

Personal Assistance Oversight Committee Minutes

May 13, 2009

1:00 PM – 4:00PM (MST)

Division of Medicaid – Central Office

3232 Elder Street, D-East Conference Room

Committee Members Present: Jason McKinley (Provider), Scott Burpee (Provider), Pam Catt-Oliason (Advocate), Deana Gilchrist (Advocate), Bobby Ball (Advocate/Consumer), Bart Larsen (Provider), Aaron Thain (Provider), Dana Gover (Consumer/Self-Directed). **Committee Members Absent:** Michelle Wood (Provider) Jack Miller (Consumer), Karen Schmidt (Consumer), **DHW Staff:** Sharon L. Duncan , Bureau Chief, Long Term Care; Susan Scheuerer, ACC; Susie Choules, ACC, Melanie Belnap, RMS LTC Manager; Sue Harvey RN, Nurse Manager; Marcie Young, Administrative Assistant II.

AGENDA ITEM	LEAD	Time	DECISIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ASSIGNMENTS
Welcome - Introductions Read and approve minutes from January 14, 2009 PAO Meeting.	Sharon Duncan / Melanie Belnap	1:00	Jason moved to accept as the January 14, 2009 PAO meeting minutes as written. Scott seconded – All approved. Melanie Belnap will be the new PAO facilitator.
Companion Care Rate Update	Susan Scheuerer	1:15	Susan led the discussion on the Department Companion Care Rate – Code S5135 – In January, this code was paid at \$1.64 per unit and in April it was increased to \$ 2.19 per unit = \$8.76 per hour. Committee members expressed concern that agencies can't operate at that rate. Sheila Pugatch, Financial Specialist with Medicaid Reimbursement discussed the methodology for the Companion Care Rate A motion for recommendation was made by Jason McKinley and seconded by Scott Burpee. Recommendation to Medicaid Administration "Pay companion care rate at attendant care rate." <i>Administrative Decision: Medicaid will pay for the most appropriate care that meets the participant's assessed needs.</i>
Idaho State Independent Living Council (SILC) Grant	Rachel Johnstone, Project Director Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (MIG)	1:45	Rachel furnished handout: "Statewide Panel of Personal Assistance Work Groups (SPPAWG) Composition." The mission of this group is to identify and promote constructive ideas to promote working conditions for PAS employees and encourage professionalism, recruitment, and retention, and to address issues affecting PAS working and hiring conditions by formulating constructive recommendations to be presented to a statewide panel. The regional workgroups will provide their input at the PAO Committee meetings.
Nursing Units Clarification	Melanie Belnap/Susan Scheuerer	2:00	One hour per month, is authorized by the Regional Nurse Reviewer (RNR) for every A&D Waiver participant residing in a RALF to cover the quarterly Nurse Supervisor requirement from Facility Standards. It does not apply to those residing in their own homes. 7/13/09 Clarified If the RNR requires additional monthly visits based on the care needs of the client, additional units are authorized. This is still confusing because the overall rate is bundled.
BREAK		2:15	
Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) - Overview	Kendal A. McDevitt, Lead Deputy Attorney General	2:30	Kendal A. McDevitt, Lead Deputy Attorney General and Director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) gave an overview of the unit and its duties. MFCU

			was created by the Idaho Legislature to protect taxpayers' dollars and vulnerable persons. MFCU investigates and prosecutes provider fraud directly related to the use of Medicaid program funds or services provided through the Medicaid program. Contact them at (208)334-4100
Criminal History Unit Overview	Sue Altman, Program Supervisor	3:00	Sue Altman , Program Supervisor for the DHW Criminal History Unit gave an overview of the unit and its duties. IDHW conducts criminal history background checks on various classes of individuals who have access to, or provide care or services to children or vulnerable adults, as required by regulation. The criminal history background check is a fingerprint based check of state and national crime records and various registries. A CHU background check is good for 3 years. When an employee moves to a different agency, within that 3 year period, the new employer asks for an "add on" and pays \$10.00 for the ISP check. For more information contact the CHU @ 1-800-340-1246 of the Criminal History website can be accessed at www.chu.dhw.idaho.gov (A new version of the employee pamphlet will be available in July.)
Children's PCS Program	Susie Choules	3:30	Susie Choules gave an update on "Children's PCS Program. As a result of a 2007 Federal audit, CMS has directed Medicaid to go to a "fee for service" payment system instead of the current "daily rate". This will require a new assessment tool that will be used for both PCS homes and PCS hourly clients. The new assessment tool is in development. Sharon will be presenting the project timeline to Medicaid Administration on Friday 5/15/09. The Agency Nurse will continue to develop the Plan of Care and process significant change requests for the participant.
INFORMATIONAL UPDATES			
Transportation Benefit in Basic Plan	Sharon Duncan		Non-Emergent Transportation benefit is a part of the Basic Plan again.
Rate Letters			The Regions will enter the July WAHR increase for congregate providers. When the Division Information Release is approved, we will notify the PAO Committee.
Other			
Set Next Meeting Date	July 15th, 1-5 PM D-West October 14th December 10th		
Adjourn			

Action Items:

- Marcie to schedule Sarah Scott from the Idaho Commission on Aging to provide an overview of Adult Protection at the July 15th meeting.