

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

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| Name of Governmental Body: Wisconsin Long Term Care Advisory Council (WLTCAC) | | Attending: Chris Witt, Cindy Bentley, Shanna Jensen, Stacy Ellingen, Beth Swedeen, Elsa Diaz Bautista, LaVerne Jaros, Jason Glozier, Jessica Trudell, Eric Kostrzak, Joel Gouker, Mackenzie Wann, John Schnabl, Sara Muhlbauer, Jennifer Jako, LaWanda Calhoun, Linda Bova, Jill Jacklitz, Don Wigington, Mike Pochowski, Lisa Davidson, Donna Hawley, Allison Cramer, Tina Anderson, Martha Cranley | |
| Date: 3/11/2025 | Time Started: 9:33am | Time Ended: 12:16pm | |
| Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting | | Presiding Officer: Jill Jacklitz | |
| Minutes | | | |

Members absent: Karina Chelsky, Rosalie Gokee

DHS Staff present: Nicole Schneider, Brenda Bauer, Kevin Coughlin, Alicia Boehme, Carrie Molke, Helen Sampson, Joyce Vue

Meeting Call to Order – Jill Jacklitz, Jason Glozier

- The meeting was called to order at 9:33am
- Review agenda
- Minutes from January meeting reviewed
 - Motion to approve by Elsa D. Seconded by Don W. Minutes approved.
 - None Abstain.
- Introductions of members

General Updates – Carrie Molke, Nicole Schneider

- New LTCAC Updates document; please check it out. This will include follow-up from previous meetings and/or general updates.
- IRIS Waiver Renewal
 - Targeted outreach with IRIS advisory in July
 - Aggregated survey
 - Comments – mainly on improving access; addressing transportation barriers; cultural barriers, etc.
 - Incorporate into waiver since writing up the renewal
 - 1,300 participants responded
 - Issues have been referred to DHS teams and are being followed up
 - Next steps – public and tribal comment period which will be 30 days, will occur this summer sometime
 - Submission to CMS needs to happen by 10/1/25
- Federal Landscape – what’s happening to Medicaid
 - Call center has a new script
 - Here is the link to “Talking Points”
 - <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forwardhealth/partners/tps-fedfunding.pdf>
 - State does not have a role in federal budgeting process
 - If you have any concerns, please reach out to your federal representative.
- **Council Feedback**
 - Laverne J. – Understand there are many unknowns; what kind of planning are departments doing in terms of at what levels to cut programming and what approach to be taken?
 - Nicole S. – Krista Willing is in charge of fiscal aspect; team is running different scenarios and relaying to governor’s office; don’t have anything specific yet

- LaWanda C. – Able to receive a list of federal reps to give to consumers? Yes, refer to link below provided by Martha C.
- Chris W. – Thank you for statement; people are scared; a lot of providers are trying to continue their work; just slowing down because expansion is a scary thing
- Martha C. – Link to find your federal representative: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>
- Jessica T. – Programs asked to put together an overview of impact of loss of federal funding; any documents like that for WI?
 - Nicole S. – Running scenarios; only tells us a general number; not releasing any specific numbers
 - Carrie M. – America’s Act; only created simple language around each program potentially at risk; federal partners are working on creating aging developing documents for us; Carrie is happy to share those documents if needed; a lot of people don’t know which programs are funded
- Cindy B. – Currently in IRIS program; still have guard up; functional screen went well; as an advocate and director, I tell my consumers to call their local reps
- Elsa D. – Provide information and talking points; there are many organizations that are doing a fantastic job of keeping orgs and public informed; shout out to BPDD, keeping up with the latest; both in Spanish and English; don’t want this group to feel that information has to come from the department; let’s reach out to those people; let’s use the resources that we have; they have an amazing fact sheet
- Kevin C. – Here is the link to the House for Wisconsin Senators: <https://www.senate.gov/states/WI/intro.htm>
- Beth S. – Here is information to the Friday 9 a.m. Medicaid update webinars:
 - English Short link: <https://bit.ly/MedicaidWeb314>
 - Spanish Short link: <https://bit.ly/MedicaidSpan314>
 - Webinars are also ASL interpreted, in addition to English and Spanish
- Carrie M. – True with aging advocates; the WI Aging Advocacy Network is also very active.
 - John S. – At this time, don’t believe information is available in Spanish; will look into this.

