

Developmental Disabilities Provider Rate Workgroup Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2022
10:00 AM (MST) – 1:00 PM (MST)

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Agenda

1. Welcome

- Jackie Jandt welcomed meeting Provider attendees to the meeting
- Coy Jones with Guidehouse presented the agenda for the meeting and began facilitating

2. Update on Survey Submissions

Guidehouse provided the following updates on Survey Submissions.

- Cost and Wage Survey was released on 2/3/2022
- There have been two provider survey trainings on February 3rd and February 4th, recordings are available to the public via the DPHHS Rate Study website
- We are about halfway through the completion period. We are making good progress with three completed surveys turned in thus far
- So far, we have received one request for a timeline extension. We understand it's a tight turn around, and we welcome you raising those concerns and communicating with us via the e-mailbox to further discuss
- A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document was created following those meetings to answer commonly nuanced questions from participants, common themes of provider feedback and questions:
 - Clarifying scope and inclusion criteria to participate in the survey
 - Technical questions related to survey functionality

- Determining accurate reporting and allocation methods for total costs, FTE, and productivity
 - Clarifying questions related to reporting timelines
 - Inquiries related to locating the link to the Survey and related materials
 - Concerns related to turn around time for Survey submission
- We are about two weeks out from survey submission deadline
- Submission process update: Continue submitting to the DPHHS Rates email box, but also must include calvisi@guidehouse.com to help expedite the process of receiving and reviewing the surveys.
- Attendee: A lot of our services do not have direct costs; I'm concerned with how those costs fit into the Survey?
 - GH: A lot of the services are specific, and we will not be establishing a rate for specific costs. When it comes to Foster Care, that is a contracted/stipend rate, I think that would be good for our training to report those costs. Stipend costs should leverage staffing sections and report it as "other" and mention that it is a contracted rate per month.
- Attendee: In my agencies, we've had to operate other businesses that are not Medicaid related. Is the comparison being how we're being reimbursed through the Medicaid waiver?
 - GH: We are only interested in Medicaid costs. We have non-Medicaid services in the study, but largely we're talking about Medicaid and Medicaid costs for other programs. We do ask about revenue for other programs, but we're not interested in setups from other services, we're looking specifically at Medicaid, we're interested in the payer mix but not an in-depth level.
- Attendee: On the first sheet, allocating things towards Medicaid. If you're a DSP provider, are you asking us how we allocate services out?
 - GH: All of the costs would be listed in the column, but there are various allocation methods we can discuss offline.
- Attendee: Some information is asked specifically, admin costs is an example, as long as we get to the point of administrative vs. direct care costs, is that acceptable?
 - GH: If you could find a methodology that identifies costs as direct care, that will be sufficient. We do want to recognize the distinction that goes into the cost vs. maintenance costs.
- Attendee: Most of our DSPs spend a portion of their day driving, how do we allocate that to transportation?
 - GH: It is not the most intuitive way to setup the survey, but a lot of it applies to how transportation applies to the system. But there it is assumed that transportation is a part of the survey and list it as an independent service. If there aren't specific workers in the staffing section, we're not taking that as a sign nobody is driving. If the time for the DSP is not billable to the day service, we understand that non-billable time is a part of transportation costs.... Knowing it's not uniquely billable is important, we'll look at the transportation costs to see if it's separately billable.
- Attendee: Autism treatment, can we discuss that later? DDP provider waiver, that seems close.
 - GH: Yes. Also, please note that these numbers are not finalized.

- Attendee: how do we report the costs for client wage data, do you want those costs reflected as a different component for the wage sheet?
 - GH: You can record that data on the program support sheet
- Attendee: Day supports may not be represented, you have to pay staff more who can handle behavioral and social problems, but we don't necessarily have a way of accounting for that
 - GH: Even if it's not reflected in the survey, if you want a service to target behavioral needs with specific certified individuals who can provide those services may not be accounted for in the survey, but we may need to find a way to account for that
- Attendee: On the group home side, we call them habilitation and on the direct support side we call it...
 - GH: Our understanding is that these are the same staff types and there's not much of a distinction
- Attendee: Supervisor is separated out. Supported living has more supervisors called out? (not sure what Diane was referring to, confusion on her question)
 - GH: Is it a mix of providers for supported living?
 - Attendee: Yes

3. Peer State Comparisons

Guidehouse presented on the Peer State Comparison. Attendees had no questions or comments on the agenda topic.

4. Key Job Types and BLS Benchmarking

Guidehouse presented on the Key Job Types and BLS Benchmarking.

- Attendee: Job coaches or vocational specialists?
 - GH: We included only a few major services in this deck and that's why supported employment was not covered. But supported employment will be considered separately (not combined with day services) with employment specialists / job coaches / voc. specialists considered as the primary job types. Hope this answers your question. When we pause, Coy can also address it.

5. Overview of Rate Modeling Process

Guidehouse presented on the Rate Modeling Process. Attendees had no comments or questions on this agenda topic.

6. Cost Report Plan Development

Guidehouse presented on the Cost Report Plan Development.

- Attendee: Why are we recollecting data points we're already reporting out?
 - GH: You may be reporting audited financials and you may meet the requirements, but we know that might not be the case with other organizations taking the survey.

- GH: The cost survey is to set the foundation, but the cost report is where you can make changes... the survey is meeting an immediate need for cost reporting
- GH: We are also looking for feedback on the type of information to include for the report
- Attendee: We could work together as a provide network and make it easier to collect information
- Attendee: I want to make sure that with Montana, we are in business with several other things other than Medicaid. That should be something we keep in mind.

7. Public Comment

No attendees provided public comment.

8. Adjournment @ 1:00 PM (MST)

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