



DHHS – PROVIDER MEETING

Developmental Disabilities Waivers

First Quarter: February 6, 2024

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Agenda

- ▶ ESI – Jesse Bjerrum
- ▶ CPR – Jesse Bjerrum
- ▶ Med Aide – Jesse Bjerrum
- ▶ FSW Training – Jenn Clark
- ▶ Service Reviews – Jillion Lieske
- ▶ Liberty 2024 Priorities – Britt Sommer
- ▶ Quality Updates – Britt Sommer
- ▶ Mini-Grant Opportunity – Jenn Clark
- ▶ Legislative Summary – Colin Large



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Emergency Safety Intervention (ESI)

- ▶ A new Provider Bulletin was published February 5, 2024.
 - This requires all providers use **The Mandt System** by July 1, 2025.
- ▶ Mini-grants are available to financially assist providers to seek trainers.
 - These are one-time grants.

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CPR Training (1/2)

- ▶ In December/January DDD requested information from all DD providers about the curriculums they use to teach and train CPR.
 - 20% of providers still need to respond.
 - If you have not provided the information, send it to tiffany.branch@nebraska.gov.
- ▶ Training information received:
 - 65% of providers use a combination of in-person training and online coursework.
 - 35% of providers have staff members who are only certified online (no in-person competency).

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CPR Training (2/2)

- ▶ Curriculums currently used for CPR training (based on information provided):
 - 19 different curriculums are currently used in Nebraska, including:
 - All in-person
 - Only online (no in-person competency)
 - Combination of both
 - Length of CPR training ranges from 25 minutes to 8 hours.
- ▶ DDD nurses are beginning to interview provider staff regarding CPR:
 - 15/15 of the staff interviewed cannot convey the appropriate ratio of chest compressions to rescue breaths per their identified training.
 - 13/15 of the staff interviewed can appropriately check for a pulse.

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Medication Aide Training

- ▶ In January, DDD nurses sampled completed MARS to Med Aide licensure.
 - 12% of staff who provided medication did not have an active license.
 - Affected providers were notified and corrections were made.
- ▶ Medication aide training and oversight:
 - Online
 - In-person
 - Combination
- ▶ DDD found no clear response on follow-up competencies with staff from the agency nurse.
- ▶ Staff were unable to answer the question, “What are the six rights of medication administration?”

The Six Rights
of Safe Medication Administration

- 1. Right Patient** ✓
 - Ask the patient their first and last name
 - Does the order match the patient?
- 2. Right Medication** ✓
 - Does the medication label match the order?
 - Be vigilant with look-alike and sound-alike medications
- 3. Right Dose** ✓
 - Does the strength and dosage match the order?
 - Is it half, whole or multiple tablets?
- 4. Right Time** ✓
 - Does the administration time match the order?
 - Before administering a PRN medication, ensure specified time interval has passed
- 5. Right Route** ✓
 - Does the route match the order?
 - Can this be crushed or mixed in other substances?
 - Have any transdermal patches been removed?
- 6. Right Documentation** ✓
 - Document immediately after the medication is administered

Become a Provider for the Family Support Waiver

DHHS is offering opportunities to learn about how to become a provider of services on the Family Support Waiver (FSW).

- ▶ There will be two sessions:
 - February 15, 2024, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM, CT
 - February 21, 2024, 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM, CT
- ▶ Registration is required to attend.
- ▶ Links to register are on the website.

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Service Review Changes

Beginning January 1, 2024:

- ▶ Eliminated the Service Review Form.
- ▶ Service Coordinators are using a Custom Case Note in Therap.
- ▶ Reviews are sent to the provider Therap SComm.
- ▶ How is it going?

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Helping Waiver Applicants

How to best support a person who calls you asking about HCBS Waiver Services:

- ▶ Encourage families to contact DDD directly for assistance.
- ▶ The Eligibility and Enrollment Unit will:
 - Assist with the application process or
 - Assign a Service Coordinator when the person has already been determined eligible.
- ▶ Waiver eligibility does not always mean funding will be available right away.

