Meeting Call to Order 9:30 am

Alicia Boehme, DHS Director Bureau of Quality and Oversight

Christian Moran, DHS Director Bureau of Programs and Policy

- Meeting overview
- Approval of minutes
- Welcome Gabby Leachmon
- Introductions

Department Updates

Alicia Boehme, DHS Director Bureau of Quality and Oversight

Christian Moran, DHS Director Bureau of Programs and Policy

Committee feedback/discussion

- HCBS corrective action plan timeline into next year and alignment of policy changes
- Continuing Phase 1 on waiver renewal.
- Listening sessions held for the first time at the Self-Determination Conference
 - Need for housing, transportation, MAPP premium and caregiver shortage concern, caregiver support, EVV and timesheet feedback, new service coverage, dental coverage, etc.
- MAPP premiums are a federal requirement and were paused for COVID. They are turned back on, but there are payment issues so disenrollment letters are paused, payment is still required, while participants continue to learn and adjust to the payment methods.
- iLIFE is on a corrective action plan and the DHS is working actively with iLIFE to resolve issues as quickly as possible.
- Recruitment for one participant seat. Plan to have the new member start in January.

Public Comment 10:20 am

Commenter 1

- Needs adaptive changes to a vehicle but cannot drive it around to get competitive bids.
- Is unsure if he needs to pay MAPP premiums.

- Concern that EVV is too difficult for caregivers in light of the caregiver shortage

Commenter 2

- Had to stay with family for two months while looking for caregivers and getting budget approval
- Pay for caregiver training
- Caregiver benefits

Commenter 3

- Information needs to be submitted on multiple papers and retold multiple times rather than shared between ADRC, ICA, etc.

Commenter 4

- ADRCs seem to focus on aging and aging disability over disability without advanced age.

Commenter 5

- Caller is an RN with a privately-owned personal care agency. She does her assessment, onboards, and makes recommendations for the participant to refer to their IRIS coverage for additional supports. The caller reports that the ICs then convince the participant to go through them for all of their supports at a higher hourly cost than it would be if handled through the caller's agency.

2025 IRIS Provider Agreement Changes

Christian Moran, *DHS Director, Bureau of Programs and Policy*

- Discussion of provided handout.

Committee feedback/discussion

- A nursing care allowance is noted for three-to-four bed adult family homes (AFH). Is it available for one-to-two bed AFHs? Yes, it just is not listed.

Ombudsman Update

Kathi Miller, *IRIS Ombudsman Lead, Board on Aging and Long-Term Care*

- iLIFE issues are continuing
- Budget adjustment timelines

Committee feedback/discussion

- None

Individual Budget Allocation (IBA) and Budget Amendments

Grant Cummings, *DHS Director, Bureau of Rate Setting*

Christian Moran, *DHS Director, Bureau of Programs and Policy*

- Discussion of provided handout.

Committee feedback/discussion

- Can profit recovery be directed to the participants rather than to the DHS? It can be invested back into their staff or programming to reduce the profits and prevent paying it back to the DHS.
- IAC caseload is too high. Would the DHS support investing in the ICAs to bring on additional staff? Based on reports, the ICAs are not operating above capacity specified on their contracts. ICAs can add more team members if desired.
- Is there data on the number of participants with reduction in IBA vs no reduction? There was generally an increase across the board, but some people did get reductions. There are no numbers handy.
- Did the algorithm to build budgets take one-time expenses into account? No, it was based on actual expenses.
- Who determines what is an "over authorization" and is this designed to allow the DHS to deny services they don't agree with? This is to prevent ICAs and FEAs from authorizing a participant from spending above the participant's budget.

Committee Business

Alicia Boehme, DHS Director Bureau of Quality and Oversight

Christian Moran, DHS Director Bureau of Programs and Policy Committee Business

Committee feedback/discussion

- Moving May 28th, 2025 to May 20th, 2025 and November 26th, 2025 to November 18th, 2025.

Community Integrated Employment (CIE) Data

Alicia Boehme, *DHS Director, Bureau of Quality and Oversight*

- Discussion of provided materials

Committee feedback/discussion

- Why are wages and hours lower for IRIS participants? This is something we should think about and talk about as a group.
- What is the process for collecting these data for IRIS reporting? There is no comprehensive data collection.

Adjourn