

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Wisconsin Long Term Care Advisory Council (WLTCAC)			Attending: Alyce Knowlton-Jablonski, Chris Witt, Don Wigington, Elsa Diaz Bautista, Jason Glozier, Jennifer Jako, Jessica Trudell, Jill Jacklitz, Joel Gouker, Julie Strenn, Karina Chelsky, Kevin Fech, LaVerne Jaros, Linda Rodriguez, Lonnette Campbell, Mike Pochowski, Raj Shukla, Tina Anderson, Tami Jackson
Date: 5/12/2026	Time Started: 9:33am	Time Ended: 12:04pm	
Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting			Presiding Officer: Julie Strenn
Minutes			

Members absent: Jill Jacklitz, Raj Shukla, Karina Chelsky

DHS Staff present: Brenda Bauer, Alicia Boehme, Amy Chartier, John Grothjan, Eric Grosso, Laurie Kohler, Carrie Molke, Kyle Novak, Helen Sampson, Nicole Schneider, Joyce Vue

Meeting Call to Order – Julie Strenn

- The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am
- Introduced members
- Reviewed agenda
- Minutes from March meeting reviewed
 - Motion to approve by Kevin F. Seconded by Chris W.
 - All approve
 - Motion carries. Minutes approved.
 - None Abstain

General Updates for the Long Term Care Advisory Council – Carrie Molke, Nicole Schneider

- Julie Strenn is our new Chair. Thank you, Julie!
- New conference available: 2026 Wisconsin Aging, Disability and Independent Living Network (ADILN) Conference
 - Click link for more information: <https://www.uwgb.edu/adiln/>
 - September 21-23, 2026, Kalahari Resorts & Conferences, Wisconsin Dells, Mission: Possible, Agents of Change
- Wisconsin Owns Wellbeing (WOW) Collaborative
 - Wrapped up all regional meetings
 - Next up is a webinar on Thursday, May 14, 2026
 - There will be a statewide meeting in July 2026
- CLTS Waiver Renewal is a 1950 waiver and required to renew every 5 years
 - Document indicating new waiver is posted tomorrow, May 13, 2026, for new comments
 - Click on link for more information: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/clts/renewal.htm>
- IRIS: ICA and FEA reports will be available soon
- **Council Feedback**
 - No feedback

Generation X Data and Long Path Charge Update – Helen Sampson, Eric Grosso

- Helen S. gave a quick update on Age and Disability Ecosystem
 - In-person retreat with all designated age-friendly entities occurred on April 13, 2026
 - Made great headway

- Everyone is on board with Age and Disability Ecosystem
- Eric G. shared a PowerPoint presentation on Generation X Data
 - Generation X has now entered into the aging era
 - When comparing generations at same age, keep in mind significant societal changes and experiences
 - Divided information into three (3) sections:
 - Demographic
 - Economic and housing
 - Health statistics
 - Total population in WI is peaking at 2030 and then slowly decline
 - Questions? Contact Eric Grosso at eric.grosso@dhs.wisconsin.gov.
 - Anything of interest to this council?
 - Is there something to collectively discuss and think about potentially as an impact?
- **Council Feedback**
 - Helen S. – Older adults tend to under-report disability
 - Helen S. – Does the 16% of 200% poverty include the 7% of the 100% of poverty?
 - Alyce K. – The high numbers of MH issues does not surprise me. Being an advocate to the elder Gen X, I find many dealing with anxiety and depression, as well as substance use.

Workforce Charge Update and Discussion – Carrie Molke, Chris Witt

- Chris W. shared the summary of feedback from ad hoc group
- Those in the ad hoc group included: Mike P., Laverne J., Elsa B., Carrie M., Brenda B. and Chris W.
- Narrowed down to four topics to work on:
 - Caregiver Assessment and Referral Tool
 - Conduct a one-year pilot of an evidence-based care management protocol designed to support family members who are providing care to adults of any age with chronic or acute health conditions.
 - After assessment, the individual would be connected to services and supports.
 - Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Reinvestment and Caregiver Support Programming
 - Support additional investment in ADRCs to provide increased attention to and support for family/informal caregivers.
 - Seek to provide additional funding to ADRCs to make the same caregiver services and supports available to all caregivers, including caregivers of adult age 19-59.
 - Also work on creating a marketing plan to increase knowledge of caregivers and other programs and to measure impact, particularly within underserved communities.
 - The Care Act
 - Legislation requires that a discharged hospital patient's caregiver will be given in-person instructions and have knowledge of any care that will be needed after discharge.
 - Recognition and Recruitment of Direct Care Workers
 - Create a statewide marketing strategy to recognize and recruit direct care workers, timing its roll out to recognize the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on state revenue and the primacy of worker compensation reforms to an adequate workforce.
 - There will be Phase 1 and 2.
- Should we vote on these items? Yes.
- The plan is to accomplish these items in 2027.
 - Caregiver Assessment and Referral Tool:
 - Yes = 12 members
 - No = 0
 - This item will advance.
 - ADRC Reinvestment and Caregiver Support:
 - Yes = 5
 - No = 2
 - This item will advance.

