

TELECONFERENCE MINUTES: COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES: June 10th, 2020

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS	DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Mark Anderson, Chair – present via phone	Director Kelly Garcia – absent
Kimberly Kudej – present via phone	Faith Sandberg – present via phone
Sam Wallace – present via phone	Matt Highland – present via phone
Carol Forristall – present via phone	Mike Randol – present via phone
Rebecca Peterson – absent	Annie Lukens – present via phone
Skylar Mayberry-Mayes – present via phone	Janee Harvey – present via phone
	Cory Turner – present via phone

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS
Representative Joel Fry – absent
Senator Mariannette Miller-Meeks – absent
Senator Amanda Ragan – absent
Representative Timi Brown-Powers – absent
GUESTS
Des Moines Register Iowa Total Care

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Anderson, Council Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. via conference call on Wednesday, June 10th, 2020.

ROLL CALL

Annie Lukens, held roll call of the Council of Human Services. Attendance details listed above. Mark Anderson read aloud: “This meeting of the Iowa Council on Human Services is being held in accord with Section 21.8 of the Code of Iowa entitled, “electronic meeting.” The Code states that a governmental body may conduct a meeting by electronic means if circumstances are such that a meeting in person is impossible or impractical, or if the governmental body complies with the rules. The rules essentially state that access must be provided to the public. The meeting is being held on a speaker phone in the First Floor Conference Room of the Hoover State Office Building. An agenda was sent to interested groups as well as the press advising that the meeting will be held via conference call. Minutes will be kept of the meeting.”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes for Council meetings held on 4/8/2020 & 5/13/2020

MOTION TO VOTE: SAM WALLACE AND SKYLAR MAYBERRY-MAYES

VOTE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

RULES

Presented by Nancy Freudenberg; Bureau Chief Policy Coordination

The following amendments to the administrative rules are presented for adoption at the June 10, 2020, Council on Human Services meeting.

R-1. Amendments to Chapter 113, "Family Foster Homes". The President signed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, Public Law (P.L.) 115-123 into law on February 9, 2018. P.L. 115-123 includes the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) in Division E, Title VII. Section 50731 of the FFPSA directs the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to "identify reputable model licensing standards with respect to the licensing of foster family homes" (as defined in section 472(c)(1) of the Social Security Act). In response to this directive, the Children's Bureau of HHS issued the National Model Foster Family Home Licensing Standards.

The proposed amendments pertain to the licensing and regulation of foster family homes and are required to align with the federal model licensing standards. The Model Licensing Standards were to be in effect April 1, 2019. The Department requested additional time from the federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to implement the standards through administrative rules. Additional time was approved by HHS. We are moving forward with this rulemaking as Iowa is out of compliance in several areas. Failure to meet the Model Family Home Foster Licensing Standards could result in the loss of Iowa's IV-E federal funding.

The following requirements have been added to the administrative rules:

- Applicants must be able to communicate with the licensing agency, health care and other service providers.
- At least one applicant in the home must have functional literacy; a level of reading, writing and calculation skills sufficient to function in the community in which an individual lives. An example for a foster parent would be to have the ability to read labels on medications in order to properly administer the medications to a child.
- Applicants and all household members must disclose any past or current mental health and/or substance abuse issues. The agency may require further documentation and/or evaluation to determine the suitability of the home.
- There must be at least one scheduled in-home, individual interview of each household member to observe family functioning and assess the family's capacity to meet the needs of a child in foster care. The contracted agency will determine whether to interview or just observe each household member based on his or her age and development.
- All household members who are caregivers must have up to date whooping cough vaccines unless contrary to the person's health.
- The contracted agency must obtain at least three references, including at least one from a relative and one from a non-relative.
- The applicant's home must meet the following standards concerning swimming pools, hot tubs and spas:
 - Swimming pools must have a barrier on all sides at least four feet high.
 - Swimming pools must have their methods of access through the barrier equipped with a safety device, such as a bolt lock.
 - Swimming pools must be equipped with a life saving device, such as a ring buoy.
 - If the swimming pool cannot be emptied after each use, the pool must have a working pump and filter system.
 - Hot tubs and spas must have safety covers that are locked when not in use.
- The applicants' home must meet the following standards concerning hazardous materials and first aid supplies:
 - Applicants must prevent the child's access, as appropriate for his or her age and other development, to all medications, poisonous materials, cleaning supplies, other

hazardous materials and alcoholic beverages. All medications should be kept in a locked cabinet.

- Applicants must maintain first aid supplies as recommended by the American Red Cross.
- Assurances from applicants must be agreed upon including:
 - They will not use any corporal or degrading punishment on any child in the home.
 - They will not use any illegal substances, abuse alcohol by consuming it in excess amounts, or abuse legal prescription and nonprescription drugs by consuming them in excess amounts or using them contrary as indicated.

Weapons and ammunition must be separately store, locked, unloaded and inaccessible to children. Previously the rules listed that weapons and firearms shall be maintained in a locked place such as a gun case. Federal requirements now specify the type of place and a listing of weapons and ammunition which must be identified in the rule.

*MOTION TO VOTE: CAROL FORRISTALL AND KIM KUDEJ
VOTE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED*

N-1. Amendments to Chapter 75, “Conditions of Eligibility. The proposed rule is amended to adjust the federal poverty levels increments used to assess premiums for applicants and recipients with income over 150% of the federal poverty level under the Medicaid for Employed People with Disabilities (MEPD) program.

