

Meeting summary for ID/DD Member Call (05/08/2024)

Quick recap

Debbie discussed the severe weather warnings in Ohio and provided updates on various issues including Federal rules and regulations, proposals from the Department, and new trainings for providers. She also addressed concerns about the potential review of children living in the Integrated Children's Services system, a new federal initiative to strengthen adult protective services, and upcoming changes to the EV program. Lastly, she announced the rescheduling of the next call due to the HCA Convention and encouraged the team to reach out to her and Josh for any future IT transmission problems.

Next steps

- Debbie and Josh will set up a meeting with the Department of Medicaid to discuss concerns and potential changes to the Medicaid accessibility rules.
 - Debbie will meet with Stacy Collins to discuss a process for working with Dodd and third-party vendors when there are issues.
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Summary

HCA Member Call and OHCA Convention

Debbie and Christy discussed the severe weather warnings in Ohio and confirmed that the tornado sirens had been silenced, indicating it was safe to proceed with their Health Care Administrative Professionals (HCA) member call. Debbie informed the group that the call would not take place the following week due to the Ohio Health Care Association (OHCA) convention, but encouraged members to attend if possible. She reassured those who could not make it that they could locate her or Josh at the convention to check in. The HCA member call was set to resume in two weeks.

Medicaid Access Rule and Health Services Coordination

Debbie provided an update on the Federal rules and regulations, specifically focusing on the Medicaid access rule. She mentioned that the rule is still under review and the impacts are expected to be long-term. Debbie also discussed a webinar she will be hosting to provide more detailed information on the Medicaid access rule and the payment transparency piece of the minimum staffing rule. Furthermore, she brought up a proposal for a new service called Health Services Coordination that could potentially cover non-compensation related costs, which she plans to revisit with the department.

Vocab Services, Employment Supports, and Mits Replacement

Debbie discussed a proposal from the Department to eliminate small group settings in vocab services as part of the group employment supports. She expressed concerns about the impact this could have on people who currently rely on these services, and noted that the department had not yet issued any final rules. She also shared feedback from the day awake committee about potential negative consequences for people transitioning into day support instead of employment. Additionally, Debbie announced that the Department of Medicaid would be replacing Mits with a functionality within the provider network management system, which could potentially affect ICF and waiver providers currently billing their claims in Mits.

Medicaid Trainings and Billing Review

Debbie announced that the Department of Medicaid would be implementing new trainings for providers, including separate sessions for institutional claims, Medicaid eligibility review, and financial information management. She encouraged ICf providers to participate in these trainings, highlighting concerns about issues with the new claims submission system. Debbie also noted that the department would be reviewing providers' billing to ensure they were up-to-date, and asked providers to report any billing issues. Furthermore, Debbie revealed plans to meet with the department of Medicaid to discuss potential concerns and issues. Lastly, Josh pointed out the importance of paying attention to the pre and post-implementation training for the institutional claims process.

Addressing Training Sign-Ups, RFPs, and Liability

Josh and Debbie addressed several issues related to their work. They discussed the confusion around training sign-ups on the website and urged caution in selecting the correct training. Two new Request for Proposals for group employment supports were announced with a deadline on June 6th. They also engaged in an ongoing dialogue with the Department of Health and CMS regarding the interpretation of certain language in the 1988 rule related to peer group 6 reimbursement. Lastly, they addressed the high liability costs for their ICF providers and suggested potential solutions to manage these costs, including moving some costs to the protected cost category and understanding rate increases due to liability insurance claims. They emphasized the importance of sharing information about rate increases with Josh as soon as possible.

Integrated Children's Services System Review

Debbie discussed a potential review of children living in the Integrated Children's Services (ICS) system, initiated by the state administration. The review may consider whether these children are in the appropriate placement, particularly those in custody of children's services. Debbie urged team members to contact her if they receive inquiries from other agencies seeking information on the children they serve, as she wanted to gather more details about the review process. She also noted that the review might not be limited to children with behavioral needs, but could potentially affect all children in the ICS.

Discussing Federal Initiatives and Ohio Programs

Debbie discussed a new federal initiative to strengthen adult protective services and raised the possibility of a similar approach being implemented at a youth level in Ohio. Chelsea highlighted the increased staff time required to deal with parents, schools, and transportation for children in their care, and questioned the intentions of Ohio's 'Rise' program. Debbie appreciated Chelsea's feedback and encouraged others to share similar experiences. Additionally, Debbie revealed her ongoing discussions with the Ohio Department of Medicaid about resources for dental care for people with developmental disabilities, which could potentially increase reimbursement for dentists working with this population. Gina inquired about the proposed drop-off locations for these children.

EV Program Updates and Troubleshooting

Debbie shared an update about the upcoming changes to the EV program in July and advised the team to contact their alternate EV system vendors to ensure they have received the updated technical specifications. Chelsea discussed a complex case involving child services, Ohio Rise, Dodd, and primary solutions, where issues with transmission and hierarchy setup were causing problems. Debbie proposed a meeting with Stacy Collins to address these issues and encouraged the team to reach out to her and Josh for any future IT transmission problems with third-party vendors. Lastly, it was announced that the next call would be rescheduled due to the HCA Convention, and the team was reassured that the meeting would reconvene in two weeks.

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