

Meeting Summary for OHCA NF Member Call

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Quick recap

Mandy provided an overview of the Zoom platform, followed by pete sharing updates. He addressed a question from a member, hinted at a surprise, and discussed various topics including updates on the private room process, incentive payments, proposed rule changes, and compliance with new electronic reporting requirements for workplace injuries and illnesses. Mandy also discussed issues with delays in surveys and denial of payment for new admissions. The meeting concluded with pete emphasizing the importance of reporting communicable diseases and mentioning a grant opportunity from the Department of Medicaid for skilled nursing facilities to improve infection control.

Summary

Zoom Platform, Updates, and Surprises

Mandy initiated the meeting and welcomed everyone, explaining how to use the Zoom platform for participation. pete then assumed control of the meeting and shared a few updates before turning the floor over to other team members. They also mentioned a question from a member and hinted at a surprise for those who remembered Dorothy Crawford from Texas Healthcare Association, but no one claimed the prize. pete concluded by expressing their intention to discuss a variety of topics before handing over to other speakers.

Private Room Process Progress Update

pete informed the team about the status of the private room process, reporting that it was progressing well with no significant issues. They shared that 23,000 private rooms had been applied for by 706 providers, most of them skilled nursing facilities in Ohio. pete clarified that Medicaid is currently vetting these applications and giving feedback to some providers. They also outlined the details of the incentive payment for private rooms for Medicaid residents and discussed the implications of taking beds out of service to create private rooms. pete assured the team that once CMS approves the program, beds should be de-licensed, suggesting that providers do so as soon as they receive notification from the Department of Health. They also promised to address a question about AVAP billing at the event rate in a separate conversation.

Proposed Rule Changes and Minimum Staffing Debate

pete discussed the proposed rule changes, emphasizing that they would not grandfather in existing arrangements and that the enhanced reimbursement would cease once the final rule was established. They mentioned that the rule was currently in the proposal stage and would not be finalized for several months. pete also noted that the department would be meeting later that

week to discuss the rule and other related issues. They also touched on the topic of minimum staffing, highlighting efforts at the national level to support legislative efforts against the rule. Pete further discussed the debate surrounding federal government spending and the concept of 'pay for' in legislation. They explained the terms 'posters' and 'savers' and noted that for a bill requiring a 'pay for', there must be some 'savers' to offset the cost of the 'posters'. They brought up the minimum staffing rule as an example, noting that it would result in savings of around 8 billion dollars over a decade, making it a potentially attractive addition to a budget legislation.

Apprenticeship Program Approval and Future Plans

Pete shared some exciting news about a development that they believed would be of interest to the team, emphasizing that it didn't involve any confidentiality concerns. They then passed the floor to Erin, who announced that their organization, Ohcca, had been approved as a sponsor for an apprenticeship program for the Licensed Nursing Home Administrator Role. Erin also shared plans for two new apprenticeship programs in 2024 and invited those interested in contributing to the development process to reach out. Finally, Pete confirmed that Erin would be hosting a webinar on the apprenticeships, with further details to be sent out.

OSHA's New Electronic Reporting Requirements

Diane discussed the new electronic reporting requirements for workplace injuries and illnesses imposed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). As of the start of the year, OSHA required organizations with over 100 employees in high-hazard industries like healthcare to submit such reports electronically. Diane emphasized that even if an organization is separately incorporated, it still falls under this requirement if it is part of a larger entity with over 100 employees. They shared that OSHA has established a new portal for electronic submission and offered to provide a link to the portal and schedule a training session to assist the team. Additionally, they mentioned that the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation would be conducting a training session on February 20th.

OSHA Compliance, Survey Delays, and EID CC Bolton Review

Diane informed the team about the new OSHA 301 requirement, emphasizing the importance of compliance and the deadline in March. They clarified that this was a paper citation, not a citable offense, but could lead to fines if connected to an injury. Mandy then discussed issues with delays in surveys and denial of payment for new admissions. They suggested that team members should notify the team about these delays so they can put pressure on the central office. Mandy also mentioned an EID CC Bolton sent out by the Ohio Department of Health, which they and Pete agreed to review and provide feedback on.

Influenza Reporting, No-Knock Policy, Medicaid Grant Opportunity

Pete discussed the importance of reporting communicable diseases, specifically influenza, diagnosed by a community physician in a skilled nursing facility to the Local Health Department. They also brought up a question about a practice by Navvy Health, a contractor for Humana, where they reach out to residents and their families about a "no knock" policy. Lastly,

pete mentioned a grant opportunity from the Department of Medicaid for skilled nursing facilities to improve infection control through the use of fans and filters.

Next steps

Pete will provide feedback on the private room application process offline if requested.

Providers with more than 100 employees need to submit their OSHA reports electronically.

Diane will provide the link to establish an account for submitting injury and illness data electronically in the chat.

Mandy will review the EID CC Bolton sent to providers and provide feedback.

Members should report communicable disease cases to the Local Health Department if they become aware of them.

Members should provide feedback on their experiences with Navk and interest in the Department of Medicaid's grant program for fans and filters.