Governor’s Budget Update – Andrew Forsaith

- Presentation shared with council
- Budget released last month
- Many things for DHS
- Discussed the budget cycle
- Now in the hands of the joint finance committee
- Mental Health Supports
- **Council Feedback**
 - LaWanda C. – New fee schedule change? Does this include the Minimum Fee Schedule?
 - Andy F. – Yes, includes continuation of the minimum fee schedule
 - Mike P. – Prior to minimum fee schedule; wage was around 13.02 per hour; increased to 15.75 per hour for caregiver; if not funded, do we know what caregiver assumptions would be decreased to?
 - Andy F. – No, we don’t know; however, this is included in the cost to continue to be funded
 - Jessica T. – Requested 9 positions in budget; only put 5 positions into budget; currently 1/3 of national standards

Review Goals/Tasks for Ad Hoc Gatherings – Jill Jacklitz

- Process for moving forward with ad hoc gatherings
- Back in January, discussed joining these ad hoc gatherings
- Ad Hoc Groups include:
 - Long Path
 - Medicaid Long Term Care
 - Workforce

- Request that those three (3) groups meet before the May13 LTCAC meeting to develop a list of potential priorities to share with the whole LTCAC group
- Next, we will as a group, select 2 to 4 priorities in each of the 3 goals to pursue
- Once we agree on the priorities, we will then make recommendations to the Secretary for approval
- We are asking for one person from each of the groups to pull the group together before now and the May 13 meeting and facilitate the entire process
- If you have not signed up, please reach out to Joyce Vue.
- If willing to serve as facilitator, send Jill and Joyce and email.
- Email Joyce at joyce.vue@dhs.wisconsin.gov.
- Joyce will send a follow-up email to the LTCAC members to re-iterate this request.
- Joyce will also send the list with everyone who has signed up for each of the groups.
- **Council Feedback**
 - Elsa D. – In the follow-up email, is it possible to include some guidance on how to conduct the gatherings? What is the objective of gatherings?
 - Jill J. – Yes, we will include this in the follow-up email.

Long Path Charge – Multisector Plan Presentation & Discussion – Farah Baig, Mike Saindon

- Presentation shared with council
- Our Long Path group, had a few gatherings; one of the items that was brought up is to talk to other states that are working on a multisector plan on aging
- We are in exploratory phase to learn more from other states
- Our neighbors, Minnesota, working on their own plan
- They're here to share their plan
- High-level overview – Age-Friendly Minnesota Structure
- 9 State agencies; 5 Community Reps; one Tribal Government
- Established by Executive Order by Governor Tim Walz in December 2019
- 10th State to join the AARP network of Age-Friendly States and Communities
- Multisector blueprint for Aging is usually a 10-year plan
- Link to blueprint and grants:
 - <https://www.agefriendlymn.org/blueprint>
 - <https://www.agefriendlymn.org/impact>
 - https://mn.gov/dhs/assets/AFMN-community-grant-awards-announcement_2023_tcm1053-642330.pdf
- Looking Ahead
 - Launching action teams
 - 35 different objectives
 - Live meeting for teams; hosted by volunteer then send notes/results
 - Meeting quarterly; all volunteer-driven; depends on community
 - Supplied agenda; form to complete; background; someone from staff to be at meetings
 - Revamping website; establishing a blueprint dashboard
 - Release blueprint version 2.0 from input from action teams
 - First 5 launching –
 - Affordable Housing
 - Meeting basic needs and beyond
 - Integrated and coordinated care
 - Long Term Care (Nursing Homes)
 - Equitable Opportunities for Physical Health, Mental Health and Well-being
- Make sure you do things in chewable bites
- Contact information:
 - Mike.saindon@state.mn.us
 - farah.baig@state.mn.us
- **Council Feedback**

