



## Senior and Long-Term Care Provider Rate Workgroup Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2022

11:00 AM (MST) – 2:00 PM (MST)

This meeting was a hybrid meeting with the option to attend in person or join by Zoom. The following is the information to connect into the meeting:

### Meeting Room Location:

Montana State Capitol, Room 303  
1301 East Sixth Ave, Helena MT

### Zoom Invite Information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://mt.gov.zoom.us/j/82068442886?pwd=Y2ROdTR4NU83Q2lncHBOWnBYaWFFZz09>

Meeting ID: 820 6844 2886

Password: 133468

Dial by Telephone +1 646 558 8656

Find your local number: <https://mt.gov.zoom.us/u/kiaCkMI41>

Join by SIP

[82068442886@zoomcrc.com](mailto:82068442886@zoomcrc.com)

Join by H.323 (Polycom)

162.255.37.11##82068442886

### 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. Provider Cost and Wage Survey Response Update

Guidehouse presented an update on Survey Response rates from providers.

#### 3. Wage Analysis

Guidehouse presented on Wage Analysis.

- Attendee: We need to consider the next years because these wages are at a really high incline, and we need to be conscious of that.

- GH: We'll be talking about cost reporting later in the presentation. We are developing a plan for how to implement regular cost reporting, which of course carries some administrative burden with it. There is likely to be regular need for updates on wages. Our projections are only going to be good for so long. Rate studies are very intensive but being able to give updates to the States on costs - that's very important to keep up with pressures experienced by providers.
- Attendee: Why are you using the median and not the average for annual growth rate?
  - GH: The median tells you the midpoint of all that has been reported, it's more representative of what is most common. This is also well supported by what we are seeing industry wide as a preliminary inflation metric.
- Attendee: What I'm seeing is that things are moving very quickly; a lot of jobs and very few workers. In the period of a month or two, things can change. Unless we have a mass influx of immigrants, we're fighting over a small pool of workers. This might take care of us for a year or a few months, but ongoing, things are moving up quickly.
  - GH: Good point. This is why we included all of the caveats in our slides indicating that we need to look at this again later.

#### **4. Employee Related Expenses (ERE)**

Guidehouse presented on Employee Related Expenses.

- Attendee: Health care for healthcare workers is not offered to all programs. Is there any thought to broadening its availability to the rest of us?
  - GH: That is something that we will discuss with the division at this point. We've not looked into how that would be implemented but we appreciate the comment.

#### **5. Administrative and Program Support Costs**

Guidehouse presented on Administrative and Program Support Costs.

#### **6. Residential Rate Models**

Guidehouse presented on Residential Rate Models.

#### **7. Cost Reporting Update**

Guidehouse presented an update on Cost Reporting.

- Attendee: How do you intend to use the cost report information?
  - GH: To create a plan and framework to report information. In the future, there are different ways this information can be applied, and this depends on the point in time the reported information gets used. Let's say in the

reports you can include annual base wages; you can use that later on to apply to potential rebasing efforts.

- GH: We want to determine whether a single cost reporting template could cover everyone in the potential scope. Would we need supplemental tools that are, say, specific just to ALF to capture their unique costs? That will be very key to figure out the right fit for the template. The cost report needs to be developed in order to support rate setting. Needs to be designed with rate setting in mind to capture key points like wages, benefit costs, etc., but most likely not to the detail of our survey.

## **8. Public Comment**

There were no public comments

### **Adjournment @ 2:00 PM (MST)**

**Meeting Contact:** Jackie Jandt, PMP  
Medicaid Reform Initiative Specialist,  
Email: [jjandt@mt.gov](mailto:jjandt@mt.gov)  
Phone: (406) 444-9656