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS

*MOTION TO VOTE: CAROL FORRISTALL AND SAM WALLACE
VOTE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED*

FACILITIES COVID UPDATE

Presented by: Cory Turner; Division Administrator for Adult Children and Family Services

COVID-19 EFFORTS

- Policy development at all facilities
- PPE review, monitor, and now daily counts
- Limited then ceased visitation
- Added technology (e.g. Skype) for visitation options
- Began daily screening (including temps) of patients
- Stopped out of state travel (including contractors in/out)
- Began daily task force(s) at each facility
- Began twice daily leadership calls on issues/efforts
- Developed COVID-19 sick wards/cottages, as well as, suspected and step-down options to mitigate risk
- Began testing all residents and staff (WRC & GRC complete). Working on long term strategy

QUESTIONS:

What are the cost differences between having people in the institution vs community?

Response from Cory Turner: Will need to get the numbers and get back to the Council.

FISCAL COVID UPDATE

Presented by: Jean Slaughtbaugh; Division Administrator for Division of Fiscal Management

FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES:

- Normal: Federal funding allowed under normal program expenditures
- New: New federal funding (for example, enhanced FMAP, additional CCDBG funding)
- FEMA: FEMA Public Assistance Program
- Last resort source

- Appears to be broad in terms of coverage

PURPOSE:

- Some clearly defined purposes (TEFAP; commodities)
- Some broader purposes (for example, enhanced FMAP, additional CCDBG funding)

TRACKING EXPENSES:

- Have established centers to track COVID expenditures
- All affected programs/appropriations
- May need multiple cost centers
- Expenditures are covered by different funding sources (i.e., Normal, New, FEMA)
- Tracking various types of expenditures

TO DATE:

- 14 revenue streams; \$220M
- 6.2% FMAP, e.g., \$66M/Qtr

SORTING THROUGH IT ALL:

- For each New funding source (by program):
 - Consistent template:
 - Brief description of New funding source
 - Anticipated amount
 - Allowable uses
 - Method for claiming
 - Definition of cost tracking Reporting requirements
 - Working to maximize our ability to use new resources
 - Working to ensure clear audit trail for future

BUDGET / SESSION UPDATE

- Omnibus bill
 - Largely status quo

QUESTIONS:

“Do you anticipate any issues with the Budget Bill passing?”

Response from Jean Slaybaugh: “I do not think that there will be any issues.”

DIRECTORS REPORT

Presented by Matt Highland on behalf of Kelly Garcia

TOWN HALLS

- We continue to conduct virtual town halls with the Glenwood and Woodward families and loved ones
- These continue to be a great way to have ongoing dialog.
 - Beginning in June we’ll join the Glenwood and Woodward families together.
- This is a key part of our communications effort related to our community integration plan.

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

- You’ll recall at our last meeting we discussed our Community Integration Plan approach at a high level.
- Last week we published that plan to our website, put out a press release and now the real work begins.
- So, I encourage you to take a look at that and feel free to ask any questions.
 - If you already have and have questions I’m happy to answer, or if you want to look after this meeting, we can do that at our next council meeting.

COVID-19

- Recently we also issued our plan to ease restrictions at the facilities, which includes the criteria for that.
- It relies on three phases, with very clear guidelines.
- This is also posted to our website.
- As for reporting positive cases at our facilities, we have updated the way we publish that information to include the numbers of recovered and more granular detail.

- Woodward is still the only facility with resident or client positives.
 - 11 have recovered and 2 currently are positive for COVID.

AGENCY DASHBOARDS AND KEY METRICS

- One of my goals when I first started was to identify key priorities and to track them by looking closely at data and measuring our progress.
- Right now each DA is working to identify what they think some of those areas of focus should be, and we'll begin meeting with stakeholders to get their input.
- Which leads me to the current larger discussion in our society around race and systemic inequity.
- As families continue to be torn apart by social injustice, like the death of George Floyd, my heart breaks.
 - Governor Reynolds shared in her press conference last week, the need to implement systemic change.
 - So, I am challenging Team DHS to think about our role in this process and platform for change.
- Since I began as DHS director, a primary focus of mine has been setting goals and measurements of key areas within our agency.
- This plan always included a focus on the racial disparities in our own system.
 - This includes the disproportionate removals of indigenous youth and children of color, the disproportionate number of youth of color at our Boys State Training School and significant disparities in access to healthcare and maternal health outcomes.
 - To tackle these inequities, we must name them, measure them, highlight them and make meaningful improvements.
 - We owe it to the people of Iowa, and most especially to those who experience these inequities.
- Along with all of the other challenges we face as an agency, this is one we must address.
- And, if the last 7 months at DHS has taught me anything, our team is up to the challenge.
- So expect to hear more about this as we move forward.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- As you're aware, the legislature is currently in session, which is expected to be brief, although I'm not sure anyone knows entirely what to expect.
- It appears there is a bill moving with a status quo budget, which includes some increases for our facilities.
- Carrie, our legislative liaison is tracking on everything very closely, though this session is new terrain for us all, so we're trying to be responsive and prepared.
- We had done a lot of work building relationships with members and getting information gathered, which I think has served us well.

BRIGHT SPOT

- I've really been trying to work on cross connections between agencies and other partners in the state because our work intersects so much with the work of others.
- One relationship that I'm proud to highlight is a new partnership we're forging with Broadlawns.
- We are finalizing an agreement to have a residency rotation at Woodward Resource Center, which provides Broadlawns residents with a great opportunity to work with individuals with complex needs and provides the individuals we serve at Woodward additional medical staff.
- This will be a mutually beneficial relationship and is the kind of thing we need to be doing more of to help build out the pipeline of healthcare professionals and bring new talent into our workforce at DHS.
- I'm very excited about this opportunity and will be happy to provide updates as we progress.
- Their first rotation will begin this summer.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council on Human Services is Wednesday, July, 8th 2020 and will be a teleconference.

ADJOURN

Council on Human Services teleconference meeting held on June 10th, 2020 adjourned at 10:42am CST.

Submitted by: Annie Lukens