- The Care Act:
 - Yes = 7
 - No = 1
 - This item will advance.
- Recognition and Recruitment of Direct Care Workers:
 - Yes = 8
 - No = 0
 - This item will advance.
- Next step is to identify and participate in an ad hoc group to look at the goals for these four items and bring recommendations back to LTCAC.
- Volunteers include:
 - Jennifer Jako
 - Chris Witt
 - Alyce Knowlton-Jablonski
 - Jason Glozier
 - Linda Rodriguez
- **Council Feedback**
 - Julie S. – There are respite care workgroups; suggest tapping into the work they’re doing as well; so many alignments
 - Carrie M. – Also have caregiver alliance; can also invite Lynn Gall to come and share information in the future if interested; broader question – when we talk about direct force – we were focused on paid direct care workers; but full scope is to look for all
 - Tami J. – Landscape has continued to evolve especially for unpaid caregivers; do feel these options are dated back in time; more aging family caregivers; more caregivers filling gaps; many paid and unpaid caregivers are removing themselves; pushing the unpaid aspect far more strongly; see the continuing challenge for the paid workforce; opportunity to revisit and to add on; needed in the near future
 - Joel G. – What conversation was had related to self-directing users of caregivers? One recommendation is to create more advertising around promoting job of caregivers; certification offered through DHS; maybe having additional database of people who use caregivers who are self-directing in their homes; once they have certification they can look and see where to use certification
 - Chris W. – That is one of the suggestions to have
 - Carrie M. – Only looked at the governor’s taskforce
 - Alyce K. – All four topics cover family support caregivers; is it possible to amend and include families?

Act 115: Next of Kin Legislation – Implementation Update – Carrie Molke, Laurie Kohler

- PowerPoint presentation shared
- Overview of Act 115
 - Modifies Wis. Stat. 50.06
 - Establishes a new decision maker, Patient’s Representative
 - Removes the requirement of guardianship and protective placement petitions to be filed
 - Allows for the authorization of expenditures related to health care, including Medicaid
 - Goes into effect June 1, 2026
 - Sundown date is June 1, 2029
- Criteria for use of Patient’s Representative
 - Patient is incapacitated, lacks legal decision maker, and requires post-hospital placement in nursing home or CBRF
 - Facility admission directly from hospital inpatient unit
 - Available next of kin resource
- DHS Program Readiness
 - Identify DHS programs that may interface with Patient Representative
 - Develop educational resources for county and Tribal programs
 - Update program area guidance, eligibility and workflow

- Communicate updates regarding DHS workplan and program-specific updates
- **Council Feedback**
 - Tami J. – Significant operational questions; first, process for applying for Medicaid; to determine assets; landscapes have changed; doesn't seem like this bill allows for more time; how is the department thinking through; special provisions or markers; interested capturing the gaps in data especially when patient reps are responsible for doing certain steps
 - Tami J. – Yes, my question is about DHS facilitating patient rep application for new Medicaid applicants, which now has new requirements and retroactive coverage limitations because of HR1. Agree, renewals of patients already in Medicaid is a separate and important issue
 - Carrie M. – Specific to DMS and right now working on interface; it's about how to verify the person who is serving in a patient rep role; how we fit the patient rep role into eligibility; need to understand the down sides; Still working on all of this; working with the office for legal counsel; need to be careful about interpreting the law; are interested in collecting the questions that you have; will create an FAQ and host a webinar
 - Alyce K. – I was pleased to see that a legal power of attorney would override the process of the hospital appointing the representative, unless the identified reps are not available.
 - Chris W. – Can you send us the webinar information?
 - Carrie M. – Yes, we will post on website and will make everyone aware.
 - Mike P. – Very well done and great information; represent CBRFs that will be impacted by this law; can we get a copy of this presentation at some point and second, will they be sent out to the list servs (for providers) so that we can access?
 - Laurie K. – Intent is to expand on this presentation; trying to help everyone understand the roles; what does the form look like; build an outline for a webinar; doing the best that we can to get everything out by June 1st; how we can re-do our DHS website to make it more friendly, etc.
 - Jessica T. – Appreciate overview; please continue to discuss and monitor this; looking at the impact; seeing this as restrictive; is this improving hospital discharge; make sure we're collecting data and sharing stories with legislature
 - Alyce K. – Reached out to attorney and suggests doing a legal power of attorney that matches healthcare advance directive in the event that the first person isn't there or not able to make decision; important to educate our agencies and their participants
 - Laurie K. – Power of attorney only needs to witness
 - LaVerne J. – Planning discharge to home; takes a longer time; thinking of guidance to family caregivers

Include, Respect, I Self-Direct (IRIS) Program Update – Amy Chartier, Kyle Novak

- PowerPoint presentation shared
- Focusing on service authorizations
- Service authorizations contain all service-specific information and are the tool used to verify provider billing
- Participants have the right to change their service plan at any time.
 - Participants are responsible for ensuring they inform their ICA of changes to their service plan in a timely manner
 - Reporting is always required for changes in utilization, such as frequency of service, rate of services, or if a service is being ended altogether
- **Council Feedback**
 - Elsa B. – Concern about families asking for a plan adjustment and being denied; change plan is within the budget; change allocation of resources from one place to another; no longer acceptable; desire for adjustment should be possible
 - Amy C. – Need more specifics; please encourage them to reach out to us; a participant has a right to change their plan at any time; there are no budget amendments; they can work with their consultants
 - Alyce K. – It is my understanding that if a change is denied, they begin the internal grievance procedure. If still denied they can ask for a hearing on the state level.

Council Business – Julie Strenn

- Are there any topics to add to July 14 agenda?
 - Provider Search Tool
 - Medicaid Long Term Charge Update
 - Additional IRIS Updates
 - It would be good to also discuss the length of time that it takes the Budget Amendments (BAs) to be approved and how it affects the decision even without a budget amendment

Public Comment – Julie Strenn

- No public comments

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Chris W.; seconded by Don W.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.

Prepared by: Joyce Vue on 5/12/2026.

These minutes are in draft form. They will be presented for approval by the governmental body on: 7/14/2026