- Helen S. – Try to give us the elevator speech; difference from age-friendly and multisector?
 - Farah B. – Age-friendly is the umbrella; multisector is a plan that coordinates across the state; a large component of age-friendly is multisector plan
- Helen S. – Start with age-friendly effort before?
 - Mike S. – Started with age-friendly council; learned that there’s a national organization; talk to local AARP people
- Jill J. – Thinking about our charge; any questions on the process? How this might fit into the work that we’re doing?
- Jason G. – Curious how buy-in from state agencies look? How partnership looks from community vision and the departments that actually implements the policies and process?
 - Mike S. – We tried to remind everyone that we’re all aging; need an aging lense; asked council to look at their plans and pull out those affecting aging; having a strong citizen council helps
- Jason G. – How do you engage municipality and local change?
 - Mike S. – For the first round of grants; gave lots to community to help with aging; we have strong relationships with advocacy organizations; fortify relationships
 - Farah B. – State agencies are integrally involved in action teams; gives them buy-in;
- Carrie M. – How are community grants funded?
 - Mike S. – They are all state funded
- Elsa D. – Are grass-root organizations involved?
 - Mike S. – Most are non-profit organizations; they have great inter-generational work
- LaVerne J. – Differences between what our charge would be; parallel path with larger aging path; our path focus more on long term care supports
 - Mike S. – Not confined by means; it’s a span of ages
- Carrie M. – Perfect lead-in for our small group gathering; we need to zero in on the mission of our council; are we only focused on Medicaid long term care or a broader population; all older adults with disabilities, etc.; this program might be beyond our group’s role
 - Farah B. – Always know your Why; that why will carry you through all the hiccups

Council Business – Jill Jacklitz

- Think of any topics for general updates
- Requested topics for May
 - Linda B. – Follow-up to PIR; claims review; starting in Spring; a lot of feedback; have them present?
 - LaWanda C. – When we discussed the independent living, who governs? MCO? Providers having a hard time; talking about facilities? Live in own apartments outside of their MCO? Individuals and providers?
 - Carrie M. – They’re unregulated; they can still go to disability rights WI, independent living
 - Jessica T. – Only advocacy for regulated or certified facilities; RCAC – affects all of the tenets or residents; can potentially assist with
 - Stacy E. – Brief update of the whole Medicaid situation would be good
 - Chris W. – Update on IRIS waiver application; conversations had with CMS
 - Elsa D. – Within IRIS; change of the algorithm of how budgets determined; update on this?
 - Nicole S. – We’ve had several presentations on this; what new information can be provided? Please send specific questions to us.
 - Reviewing Ad Hoc Gatherings and determinations
 - Linda B. - Since the EVV Advisory Council is no longer meeting it would be good to get an update on the IRIS program and EVV mandates.
 - Jason G. – More general EVV update?
 - Carrie M. – Ask the Medicaid group to come talk about their priorities for this year?
 - Linda B. – We need the right information to be informed advisors; and clear on where we can advise; we can’t take on every topic; how to fill the advisory goal
 - Joel G. – Future topics; MCOs; update how all panned out; how are they doing; invite them to talk; even invite other family care MCOs to speak; transitions of MCOs in state; hear from some of the MCOs

Public Comment – Jill Jacklitz

- Deb – Family has personally benefitted; thank you; provided comment in January; follow-up from Alicia? Help to connect; Asked the question about who has the right to receive a copy of long term care functional screens? MyChoice WI is saying they don't do this. Do we know when the networks will open in MyChoice? Closed since 7/1/24
 - Alicia B. – Please send an email to Joyce Vue at joyce.vue@dhs.wisconsin.gov and we will respond to you. Thank you
- Wanda – Will the questions asked by Deb be answered publically?
 - Nicole S. – We only can respond to individual's specific questions. If you have any questions, please send an email to Joyce Vue at joyce.vue@dhs.wisconsin.gov.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Eric K.; seconded by Shanna J.

Meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm

Prepared by: Joyce Vue on 3/11/2025.

These minutes are in final form. They were presented for approval by the governmental body on: 5/13/2025