

Meeting summary for ID/DD Member Call (12/11/2024)

Quick recap

Debbie led a meeting discussing the Provider Compliance Work Group's recent activities, including the review of sections related to the Hcbs settings rule and new questions for the compliance tool. The team also discussed the importance of understanding individual preferences and needs, the ongoing compliance review process, and the implementation of a new cost reporting software. Lastly, Josh shared about the development of in-person and video training, the implementation of electronic visit verification, and the department's consideration of adding Evv to the compliance tool.

Next steps

- ICF providers to review and spend Professional Workforce Development (PWD) payment add-on before the end of the year, ensuring costs are included in cost reports.
- Providers to review draft Ohio ISP companion document and assessment reminder document from Milestones, providing feedback by December 16th.
- ICF providers to sign up for Ohio ISP informational training webinars scheduled for February through April.

Summary

Provider Compliance Work Group Update

Debbie led a meeting to discuss the Provider Compliance Work Group's recent activities. She mentioned that the group had reviewed sections related to the Hcbs settings rule and new questions for the compliance tool. However, they did not complete the review, with another section or two left to review in January. The department will need to clean up and inform the team about the effective date of the compliance tool requirements, which is expected to be around April. Debbie also highlighted that the department is pulling from the CFR and adding guidance for surveyors on what to look for in these sections. She emphasized that the examples provided are not exhaustive and are meant to be open to interpretation by surveyors.

Understanding Individual Preferences and Needs

Debbie discussed the importance of understanding the preferences and needs of individuals, particularly in relation to day and employment services. She emphasized the need for a variety of activities and options for people to choose from, and the importance of meaningful activities that are age-appropriate to the individual. Debbie also clarified that information about competitive, integrated employment would only be required for those receiving vocational habilitation services. She highlighted the need for

individuals to have choices in their physical environment and the ability to move between indoor and outdoor activities, as well as the need for stimulating and calming activities.

Compliance Review Process and Documentation

Debbie discussed the ongoing compliance review process, emphasizing the importance of choice and meaningful activities for individuals. She noted that the extent of surveyors' scrutiny is reasonable and that the language in the compliance tool is flexible enough to prevent overreach. Debbie also highlighted the need for HR staff to use the correct attestation form and to document individual-specific training that differs from training on the service plan. She mentioned that the department is adding clarification about the location of the agency director and the need for proof of involvement in day-to-day operations. Lastly, she pointed out that the department is looking into issues related to staff using personal vehicles without insurance and the need for a policy to ensure staff inform the agency if they lose their insurance.

Compliance Review and Overtime Appeal

Debbie discussed the ongoing compliance review process, mentioning that the current version is a "hot mess" and that a cleaner copy is expected after the final meeting. She encouraged team members to reach out with any issues or concerns. The next step in the compliance work group will be a Kaizen event to improve the survey process. Debbie also informed the team that the Department of Labor has filed an appeal against the overtime ruling, despite the upcoming change in administration. She expressed doubt that the appeal would move forward but assured the team of updates if it did.

New Cost Reporting Software and ISP Training

Debbie informed the team about the Department of Medicaid's plan to implement a new cost reporting software in January, despite concerns about its functionality and user-friendliness. She also reminded the team to ensure they are spending the Professional Workforce Development payment as it is crucial for the cost reports. Lastly, she mentioned that the team is working on ways to address the issue of the payment increase only being for half a year. Josh then shared about an Ohio ISP informational training webinar hosted by Milestones, which was intended to roll out registration for the trainings. However, the website was not functioning at the time, so the team will have to wait for more information and a fix for the links.

In-Person and Video Training Development

Josh discussed the development of in-person and video training by Brad's team, which was heavily influenced by feedback from the team and direct meetings with Dodd and Odh. The training is intended for new staff and as a refresher. A question was raised about whether Odh surveyors would take the training, but Dodd did not commit to this. Josh also mentioned two documents being produced by milestones: a companion document to aid in filling out the Ohio ISP and an assessment reminder document to

help tie DDP answers to Ohio ISP inputs. Feedback on these documents is requested by December 16th. Lastly, Josh mentioned that six in-person trainings are planned for February through April, with an additional one for the Cuyahoga region.

Evv Implementation and Compliance Tool

Josh informed the team that the implementation of electronic visit verification (Evv) and editing of claims against Evv records will begin on March 1st, 2025, for State plan home health services. He also mentioned that the implementation for Developmental Disability (Dd) services is still uncertain but could potentially start in June 2025. Debbie then discussed the department's consideration of adding Evv to the compliance tool for the agency provider tool, expressing concerns about the tool's functionality and the department's influence on compliance requirements. The team was encouraged to sign up for the Ohio ISP trainings, and the next meeting was scheduled for the following Wednesday.

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