WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of **HEALTH SERVICES**

Transportation

LONG TERM CARE ADVISORY
COUNCIL

March 9, 2021

Recap of Where We've Been: 2017 Transportation Charge

In 2017, the Long Term Care Advisory Council (LTCAC) was charged with advising DHS on the following:

- Develop strategies to keep people safe and healthy in the community to prevent and delay the need for long-term care services by:
- Looking at strategies to prevent people from going into a residential setting before necessary.
- Ensuring that individuals in residential settings are in the right setting for their acuity.
- Providing advice and guidance on prevention strategies that should be developed to delay the need for long-term care services.

Recap of Where We've Been: 2017 Transportation Charge

The consensus of the Council was that DHS should prioritize improving coordination and access to transportation as a way to impact the overall charge.

OPTIONS

- The Council generated a number of options, some of which would require additional funding and some that were innovations for the future, such as autonomous vehicles and other technological solutions.

Recap of Where We've Been: 2017 Transportation Charge

1. **Establish a Transportation Coordinating Committee**
- Include key governmental agencies such as DOT, OCI, DWD and critical stakeholders, including transportation consumers and providers.
- The committee would be responsible for developing an inventory of transportation options and funding programs in the state; developing a state plan that identifies roles and responsibilities of state and local agencies and coordinates transportation funding and services across the state; and identifying and recommending solutions to address other barriers experienced by older adults and people with disabilities.

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2. **Dedicate Staff Resources Within DHS.** Establish a point of contact within DHS; an employee dedicated to transportation, who has responsibilities across Divisions and programs.

3. **Evaluate and remove barriers within current DHS programs** that fund transportation, including medical and non-medical transportation. Identify ways to coordinate policies across payers.

4. **Incorporate into MCO/IRIS contracts a responsibility to build options and coordinate transportation for members as a part of the care-planning process.**

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Secretary Seemeyer'sResponse:

The DHS Secretary feels that many of the recommendations of the Council are out of the purview of the Department of Health Services and also feels that many of the solutions that are needed are best met locally. To do what DHS can to respond to the recommendations of the Council, she has asked DHS staff to do the following:

- To invite DOT to meet with the Council to hear the members' concerns and identify ways in which DOT might be able to assist or collaborate in addressing those concerns.
- Develop an inventory of DHS funding and/or programs that provide or pay for transportation, and make that available to the Council;

Recap of Where We've Been: 2017 Transportation Charge

- Obtain a listing of local transportation coordinating committees and promote these local input and coordination opportunities on the DHS website.
- To clarify what MCOs and IRIS providers are required to do to meet the transportation needs of its members.
- To clarify ways to more seamlessly fund rides amongst Medicaid programs.
- To identify data or data gaps related to transportation for older adults and people with disabilities to better inform decisions regarding transportation.

2021 Transportation Charge

Explore strategies to coordinate transportation in a more efficient and effective manner to improve access for medical, non-medical and social activities.

- Provide advice on the option of a Transportation Summit to bring together the Department of Transportation (DOT), Department of Health Services (DHS), Department of Workforce Development (DWD), tribes and key stakeholders.
- Explore the transportation activities of other councils and Departments.
- Explore ways to coordinate transportation rides and funding strings to develop a new strategy to improve effectiveness.
- Explore transportation to help caregivers reach consumers.

What's Next?

Compare 2017 to 2021 Charges

- What's changed?

What do we have for data?

What did COVID-19 change?

- Meetings online
- Telehealth

Do we take a different approach?