

Meeting summary for OHCA Assisted living member call (08/28/2024)

Quick recap

pete and Mandy led discussions on various topics including the communication protocol, the Excellence Awards program, and the upcoming Assisted Living Summit. They also addressed technical difficulties, the importance of following door lock settings, and updates on various policies and programs. Lastly, they discussed the issues with the current survey approach for assisted living and skilled nursing, the legal implications of recreational marijuana use, and the need for individual organizations to seek legal advice.

Next steps

- Assisted living providers to review and update policies regarding recreational marijuana use by residents and employees.
- Assisted living providers to consider participating in the Department of Aging's Assisted Living Navigator survey if they have not already done so.
- Providers to monitor My Care plan claims for critical access waiver rate updates, especially from Buckeye, and follow up if not resolved by end of September.
- OHCA members to submit nominations for Excellence Awards by September 6th.
- Assisted living providers to consider attending the Assisted Living Summit on September 10th.

Summary

Ohca Assisted Living Member Call Recap

pete and Mandy led the Ohca Assisted Living Member call, discussing the communication protocol, the ongoing Excellence Awards program, and the upcoming Assisted Living Summit. pete announced a forthcoming assisted living specific program to be held during National Assisted Living Week, and encouraged members to participate. The theme for the recent Assisted Living Wednesday calls was door locks and the settings rule, emphasizing the importance of following the rule and the potential for modifications through the service planning process. Technical difficulties were experienced during the remote session, and the policy regarding the locking doors in memory care units and the need for documentation on who is allowed to have keys was discussed.

Topic Updates and Critical Access Issues

pete introduced Mandy, Erin, and Debbie who provided updates on various topics. Mandy discussed the updated Rcf Rules, Crosswalk, and Manual, and corrections

made in the updated crosswalk. Erin then discussed My Care Plans, Critical Access, and issues with Aetna, Care Source, and Buckeye regarding critical access waiver claims. Erin also mentioned that agencies on aging had timely updates. Debbie shared that a federal rule banning non-compete clauses was overturned, allowing them to remain in effect.

Improving Assisted Living Feedback Forums

pete discussed the new initiative, "Assisted Living Feedback Forums," aimed at improving the "Nursing Home Navigator" by gathering public input. He highlighted concerns about the current survey approach for assisted living and skilled nursing, suggesting that the questions asked were inappropriate for both. pete also expressed concerns about the varying levels of services offered by different providers of assisted living waivers, emphasizing the need for greater clarity to avoid confusion among families seeking assisted living. He suggested that the focus for assisted living should be on the living environment and quality of life, while skilled nursing should focus on medical services.

Survey Issues and Low Participation Rates

pete and Kristin discussed the issues with a survey that was supposed to be conducted. Kristin pointed out that the survey was too lengthy, cumbersome, and provided competitive analysis information that they didn't typically share. Additionally, respondents couldn't save their work and return later, and the survey didn't accurately quantify responses. pete agreed with Kristin's points and suggested that these issues might have contributed to a low participation rate. They also discussed a previous survey conducted by the Attorney General's office and a past investigation that resulted in some providers paying fees.

Scripts Survey, Consumer Tool, and Medicaid

pete and Mandy discussed the mandatory survey conducted by Scripts and concerns about a proposed tool to guide consumers in choosing between assisted living and skilled nursing. They argued that such decisions are complex and individualized, and the tool could potentially direct individuals to a higher level of care than required. They also discussed issues related to the level of care and assistance needed for individuals in daily living activities, suggesting a literacy check for the materials. Lastly, they addressed concerns about the Medicaid access rule for assisted living, the ongoing uncertainty regarding the 80/20 rule and bundled services, and the replacement program for the MyCare program.

Addressing Recreational Marijuana and Policy Implications

pete addressed the legal and practical implications of recreational marijuana use for their members' policies, stressing the need for individual organizations to seek legal advice. He also discussed potential personal situations, such as the possible need for a medical card for a family member, and sought advice on how to handle these situations.

No further questions or topics were raised, and the participants were informed about the schedule for the next meeting in a month.

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