

## Meeting summary for ID/DD Member Call (09/04/2024)

### Quick recap

Josh and Pete discussed the upcoming deadlines and updates for the OHCA IDD Excellence awards and the Ads quality pilot program, as well as the recognition week event and the Advanced Partnership Summit. They also addressed the ongoing shortage, the circulation of Memo Monday, and the optional enrollment of waiver consumers into managed care. Lastly, they discussed the work of the coalition, the Industry Trends Report, the need for increased funding for waiver services, and the intention to expand the availability of event beds for pediatric patients.

### Next steps

- Members to submit nominations for OHCA IDD Excellence Awards by Friday.
  - ADS Quality Pilot providers to attend one of the meetings on September 16th at 10 AM or 3 PM.
  - Members to tag OHCA in social media posts recognizing DSPs during DSP Recognition Week.
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### Summary

#### Hca, Dd Member Call Recap

Josh and Pete convened the Hca, Dd member call with the knowledge that Debbie was unable to attend due to illness. They acknowledged that there wasn't a lot of new information to report, speculating that this could be due to the recent holiday weekend. The majority of the news from the previous week was reported to have occurred early in the week.

#### Ohca Idd Excellence Awards and Ads Pilot Update

Josh reminded the team about the upcoming deadline for the OHCA IDD Excellence awards, encouraging nominations for deserving staff members or teams. He also provided an update on the Ads quality pilot, confirming that two measures would be removed, leaving six in total. He urged the pilot providers to attend the upcoming meetings on September 16th for more details on the measures and targets. Josh expressed concern about the lack of targets and the short timeframe for providers to adjust their practices.

#### Ads Pilot Program and Recognition Week

Josh informed the team about the upcoming Ads quality pilot program meeting on the 16th and the recognition week event by the Ohio Association of Direct Support Professionals, which would conflict with the regular meeting. He encouraged everyone

to attend the recognition week event and tag OHCA in any social media posts related to staff recognition. pete then discussed the Excellence Award nomination form and reminded the team about the Advanced Partnership Summit, which he and Debbie would be attending despite a scheduling conflict.

### **Pete's Sock Bill and Policy Summit**

pete shared that he would be attending the policy summit and Hill day due to a scheduling conflict with Debbie. He encouraged participation in the event, which would take place from the 23rd to the 25th of the month in Dublin. He also discussed the Sock Bill, a piece of legislation aimed at creating a special standard occupational classification for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) separate from home health aides and similar occupations. The bill, which has already passed the Senate, is being considered in the House and the goal is to get it passed in the lame duck session or even before. pete emphasized that the bill would make it easier to gather data about the DSP profession across the country and in individual states, which could aid in advocacy efforts.

### **Shortage, Recognition Week, and Waivers Update**

pete discussed the ongoing shortage and encouraged team members to post pictures of their recognition week events on social media, tagging Ohca to amplify their efforts. He also brought up the department-wide circulation of Memo Monday, which contained public comment-inviting waiver amendments for the Dd waivers and the I/O waiver. These amendments, which mainly expand services and create new ones, are open for comment until September 26th. Lastly, he hinted at a new topic to be addressed in the next part of the meeting.

### **Managed Care Enrollment and Mycare Replacement**

pete clarified the optional enrollment of waiver consumers into managed care, emphasizing that this was not mandatory and did not include Dd. Waiver services. He addressed rumors about a replacement program for Mycare, Ohio, explaining that the current program, which is set to expire at the end of 2025, has a replacement program in place, with decisions on managed care plans expected this fall. pete also expressed concerns about dual eligible individuals with developmental disabilities being included in the new program, stating that this should not be the case and that legislation is being worked on to ensure the Dd population is excluded.

### **Coalition Budget Focus and Timeline**

pete discussed the ongoing work of the coalition, which includes major associations such as the County Board Association, Opera, Values and Faith Alliance, and the Waiver Network, along with the ICF Coalition and OADSP. He mentioned that the coalition has been focusing on the budget for the past two years, with the administration currently working on their proposals, set to be revealed in early February 2023. pete also highlighted that the administrative agencies, including DODD, are required to

submit their budget proposals to the Office of Budget and Management by mid-October. The coalition has been preparing their message to the State and legislature regarding their budgetary preferences.

### **Industry Trends Report and Budget Impact**

pete discussed the ongoing work on the Industry Trends Report (ITR), which is set to be released soon. The report, which is based on staff feedback, focuses on the impact of the last budget on staff, wages, and access to services. pete also mentioned that a follow-up survey is planned for later in the fall, focusing on access to services. The aim is to maintain the stability achieved in the last budget, despite anticipated tight finances in the next year. The team is committed to sustaining this situation in the face of rising service costs.

### **Increasing Funding for Waiver Services**

pete discussed the need for increased funding for waiver services and the creation of a mechanism for future increases to happen on a regular basis. He also mentioned the intention to expand the availability of event beds for pediatric patients in ICFs and to increase the ceilings for equipment and the ICF reimbursement formula due to inflation. pete emphasized the importance of maintaining the current ICF formula and fighting against any proposals that might cap or roll back ICF rates. He also expressed the need to continue the direct care add-on for at least six months into the next budget cycle to ensure that wage increases are captured in the cost report.

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