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Liberty 2024 Priorities

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Quality Updates

Collaborative Workgroup Survey

- ▶ Two new workgroups:
 - Onsite Provider Review and Provider Scorecards
 - Utilization Reviews
- ▶ Next Steps:
 - Surveys responses are being reviewed
 - People will be contacted with the next steps

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Mini-Grant Opportunity

- ▶ Strengthening Person-Centered Planning
 - Charting the Life Course (CtLC) training.
 - Employees or Ambassador series.
- ▶ Purchase of Agency Vehicle or Vehicle Modification
 - Purchase a new vehicle or make a vehicle modification.
- ▶ Emergency Safety Intervention Training
 - Providers not already using The Mandt System will take priority.
 - This is for Train the Trainer courses.

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Legislative Session Summary

On January 18, Senator Brewer introduced LB1417, the final bill to be introduced in this short (60-working day) session of the Unicameral.

Since convening on January 3, state senators have introduced 597 bills, 2 legislative resolutions, and 11 proposed constitutional amendments.

Within our division, we have completed 23 impact statements on bills where we noticed a potential impact on our programs, participants, or operations.

We are monitoring an additional 13 legislative bills that, if amended or implemented in a particular way, could impact our work.

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Highlights from Legislation (1/4)

- ▶ **LB941 - State intent regarding appropriations for Medicaid assisted-living facility rates.**
Would eliminate Urban/Rural and Single/Multiple Occupancy rates for ALFs and provide for a single rate of \$78.45 per day.
- ▶ **LB954 - Adopt the Biometric Autonomy Liberty Law.**
This would limit our ability to require fingerprints as well as other requirements for the storage and management of biometric data.
- ▶ **LB958 - Provide for annual adjustments of provider rates under the Medical Assistance Act.**
This would tie DD rates for Shared Living settings under Residential Habilitation to the CPI/Cost of Living and create automatic adjustments each year.

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Highlights from Legislation (2/4)

- ▶ LB982 - Provide for employment of nurse aides in intellectual and developmental disabilities facilities.

This would allow nurse aids to be employed by DD providers while utilizing their nurse aid credentials.

- ▶ LB1025 - Adopt the Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Support Act and provide tax credits.

This would create tax incentives for providers based on the number of DSPs or for companies employing individuals served by one of our ICF waivers.

- ▶ LB1086 - Eliminate the Department of Health and Human Services and create three departments.

This would divide DHHS into three stand-alone departments: Healthcare, Children and Family Services, and Public Health.

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Highlights from Legislation (3/4)

- ▶ **LB1117 - Appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services.**
This would provide for an 11% rate increase for providers on the CDD and DDAD waivers.
- ▶ **LB1168 - Adopt the Uniform Health-Care Decisions Act.**
This would significantly change the required documentation around advanced health care directives and how family wishes are prioritized when no guardian has been appointed.
- ▶ **LB1194 - Require legislative approval of Medicaid state plan amendments and state plan amendments for the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program.**
This would require the Division to secure legislative approval for any waiver amendment prior to submission to CMS.

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Highlights from Legislation (4/4)

- ▶ **LB1261 - Adopt the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Respite Services Act.**

This would create a respite program, similar to Lifespan Respite, and provide grants to support individuals with ALS.

- ▶ **LB1285 - Create the Task Force on Supported Employment.**

This would create a task force to evaluate existing reports and make recommendations for enhancing Support Employment in Nebraska.

- ▶ **LB1417 - Create, eliminate, terminate, and provide, change, eliminate, and transfer powers, duties, and membership of boards, commissions, committees, councils, task forces, panels, authorities, and departments, and change and eliminate funds.**

This would change, through the elimination or consolidation, many commissions and committees in state government, including the DD Advisory Committee.

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Legislative Next Steps

The division will continue to monitor these bills, and others, for amendments that may either limit or expand the bill's impact through Sine Die, the legislature's adjournment on April 18.

The Legislature maintains a robust website, nebraskalegislature.gov, which includes daily agendas, senator profiles, and a bill search tool for those seeking more information about the Legislature's work.

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THANK YOU

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