



Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council

Minutes

Date	June 5, 2025		
Time	10:00am – 12:00pm		
Location	Herschler Building Capitol Extension Room 1, 122 West 25th Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming Call In Information: https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/94868995005 , (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 948-6899-5005		
Purpose	To assist and advise the Division of Healthcare Financing (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	Jane Carlson, Rachel Collins, Tina Conley, Lorie Conrad, Rachel Crawford, Brenda Dick, Jeff Gardner, Kayla Green, Michelle Jarman, Mandy Liley, Mason McDowell, Lucy Russell, Bonnie Wilson		
Division Staff	Jenifer Adams, Matt Crandall, Alice Esquibel, Elizabeth Forslund, Dillion Johnson, Julie Lacey, Hannah Ostheimer		
AGENDA ITEMS/KEY POINTS DISCUSSED			
	Topics	Time	Highlights
1.	Roll call and approval of minutes and Introductions – <i>Jeff Gardner</i>	5 min	
2.	Division update – <i>Division</i>	40 min	- Position Updates - The policy analyst position has been filled by Adrienne Rosenberg. Adrienne comes from the Benefits and Eligibility (BES) Unit within the HCBS section. The BES unit will begin work on filling the vacancy. Hannah Ostheimer has been hired as the Provider Support Unit Manager replacing Shirley Pratt. Hannah comes from the Public Health Division with a background in working with vulnerable populations. Hannah has also spent time as a Direct Service Professional. Dillion has a new hire, Eric Lippold, who will be starting July 1st as our claims analyst specialist. - Federal Updates - Nothing to report currently. Things are still moving through the budget reconciliation process which is currently with the Federal Senate. No changes to or impacts to Wyoming or the HCBS program at this time. Senior leadership continue to monitor the situation. - WYSERVES - The Wyoming System for Enhanced Resources, Verification, Enrollment, and Services. This is an electronic system that will be replacing our IMPROV system for

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			providers. our Electronic Medicaid Waiver System (EMWS), and the Wyoming Health Portal (WHP). Current systems are out of date and feedback received has stated the current systems can be cumbersome. WYSERVES is anticipated to address that feedback and support day-to-day operations for providers and case managers. There will be increased automation, user friendly interfaces, and increased information sharing. • ARPA Funded Provider Rates - During COVID the state received an influx of federal funds used to increase rates for providers and case managers. The ARPA funding was temporary and the spending period expired March 31st, 2025. Rates were able to be sustained through July 1st of this year. The funding of the rates for 1 year was contained in the supplemental budget bill that was not passed during the recent legislative session. Rates will revert back to 2022 funding levels. A waiver amendment has been submitted to reflect the rate change and folks have the opportunity to provide public comment. It is anticipated for the waiver amendment to be effective September 1, 2025. Case Manager rates and CLS basic rates will not receive changes. • DD Amendment - The amendment contains changes to conflict free case management and waiver changes to align with recent guidance the Department has received from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The HCBS settings rule has now been incorporated more fully into the waiver agreement. This will not result in changes for providers and case managers as the HCBS setting requirements have already been fully integrated into the Wyoming HCBS programs. Public comment for the waiver amendment closes June 23rd. • LTC Financial Eligibility - We are working with providers and case managers to verify where participants are in the long term care (LTC) process. If there are questions we will try to reach out to LTC to assist when we are contacted. If there are delays in eligibility please
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			reach out to the county assigned Benefits and Eligibility Specialist. • Waitlist - Since the last meeting we have funded 25 people to the waitlist. 11 into Supports Adult, 1 for Supports ABI, and 13 for Supports Child. There are currently 343 people on the waitlist sitting at an average time 14 ½ - 15 months. • FASI Update - The FASI has been completed. The Department is currently analyzing the report to determine recommendations. The evaluation will be sent to the WDH Director's office. • NCI Surveys - Intellectual Disability and Developmental Disability in-person survey is wrapping up. The data has been submitted to NCI to be included in the national data set. We are expecting to get Wyoming results back in February 2026. The survey has been extended to July 31st. We have a current participation rate of 29.8%. This equates to a margin of error of 14% and we have a goal of 5%. NCI has indicated states who have a margin of error greater than 5% may be excluded from the national data set due to concerns over the usefulness of the data.
3.	By-law review update	5 min	Lucy Russell presented to the group on By-law changes. Lucy Russell asked for a motion to accept changes. Tina Conley motioned, Bonnie Wilson seconded. Changes will be updated and posted on the HCBS DDAC webpage.
4.	Member updates – <i>Council Members</i>	15 min	Brenda Dick - We are providing more services than ever. This does present some challenges for staff but we are getting it done. We have a team currently in Riverton due to the Job Corps closing. We are there triaging 50 Job Corps participants to help them transition to get work and develop skills. I also want to introduce my colleague Sarah Leonard who will be sitting on this committee from this point forward after today. Kayla Green - Shannon Buller recently retired about a month ago due to health concerns. The annual conference is scheduled for October 8th through 10th at the Red Lion in Cheyenne, WY.



HOME AND
COMMUNITY-
BASED
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			Information for vendor tables, opportunities for breakout presentations will be available in the next few weeks.
5.	Public Comment	10 min	
NEXT MEETING – September 4, 2025 - Zoom Or In-Person			