Meeting summary for ID/DD Member Call (06/25/2025)

Quick recap

The meeting covered updates on the state budget process, including discussions of DD services and potential gubernatorial vetoes, along with federal budget considerations and payment delays due to the state fiscal year end. Key administrative changes were announced, including the interim director appointment and upcoming policy changes affecting DSP compensation and community integrated services. The group also discussed concerns about AI usage in meetings and documentation, with various perspectives shared on implementing these tools while maintaining compliance with regulations and security protocols.

Next steps

- All ICF providers to review the overpayment dashboard, match it with their records, and submit any disagreements following the steps in the letter from ODM.
- Providers currently serving people under vocational habilitation who would not be able to transition to group employment supports to prepare comments for submission during the formal rulemaking process.
- Jason to share resources for the new MUI rule in news bytes this week.
- Providers who have not yet completed the DSP Compensation survey to do so before the end of the day.
- OHCA to consider developing a policy on the use of AI in meetings and for organizational purposes.
- OHCA to reach out to HCCA and ANCOR to inquire about recommended secure AI systems for medical record purposes.

Summary

Budget Report Passes Conference Committee

The conference committee passed a budget report early in the morning, with Pete explaining that the final version of the budget is nearly complete, pending potential gubernatorial vetoes. He noted that there were no changes to DD waiver rates or ICF reimbursement structures, and the professional workforce development add-on will continue for one fiscal year at half the current level. Additionally, the conference committee reinstated the $75 personal needs allowance for ICF residents, reversing the Senate's decision to remove it entirely.

DD Budget Bill Provisions Update

Pete discussed several changes in the budget bill affecting DD services, including a House provision that would prohibit DD from denying waiver claims that don't match EDV data, though he noted this provision is unlikely to survive the Governor's review. He also mentioned that a Senate provision creating a legislative task force to examine the sustainability of the DD system was removed from the conference report, which

will be voted on today. Additionally, the bill includes a new requirement for agencies serving multi-system youth to report on their population numbers, including those in DD licensed settings, within one year.

Federal Budget Process Update

Debbie provided an update on the federal budget process, noting that while the Senate version of the bill remains unchanged, concerns have been raised by Republicans over Medicaid reductions and provider tax provisions. She mentioned rumors of a potential separate fund for rural hospitals to address access issues, but no concrete language has been introduced. Debbie emphasized that the timeline to complete the bill by July 3rd is tight, with several steps needed, including Parliamentarian review, Senate floor approval, and House approval, which may be challenging given House members' concerns. Despite these uncertainties, Debbie expressed confidence that the bill will be finalized, either by July 4th or shortly after, with President Trump's pressure likely to expedite the process.

State Payment Delays and Overpayments

Debbie informed the group about upcoming payment delays due to the state fiscal year end on June 30th, with payments not expected until July 7th due to the Oak system shutdown. She also discussed the Department of Medicaid's release of an overpayment claims dashboard, urging ICF providers to review their records and submit documentation if they disagree with the state's calculations, as the department will begin reclaiming overpayments in 15% increments. Tammy added that providers should carefully check the dashboard, as it may include entries for previously recouped amounts.

Vocational Habilitation Service Changes

Debbie discussed the proposed changes to vocational habilitation services, including the replacement of the current system with a new Best service and revised group employment supports. She expressed concerns about the removal of community integrated services and the potential impact on individuals currently receiving these benefits. Debbie encouraged providers to prepare comments for the formal rulemaking process and highlighted the need to address the exclusion of individuals in ICFs from these changes.

ICFS Updates and Administrative Changes

The meeting covered several key updates and reminders. Debbie and Jason discussed the importance of reviewing and sharing stories related to community integrated vocab, with Jason offering assistance for those needing help. Stephen shared a tip about entering tax ID numbers without dashes for the portal. Debbie emphasized that all ICFS should check for potential overpayments, even if they think they owe nothing. Jason announced that Lindsey Nash will serve as the interim director following the departure of the current director, with the administration actively seeking a permanent replacement. He also reminded attendees about the upcoming MUI rule taking effect on July 1st and the availability of related resources. The deadline for completing the DSP Compensation survey was highlighted, with 65% of providers having submitted so far. Finally, Jason encouraged those interested in attending the 2025 Anchor Policy Summit in September to register early, noting that spots were filling up.

AI Usage Policies in Organizations

The group discussed concerns about using AI tools in meetings and for documentation, with Stephen raising questions about potential legal implications and Debbie noting their organization already uses AI-generated meeting summaries with a clear disclaimer. Tim inquired about using AI to assist with OISP material, leading to a broader discussion about the need for policies regarding AI usage, particularly concerning HIPAA compliance and personal information security. Debbie and others shared experiences with private AI tools like ChatGPT and Copilot, which can be used securely within organizations, while Michelle mentioned that the Department of Developmental Disabilities prohibits AI usage, though Debbie noted ODH allows its surveyors to use AI for documentation.

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