

Home Care and Assisted Living Program Advisory Council Meeting Notes – Monday, Nov. 14, 2022

Attendees

Council members: Aisha Elmquist (on behalf of Genevieve Gaboriault), Mariclaire England, Nancy Haugen, Susan Morgan, and Jarrod Peterson

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH): Lindsey Krueger and Daphne Ponds

Public: Many attendees via conference call

Agenda

- Welcome
- 2023 Legislative Items: Budget and Policy
- Social Connection Grant: Review Application and Gov.Delivery message
- Next Steps

Welcome

Lindsey Krueger welcomed the Council Members. Council Members were unmuted and encouraged to speak freely while public attendees were muted to reduce distractions but were encouraged to place any comments or questions in the chat feature. Lindsey mentioned the possibility of returning to in person meetings soon if MDH can offer a hybrid option for those unable to attend in person.

Lindsey is the current chair to the Advisory Council but Daphne Ponds, the new Executive Regional Operations Manager for State Operations, will slowly work to transition over to fill Lindsey's position.

Lindsey reviewed the agenda – please see coinciding PowerPoint presentation. Daphne was running late due to the weather, so agenda items were swapped, and the Social Connection Grant was discussed first.

Social Connection Grant

Lindsey and the Advisory Council Members reviewed the Social Connection Grant Application line by line for final edits. They also reviewed the content of the Gov.Delivery message. They discussed the importance of including messaging on how to set up SWIFT vendor information before the application is available since the grant is first come, first served. Target dates for communication is mid-December with goal of application opening on January 3rd.

New to this round was an online application vs. a word document. Lynn Knight demonstrated what the online application would look like to the Advisory Council. She also mentioned that the application instructions would become an actual webpage with links to the application.

Questions from the Chat

- Would Assisted Hearing Technology qualify for the grant? Advisory Council will need more information to determine if it qualifies but at this point they seem to think it will.

- Can a provider hire an IT Tech to install devices? Yes, it would need to be itemized on the budget request.
- Reminder that you can submit a plan for more than \$5000 but MDH will only reimburse up to \$5000.

2023 Legislative Proposals

Lindsey thanked the Advisory Council for their partnership and input. She proceeded to cover the proposed budget items and Daphne covered the policy items. For specific details, please see corresponding PowerPoint presentation.

Under the budget proposal, there were more assisted living licenses issued than anticipated so MDH is asking for more money to manage those licenses. Any where statute states “Commissioner may issue a fine” we are asking for further clarification. Now that Covid funds are gone, money is coming out of the General Fund.

Questions

- Mariclaire: Can you elaborate on the prohibition of the waiver for staffing requirements?
 - Lindsey: Dementia Care statute calls out no waivers for awake staff requirements. Want the same for assisted living.
- Mariclaire: What about adding TB testing?
 - Lindsey: The Advisory Council can bring forward language if they want to. Currently Collaborative Safety is looking at TB and why it is a top citation.
- Jarrod: Can you elaborate on the home care survey exit?
 - Lindsey: Still communicating when the surveyors leave just not finding any value add to prolong the process to stay to sit and type something up.
- Nancy: Regarding the posting of Investigations – how long?
 - Daphne: Five years’ worth but not any that are in the appeals process though.

Updates

MDH website is getting an update!

Next Meeting

Aim for mid-January. Either the week of 1/9 or 1/16

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