

**OHIO HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION
HOME CARE AND HOSPICE COMMITTEE**

**May 25, 2021, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Call**

MINUTES

Erin Begin opened up the call welcoming the attendees to the meeting. She indicated that the anti-trust and confidentiality policies were located in the online folder supplied to the group, as well as the minutes to the previous meeting. Ms. Begin asked attendees who had called in to email confirmation of their attendance. Attendees are recording in a chart at the end of this document.

Ms. Begin gave a brief summary of the history of the home care and hospice committee, which was originally formed in 2019 when OHCA started to represent home care and hospice. The committee was disbanded in 2020 and converted to the OHCA Home Care and hospice Board, which would dictate the formation of a new committee. As interest has increased in committee formation, the OHCA Home Care and Hospice board approved the formation of a new committee. Ms. Begin invited all committee members to introduce themselves, along with how long they have been in the home care and hospice industries.

After introductions were completed, Ms. Begin outlined the purpose of the committee as a means to provide direction and feedback for the Association to represent the interests of home care and hospice members with their legislative, policy and educational needs. She invited committee members to participate as much as possible in order to best support the needs of the members.

Ms. Begin then pointed to the list of convention sessions tentatively chosen for home care and hospice members at convention in August 2021, and requested that the committee members review and provide suggestions on items missing or that we should consider adding. Catie Bryan requested the addition of a session from a hospice provider who is currently and successfully managing hospice patients with telehealth technology. Several other members suggested inviting managed care plans, specifically requesting Aetna and Caresource, to discuss their billing processes.

Ms. Begin then reviewed the long list of suggested topics for the committee to discuss. As there was limited time available, she launched a poll to gauge what the top issues were that they could discuss during this meeting. Per the poll results, the committee chose to discuss first managed care issues, then post-pandemic survey preparation, followed by Hospice VBID.

For managed care, the committee discussed a reduction in services dictated by managed care plans. An example was given that Anthem Commercial gives a letter to send the patient home from a SNF stay for starting authorization of home health. Recently those authorized services have been cut back. There is a general feeling of tightened utilization management approvals from all managed care plans in recent months.

There is also a report of increase in authorization denials across the board. Ms. Begin requested specific health plan examples, and stated that OHCA could work directly with the MyCare Ohio plans, as well as several non-MCO managed care plans on their issues. The committee also discussed CSI as an intermediary, and asked who other committee members were using. The group consensus was to contract directly wherever possible. Northcoast Group was also cited as a more ethically driven intermediary for Anthem BCBS plans.

The committee then discussed post-pandemic survey preparation, as regular surveys resumed in March 2021 for home health and hospice agencies. Committee members expressed a need for a survey refresher course, as it has been a long time since they had a survey. A primary need identified was what to expect during a survey. The education request is for a partial day seminar for each provider type including the following topics:

- Quality: Back to Basics
- Infection Control Practices and Concerns
- Tracking and reporting requirements
- Trends with Survey Citations
- Face Masks: when they are required

Ms Begin stated she would follow up with Kathy Chapman on this survey education need and thanked the committee members for their suggestion.

The committee ran out of allotted time and was unable to address the Hospice VBID topic, which would be covered during the first part of the next meeting. For other business, Mr. Bill Levering reported that he received his check for the Appendix K Waiver payment from the Ohio Department of Medicaid. Ms Begin reviewed the payment parameters, per his request (16% of billed eligible services from August- October 2020).

The committee then discussed frequency of meetings. Considering the length of the items on the agenda and the limited amount of time to discuss, the committee moved to hold meetings on a monthly basis during the last Tuesday of the month until further notice. Ms. Begin stated she would follow up with a calendar invitation to reflect this decision.

Ms. Begin thanked Committee members for their time and accepted a motion to adjourn the meeting.

First Name	Last Name	Company/Facility	5/25/21
Erin	Begin	OHCA Staff	X
Amy	Allen	Continuum Hospice	X
Kelly	Bobeczko	HW&Co	X
Brenna	Koback	Encompasscare	X
Lisa	Bracy	Legacy Hospice	X
Catie	Bryan	BellaCare Hospice	X
Jennifer	Carlin	Continuum Hospice	X
Deborah	Collum	Richter Healthcare Consultants	X
Gina	Covelli	Cypress Hospice	X
Brenna	Davis	Christian House Home Health	X
Maureen	Hedrick	Richter Healthcare Consultants	X
Stephanie	Johnston	Transcend Strategy Group	X
Christine	Kenney	Bricker and Eckler LLP	X
Denise	Leonard	Plante Moran	X
William	Levering	TLC Home Health Care	X
Jeff	Mazer	McKesson	X
Lori	Revis	Hospice of Southwest Ohio	X
Yolanda	Riley	Richter Healthcare Consultants	X
Mary	Ruppert	Heartland Home Health and Hospice	X
Genevieve	Stelzer	Heritage Home Care	X
Gail	Stokes	Ohio's Hospice	X
Kim	Tilley	Staywell Home Health	X
David	Walsh	Hospice of Southwest Ohio	X