

MINUTES

Self-Direction Statewide Meeting

ZOOM Location: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83782949050>

Date: November 13, 2020

Time: 02:00 PM Central Time

Attendees:

Members:	Self-Direction Employers/Participants
LDH Staff :	<p>Medicaid Program Supports and Waivers (MPSW): Brian Bennett, Mary Norris, Toni Bennett, Becky Palmer, Tracy Barker, Adrienne Brooks, Stacie Suffrin, Anastasia Boudreaux</p> <p>Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD): Charles Ayles, Paul Rhorer, Janae Burr, Teresa Frank, Kim Kennedy, Erin Downing</p> <p>Office of Aging and Adult Services (OAAS): Theresa Forrester, Kirsten Clebert, Cheryl Dickerson, Anne Olivier, Joni Bercegeay, Layne Janet</p>
Acumen:	Elizabeth Kiefer
Morning Sun:	Lacy Polotzola

Agenda Items

Notes

Update: Appendix K
(OCDD/OAAS)

OCDD/Appendix Ks are requests from states to the federal government to allow for certain exceptions from current policies during an emergency. This information was distributed via memo to the FEAs, and the Support Coordination Agencies were informed:

1. Allow sharing across waivers
2. Allow DSW to live in recipient's home
3. Allow legally responsible relatives to be DSW
4. Allowing additional hours due to Day Hab and school closures
 - a. Additional 20 hours of Family Support added weekly to Children's Choice
 - b. Converted Day Hab hours for NOW and ROW to in-home supports.
 - c. Added 20 hours per week of In-Home Respite to offset Day Hab hours in Supports Waiver.

5. Exemptions for OCDD will end on 12/31/2020.

OAAS/Kirsten – The OAAS Appendix K COVID-19 documents expire 1/26/21. The specific OAAS exceptions for Self-Direction participants were stated at the last Self-Direction Statewide meeting and nothing has changed since that last meeting. We are still waiting to hear if CMS will extend the end date for the Appendix K documents.

Hazard Pay
(OCDD/OAAS)

OCDD/Kim Kennedy reported on the Appendix K exceptions that allows for hazard pay. DSWs can receive an additional \$2.00 an hour when working with a participant who has COVID-19 or if the participant resides with a person who tests positive for COVID-19. Recently, LDH received approval to reimburse DSWs for hazard pay. The hazard pay will be retroactive to March 21, 2020. Retroactive payment only will apply if the COVID-19 situation was reported to the support coordinator by the participant or the SD Employer. Going forward, LaSRS will be updated with COVID-19 information, once reported to the SC by the participant/SD Employer. SC will enter hazard pay request in LaSRS and will notify the FEA of approval for the hazard pay. SRI will release PA for hazard pay to FEA. More details are forthcoming in a memo that will be sent to SD Employers by the FEAs.

This memo was sent out 11/18/20 by Morning Sun and Acumen.

OAAS/Kirsten Clebert - OAAS and OCDD worked on a joint memo regarding Hazard Pay for Self Direction participants. OAAS and OCDD are following the same policy/procedures for hazard pay. The only difference between OAAS and OCDD is who can and cannot be paid for hazard pay as a DSW.

OCDD Self-Direction Manual
Update (OCDD)

OCDD/Janae Burr reports final edits are being made and some suggestions previously received from SD stakeholders group will be included.

Electronic Visit Verification
(OCDD/OAAS/Fiscal Employer
Agents)

Brian Bennett, Section Chief, Program Support and Waivers stated that CMS will not recognize electronic timesheets as an EVV option. There are three options in Louisiana that CMS has approved: 1. FOB (fixed object) 2. Landline Phone 3. Internet Application In order to help

Morning Sun and Acumen prepare for a full implementation, LDH will send out a survey, from the SD email box, in the next week or so asking which EVV option participants and families plan to use.

Self-Direction Webpage (MPSW)

Anastasia Boudreaux, the new self-direction manager, has developed a Self-Direction webpage. It can be located on the main Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Medicaid webpage. It is for Self-Direction participants and their families. She will send the link to the FEAs so they can send to all participants. This site will have an email address strictly for self-direction questions and concerns. Responses to these questions will be posted under a FAQ link on the page and will include the minutes to the stakeholder meeting.

<https://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/subhome/67>

Other

LDH plans on having routine statewide stakeholder meetings for self-direction participants and their families.
