

Meeting summary for ID/DD Member Call (03/20/2024)

Quick recap

Debbie discussed the severe weather in Ohio and how it might affect services, announced an extension in the deadline for ICF providers to submit cost reports, addressed issues with MITS portal, announced the release of an RFP for an ICF training series, discussed the new requirement in the Consolidation Act of 2024, and announced a change in the Employment Quality Readiness project application window. Pete gave an update on the primary election results and their impact on the team's advocacy efforts, and Debbie agreed on the challenges ahead for the next budget process.

Next steps

- Providers impacted by severe weather should reach out to the department for support.
- ICF providers should submit cost reports by April 15th.
- Providers experiencing issues with MITS should report them to the department.
- Providers should review and understand the new guidance on respiratory programs from CMS and CDC.
- Providers should ensure their staff is trained on revised policies and can implement them effectively.
- Providers should be aware of the changes to Medicaid programs due to the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024, particularly the requirement to report on anti-psychotic use of children in the Medicaid program.

Summary

Severe Weather, Cost Reports, and MITS Issues

Debbie discussed the severe weather in Ohio and how it might affect services. She reminded attendees that the department has a team ready to assist if there's any damage or disruption to services due to severe weather. Additionally, she announced that the deadline for ICF providers to submit cost reports has been extended to April 15th. Finally, she addressed issues with MITS, a portal used for billing claims, and asked providers to report any issues they might encounter.

RFP for ICF Training Series Announced

Debbie announced the release of a request for proposals (RFP) for an ICF training series associated with the Ohio ISP. She encouraged potential applicants to review the RFP, with a link provided in the chat, and to attend an informational webinar on April 5th. The objective of this training is to assist providers in helping people with disabilities transition to competitive, integrated employment. Debbie also reminded the team that

while all service plans are expected to be in the Ohio ISP by June 30th, compliance will not be enforced until January 1st, 2025.

Regulatory, Meds, Risk, ICF, Staff Training, Computer Issue

Debbie discussed a range of topics, including the CMS's consideration of regulatory changes and the challenges of qualifying for QIDPs. She also touched on the guidance regarding the use of anti-psychotic or behavioral meds, emphasizing the importance of risk assessments for individuals served in various settings. Debbie highlighted the role of ICF providers in determining their service model based on the needs of their clients. She stressed the need for staff training on policy revisions to ensure proper implementation. Lastly, she mentioned an issue with her computer and hinted at another topic they were made aware of last week, but did not elaborate further.

Medicaid Data Reporting and Ohio ISP Updates

Debbie discussed a new requirement in the Consolidation Act of 2024, which expands the scope of state Medicaid programs to report data on anti-psychotic use of children in the program, including ICFs (Intermediate Care Facilities). This requirement is not effective until two years after the act is signed, but providers may need to report some data. Josh then continued the meeting by discussing ongoing issues with the Ohio ISP, but mentioned a recent big IT release that should address some of the issues. He also mentioned that regional support facilitators would be reaching out to providers who haven't used the system yet. Finally, Josh mentioned that the Employment Quality Readiness project had been updated on the DD (Department of Developmental Disabilities) website.

Project Application Window Change

Josh announced a change in the project's application window due to a scheduling conflict with an eclipse on April 8th. The new date is April 9th, with the window expected to remain open for four days. He advised participants to prepare their applications and have them ready to send as soon as the window opens at 2 PM. Josh also mentioned that a Q&A period was open until March 20th, with answers to be published on April 1st. He ended by noting that the rest of the news from the previous week remained unchanged, except for the change in the application start date.

Primary Election Results and Advocacy Efforts Update

pete gave an update on the primary election results and how they impact the team's advocacy efforts, focusing on the Ohio House. He mentioned that four incumbents aligned with the current speaker lost their primaries, while others won. He also highlighted the defeat of Representative Carothers, a supporter of the team's issues. However, pete emphasized that it's too early to predict the final outcome as there are many moving parts. He encouraged the team to continue their efforts to support understanding and supportive members. Debbie agreed, pointing out that the next

budget process will be challenging given that funding increases they received were through one-time HCBS funds.

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