

Meeting summary for ID/DD Member Call (07/09/2025)

Quick recap

The meeting covered updates on federal reconciliation efforts and state legislative matters, particularly focusing on property tax levies and their impact on county funding for developmental disabilities services. Jason provided detailed information about upcoming changes to the CMS Access Rule and its implementation in Ohio's Individual Service Plan, including new requirements for waiver participants and associated training needs. The discussion concluded with updates on various operational matters including ISP access issues, EIDC outage solutions, and Department of Labor rule changes affecting home health workers.

Next steps

- Providers to ensure staff are trained on new Ohio ISP changes, particularly for ICF providers to avoid completing unnecessary sections.
- Providers to contact regional support facilitators or submit IT tickets if they encounter issues with accessing ISPs for new admissions or transfers.
- Providers to deactivate previous providers in ISPs when no longer involved with a person's care.
- Providers to use the provided link to upload POCs and desk review evidence during the EIDC outage.
- OPRA to monitor and provide updates on the Department of Labor's proposed exemption of certain home health workers from minimum wage and overtime requirements.
- OPRA to monitor and provide updates on the withdrawal of the proposed rule to phase out 14(c) certificates.

Summary

Federal and State Tax Updates

Jason provides updates on federal reconciliation and state legislative matters. Regarding federal reconciliation, he mentions a slight reduction in hospital tax through 2031, with potential impact starting in 2028. The managed care tax is a more immediate concern, but there's a possibility of a three-year waiver. On the state level, the legislature has been called back to potentially override the Governor's vetoes, particularly concerning property taxes. Jason highlights that one of the specific overrides under consideration involves replacement levies, which could significantly impact the DD system, as county board levies fund the match for HBS waivers.

Understanding Continuing Levies Impact

Jason explains the difference between term levies and continuing levies, focusing on how continuing levies can lead to increased taxes despite being advertised as "not a new tax." He describes how property value increases affect tax collection, using Licking County as an example where the tax per \$100,000 of property value doubled from 2016 to present. Jason emphasizes the importance of county boards having a strategy to deal with potential changes in levy legislation, as the majority of county boards in Ohio use continuing levies.

CMS Access Rule Ohio ISP Update

Jason provides an update on the CMS Access Rule and its impact on Ohio's ISP (Individual Service Plan). He explains that the rule, effective July 2024, aims to improve care across Medicaid programs. Ohio has already incorporated many of the rule's standards into its standardized ISP. Changes to the plan format will be implemented starting August 1st, with data collection beginning in 2025 for reporting purposes in 2026, as Ohio is a "money follows the person" state.

New Waiver Participant Screening Requirements

Jason emphasizes that the new changes, including additional questions and screening tools like PHQ-9 and GAD-7, are required for waiver participants over 18 but do not apply to ICF providers. He stresses the importance of training staff to avoid filling out these sections for ICF clients, as completing even one question would require answering all questions for successful plan transmission. Jason also mentions that DODD will release training videos for Salesforce users, and other vendors should be reaching out to provide training on the new format.

ISP Updates and Rule Changes

Jason provides updates on several topics. He mentions that information about Ohio ISP will be included in the upcoming news bytes, addressing questions about transfers, new admissions, and employee changes. He advises contacting regional support facilitators or submitting IT tickets for ISP access issues. Jason also discusses an EIDC outage affecting 2567 access and POC desk review submissions, providing a temporary upload solution. He informs the group about the Department of Labor's proposed rule changes regarding home health workers and the withdrawal of the proposed rule to phase out 14c certificates. Jason encourages feedback and questions from the group on these topics.

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