

## OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Instructions: [F-01922A](#)

Name of Governmental Body: Wisconsin Long Term Care Advisory Council (LTCAC)			Attending: Audrey Nelson, Beth Swedeen, Cathy Ley, Christine Witt, Cindy Bentley, Darci Knapp, Dennise Lavrenz, Janet Zander, John Sauer, Kenneth Munson, Lea Kitz, Maureen Ryan, Sam Wilson, Shanna Jensen, Stacy Ellingen
Date: 1/12/2021	Time Started: 9:30 a.m.	Time Ended: 11:35 a.m.	
Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting			Presiding Officer: Curtis Cunningham
Minutes			

**Members absent:** Heather Bruemmer, Denise Pommer

**Others present:** Betsy Genz, Brenda Bauer, Carrie Molke, Hannah Sorensen, Kevin Coughlin, Kiva Graves, Suzanne Ziehr,

### Meeting Call to Order, presented by Curtis Cunningham

- Review of agenda and approval of minutes
  - Motion to approve agenda by Maureen Ryan. Dennise Lavrenz seconded the motion. Lea Kitz objected since they are missing the November Department Updates

### Department Updates, presented by Curtis Cunningham and Carrie Molke

- Division of Medicaid Services (DMS) Updates
  - Received approval from CMS on the IRIS waiver
  - IRIS Monthly Rate of Service (MROS)
    - Fiscal spoke with FEAs and ICAs and will delay new rates until July 1, 2021
  - Children's Long Term Support (CLTS) waiver
    - In process for this year, implementation will be January 1, 2022
    - Children's Long Term Care Council will receive an update on the waiver
    - Currently incorporating feedback from public meetings
    - There will also be a public comment period
  - Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)
    - No delay in implementation due to the pandemic
    - Currently in soft launch situation, collecting information, verifying visits, looking where there is more education and information needed
    - Working to determine when hard launch will be
      - Starting with hard launch, payment would not occur unless there was a verified EVV visit
      - Beginning work on home health implementation for EVV in 2023
- **Council Suggestions:**
  - Many IRIS participants and workers have not heard about EVV, suggestion to give more information out
- Second Telehealth forum was held on January 11, 2021
  - Discussed:
    - What is functionally equivalent and can be done through telehealth
    - What is an originating site
    - What reimbursement and costs should be associated with originating sites

- Case management, HCBS waiver and virtual supports are not in scope
- Looking at it being related to Chapter 49 state plan
- Telehealth website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/telehealth/index.htm>
- Stakeholder engagement: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/telehealth/stakeholder-engagement.htm>
  - Advisory group is not a nominated group, anyone who wants may attend the meetings
  - A more formal group will be developed for the rule committee
- Extension of Public Health emergency
  - Extended to April 21, 2021
  - K-waiver flexibilities will continue
  - We will not disenroll anyone from Medicaid during the emergency and we continue to receive the 6.5% FMAP bump
- New benefit in Medicaid: Substance abuse disorder residential benefit
  - Rollout is scheduled for February 1, 2021
  - Cannot pay for room and board with the benefit
  - Pays for treatment, counseling, and other items in a residential setting during recovery
- Division of Public Health (DPH)
  - Acknowledging recent events
    - Consuming everything
    - Difficult emotionally with how to feel or how to respond
  - COVID-19
    - Focus is on vaccine distribution
  - Health Equity
    - Major priority in DHS for both divisions and bureaus
    - Executive Order 59 requires state agencies to develop and equity inclusion plan were due to DOA at end of year
    - The Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR)
    - Hired a health equity consultant, Katherine Cullinan
    - Governor's Health Equity Council began public meetings (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hec/index.htm>)
- Long Path
  - Currently in Phase 1
    - Looking at leadership development for backbone agencies
    - Group of 50 people went through 8-week session and then 25 went through coaching and completed a project
    - Next step is for this group to work with UW Population Health MATCH program
    - 75 more will go through this same training in 2021, starting in February
  - Event on February 9<sup>th</sup>, LTCAC will be invited to attend
    - Hearing from contractor (living and giving enterprises) and 4 of the leaders that have gone through the series to hear from what has occurred so far
- Package of funding passed by congress
  - Appropriations
    - Increase of 5 Million for the entire nation, WI will get some (older American's act)

- 2 million for supportive services under Older American's Act
- 3 million National Caregivers Support Program
- Supportive housing for elderly and for those with disabilities
- COVID-19 relief
  - 175 million for older American's Nutrition Programs
  - 7 million to go to Native American Programs
  - Elder Justice activities (APS services)

### **Review of Current Charges, presented by Carrie Molke and Curtis Cunningham**

- Reviewed charges and discuss if anything should change
  - **Council Suggestion**
    - Missing piece that is taking most of our time: COVID-19
    - Be more specific of the large areas of what we are going to tackle
    - Workforce, Health equity, and COVID are high priorities
- Long Path
  - Still in Phase 1
  - Some folks are moving into Phase 2 (community conversations) and will start in the next year
- Medicaid Long Term Care
  - Conversation about the rules and ways we established Family Care
  - Presentation on Geographic Service Regions (GSRs) and had discussions
    - At March meeting will go over the advisory document
  - **Council Suggestion**
    - Send out advisory document prior to the meeting
    - Should have more attention to workforce, it is how you pay for the program
    - How is Medicaid long Term Care coordinating with D-SNP programs
- Transportation
  - We have not done anything regarding this in 2020
  - In past this has been a charge in past
    - The Council developed recommendations and gave to Secretary
  - **Council Suggestion**
    - Bring back the recommendations developed previously and use that as a starting point
- Health Equity
  - SHA (State Health Assessment) draft is out
- Workforce
  - This will evolve after budget is released
  - There is an idea of integrating continuation Governor's Taskforce work into this committee
  - **Council Suggestions**
    - Marriage of Charge 2 and Charge 5 get to the heart of the LTC programs
    - Make sure to look at viability of the program, have quality caregivers that provide continuity
    - Workforce issues are tied to payment systems
    - Fair and equitable wages for the difficult jobs they are doing, we are not fully able to pay at a market rate, partly because what we are reimbursed at

- Workforce is critical, should look at what is most effective to help with this.
- Revise the Workforce charge
- Workforce issue is critical. We will be forced to have more congregate living if we can't support workers in all setting, especially in community settings

### **Public Comment**

- Erin Fabrizius
  - Concern about COVID vaccine distribution
  - I am hearing from personal care agencies across the state that they have not received any information but they are eligible to receive vaccine in Phase 1A
  - No info about who to contact in communities about who can receive

### **COVID-19 Vaccines, presented by Hannah Sorenson and Doug Englebert**

- Went through PowerPoint
- It is possible that facilities reached out to both CVS and Walgreens and are on both lists
  - The facilities will need to choose one to work with.
- Went through recent GovD messages that went out
  - December 29, 2020: Guidance for post COVID-19 Vaccinations in Long Term Care Facilities
  - January 5, 2021: COVID-19 Vaccine Program-Federal Long Term Care Pharmacy Partnership Updates
  - January 7, 2021: Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program Updates
- IRIS workers are in group 1A on the vaccine list
  - These are unaffiliated workers, DHS is coordinating with the local health departments
- SDMAC met and is releasing documents for public comments
- **Council Suggestion:**
  - Have a flow chart showing who is contacted and how when they are eligible to receive the vaccine

### **Council Business, presented by Curtis Cunningham**

- No council business

### **Adjourn**

- Meeting adjourned

Prepared by: Suzanne Ziehr on 01/12/2021.

These minutes are in final form. They were presented for approval by the governmental body on: 03/09/2021