



Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council

Meeting Agenda and Minutes

Date	June 4, 2020
Time	2:00pm – 4:00pm
Location	Call In Information: https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/202849015 , (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 202 849 015
Purpose	To assist and advise the Division in implementing a statewide service delivery system for persons who are identified as having developmental and intellectual disabilities, and acquired brain injuries (ABI).
Members	Rita Basom, Ginny Chidsey, Heather Dodson, Jeff Gardner, Kayla Green, Buck Gwyn , Arkansas Le Marr , Wayne Lindgren, Shaye Moon , Erin O’Neill, Eric Moody for Sandy Root-Elledge , Bob Sell
Division Staff	Elizabeth Forslund, Lee Grossman, Heidi Hoffman, Samantha Mills, Shirley Pratt

AGENDA ITEMS/KEY POINTS DISCUSSED

	Topics	Highlights
1.	Welcome and roll call	Jeff called the meeting to order at 2:02PM.
2.	Approval of minutes	Rita moved to approve the minutes of March 12, 2020 as circulated; Wayne seconded. Motion carried.
3.	Division updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provider rate rebasing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provider Teams for the Comprehensive and Supports Waivers (DD Waivers) and the Community Choices Waiver (CCW) met the week of May 25th to discuss the upcoming provider cost surveys. ○ The cost surveys will be distributed to providers in mid-July, and it is anticipated that providers will have a deadline of mid to late August to get them completed. ○ Rebasing project to be completed in 2021. ○ The Division of Healthcare Financing (Division) is grateful for the stakeholder participation that has occurred. ○ <i>Member question:</i> Will the rate increase as a result of COVID-19 change the surveys or how data is collected? <i>Division response:</i> The COVID-19 public health emergency will not impact survey data collection. ● Waiver amendments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Amendments to the DD Waivers that were under review by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have been approved and implemented. ○ Definition of Behavioral Supports was clarified. ○ <i>Member question:</i> Has the Division heard comments related to the waiver amendment? <i>Division response:</i> The Division has not had any feedback related to the waiver amendments. ● Provider Training project

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Division is developing training modules that will address the training topics required in Chapter 45, Section 15 of the Department of Health's Medicaid Rules. ○ These modules will be used as an educational tool and ongoing resource for all providers, and will be required for all newly certified waiver providers. ○ Trainings will be presented on monthly Provider Support Calls before they are published on the website. All modules should be completed by April 2021. ○ <i>Member comment: It is important that providers know how to interact with participants before they start working with them.</i> ● Final CMS guidance on billing for like services simultaneously <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Division has received input during community engagement sessions, partnership team meetings, and DD Advisory Council meetings asking that the practice of one provider/provider staff member delivering like services simultaneously for two participants (one person receiving Companion Services while the other person receives Community Support Services) be allowed. ○ Wyoming requested this specific flexibility from CMS as part of the Appendix K amendment submitted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. CMS rejected this request. ○ Based on this information, the Division has concluded that this flexibility will not be allowed during post-COVID service delivery. ○ <i>Member comment: Challenges associated with Supported Living and Residential Services were addressed by combining these services. Combining day services may mitigate this ongoing barrier.</i> ○ <i>Member question: Is this an area where the Council can provide input? Division response: Once we have recommendations we will seek input from the Council.</i> ○ <i>Member question: Can the Division clarify the rule related to allowing providers to be paid while providing support in a doctor's office, and what services would be allowed? Division response: Providers can be paid for certain services provided while supporting participants with medical appointments. Allowable services will be based on the support being delivered and the needs of the participant as outlined in the individualized plan of care. Services that are clinical in nature (i.e., skilled nursing, therapies) are not considered allowable services.</i> ● Developmental Disabilities Section move to the Herschler Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Division has moved to the 4th floor of the Herschler Building, although DD Section staff are still working remotely. ○ Please change your contact information for the DD Section to reflect the following address: 122 W. 25th Street, 4 West, Cheyenne, WY 82002.
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4.	Member updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council members thanked providers for their outstanding service delivery during the public health emergency. Providers on the Council stated that they appreciated the feedback. • The Wyoming Department of Education’s Week of Academic Vision and Excellence (WAVE) conference will be held virtually. Ginny will provide more information as it becomes available. There is still interest in a Waiver 101 session, so she recommended that the Division be available to present a session. • The Department of Education (WDE) and Division representatives worked together to provide clear and accurate guidance on receiving educational and waiver services during the public health emergency. WDE and the Division are very pleased with the collaboration and the outcome. • The Wyoming Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (WGCD) will be holding their annual Developmental Disabilities conference virtually. The details are still being finalized. • The WGCD is preparing a survey that will be sent to waiver participants. The survey will collect information on the impacts of COVID-19 on participant’s waiver services. • The Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) ECHO sessions are on hiatus until the fall. They welcome recommendations for topics for upcoming ECHO sessions. WIND has recently welcomed a Board Certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA) to their team. The BCBA will be a great addition to the education and autism focused ECHO sessions. • WIND is also developing surveys that will gather information on how COVID-19 has impacted waiver services and participant lives. These surveys will be sent to providers and participants. • In his role as Executive Director of the Wyoming Community Service Providers, Jeff met with Director Ceballos, the Department of Health Director. Given the realities of the current economic situation that Wyoming faces, providers need to be prepared for funding challenges in the future.
5.	Division response to COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lee provided information on the DD Section’s response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. A COVID-19 specific website, which can be found at https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/dd/covid-19-updates-for-dd-waiver-services/, has been created. This website is kept current and contains all information and documents related to the DD Sections’ COVID-19 response. • The DD Section conducts a weekly COVID-19 update call. During this call, we present any new guidance and answer questions that providers may have. Next week WIND will be presenting information on the Telehealth Network and the resources available through WIND related to the remote delivery of services. • The Division has implemented temporary rate increases for certain services, and has implemented a temporary increase to self-directed budgets.



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of all flexibilities, as well as the federal approval of these flexibilities, can be found on the webpage, which is linked above. • <i>Member comment:</i> Wyoming’s response to the COVID-19 crisis has been second to none. The Division has been very responsive and quick to make decisions. • <i>Member comment:</i> The weekly calls have been very helpful. One suggestion would be to make sure that entire teams are involved in the discussion to move services to telehealth. Case managers are not always aware that this is happening. • <i>Member question:</i> Will participant budgets be cut as a result of Wyoming’s upcoming budget cuts? <i>Division response:</i> We don’t know how any budget cuts will be implemented at this time. We are committed to keeping people informed, and if budgets do need to be cut, we will strive to do so in a way that minimizes the impact to participants.
6.	Public Comment	<p>One person offered public comment during the public comment period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important for providers to know how to work with participants when they are escalated. They need to be taught how to respond when participants are upset.

NEXT MEETING – September 3, 2020