

Advisory Council on Aging

The Advisory Council on Aging meeting was held via Microsoft Teams and in person on April 11, 2023.

Members Present – Brett Hoffman, Cheryl Anagnopoulos, Erik Gaikowski, Jim Severson, Gerald Beninga, Tammy Hatting

Members Absent: Gale Walker, Gavin Van De Walle

Public Participant: Mackenzie Huber, Reporter

Heather Krzmarzick, LTSS Director led the meeting with introductions.

Chairman Cheryl Anagnopoulos called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM CST.

Approval of Agenda (Cheryl Anagnopoulos)- The agenda was reviewed. Tammy made a motion to approve the agenda, Gerald second. Motion passed.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes (Cheryl Anagnopoulos)- Meeting Minutes from the January meeting were attached to the invite for members to review. Motion for approval by Jim, Brett second. Motion passed.

Long Term Services and Supports Updates

Heather discussed updates for the Division of Long Term Services and Supports as follows:

HCBS Settings Final Rule

March 17, 2023 was the final compliance date for HCBS Settings Final Rule. LTSS staff will continue to monitor settings as a requirement of the Rule. Corrective Action Plans will be given as needed following reviews of the settings. The goal is to have a home like environment for residents.

Upcoming Rate Methodology Reviews

RFP was released February 15, 2023 seeking a vendor for rate methodology review for Structured Family Caregiving, Adult Day, Community Living Home, Assisted Living, and meals. Proposals were due April 12th and will be awarded in early May. Provider involvement is an important part of the Rate Methodology reviews. A link will be sent to providers that can express interest in participating in workgroup and to share data to make methodology recommendations for consideration.

LTSS Marketing RFP

As we discussed at our last meeting, we were planning to release an RFP to select one vendor for all of our programs in LTSS. The goal is to combine all LTSS programs under one vendor to gain efficiencies of working with one vendor that is well versed in all LTSS programs and

services and the audience we are trying to reach. It was released on January 26, 2023. LTSS staff are currently doing interviews with the top candidates.

Behavior Program

Currently, there are two Nursing Facilities that have a behavior program. We would like to increase the number of providers. Heather is connecting with providers to share how the behavior program works to ensure there are providers who can care for individuals who exhibit behaviors for a variety of reasons as well as ensure that providers are reimbursed 100% of allowable costs within this program. Information will be shared with associations and Heather is reaching out directly to providers to share and field any questions

Tammy asked if behaviors are defined (For example, is it specific to TBI). Heather advised there is a lot of the language coming from the add pay program and what is deemed as challenging and more time intensive. As a State we want to be sure we can take care of people.

Alzheimer's Disease Program Initiative grant

LTSS is work in applying for the grant that will address two objectives:

1. the creation, expansion, and sustainability of a dementia-capable state HCBS system that includes Single Entry Point/No Wrong Door (SEP/NWD) access for people with dementia and their family caregivers (via Dakota at Home).
2. ensure access to a comprehensive, sustainable set of quality state HCBS that are dementia-capable and provide innovative services to the population with dementia and their caregivers.

LTSS has sought input from providers and other stakeholders for this grant and are excited to apply and hopefully be awarded the grant.

DHS also provided a letter of support to DOH for the BOLD (Building Our Largest Dementia) Infrastructure grant, which would align nicely with our work in this area.

2023 Legislative Session

FY24 Budget by legislature accounts for 100% of methodology for Nursing Homes, Assisted Livings, In-Home, and an increase for adult day services rate. All providers, unless separately noted for targeted increase, receive a 5% increase.

A Long-Term Care Study is likely to occur over the summer and DHS is still awaiting details on this summer study and what it will look like.

Adult Day Grant appropriation from legislative session for two million dollars. LTSS is finalizing the application for providers to apply and receive funding for the grant. The application will be released in the next week or so. The due date for the applications is June 9th.

Brett asked if the HCBS Settings Final Rule limits nursing homes from being able to apply for the funding. Heather advised that waiver funding can't be used for nursing homes, but title III funding would be available.

DHS website

As previously shared, DHS is currently developing a new website that will be written in plain language and more user-friendly. There will also be a Provider portal, which will allow providers to easily access information and remove it from the public-facing website as it adds additional content for public users, which is confusing to the public.

Council Input, Ideas or Questions

The Division of Long Term Services and Supports Mission Statement

Heather shared that work on the DHS website will be using plain language so an LTSS mission statement in plain language is being explored. Heather reviewed the current and proposed mission statements and asked the members for feedback.

Current mission statement:

"To provide opportunities to enable older South Dakotans and adults who are disabled to live independent, meaningful, and dignified lives while maintaining close family and community ties by promoting long term services and supports to prevent or delay premature or inappropriate institutionalization."

Proposed mission statement:

"Providing services and supports that meet the needs of older adults, adults with disabilities, and their caregivers at home and in the community"

The Board agreed the new proposed statement is much simpler and covers what is needed.

Heather provided follow up on question from Gavin at the last meeting about if SD was only state without an online Medicaid application:

Heather contacted the DSS Division of Economic Assistance and found there is an online application for Medicaid. It's been available for quite a few years. It's available here:

<https://apps.sd.gov/ss36snap/web/Portal/Default.aspx/>

Tammy asked when the rates will be posted for FY25. Heather advised that rate letters and posting of rates will occur soon.

Council Membership

Heather shared with the council that nominations for council membership were submitted to the Governor's office for consideration of the Advisory Council on Aging. Jean Person also contacted Heather requesting to end her appointment to the Council effective immediately.

Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting is October 17th from 1-2:30 PM.

Adjourn

Jim made a motion to adjourn, with a second from Gerald. All in favor to adjourn. 1:27 PM meeting adjourned.