

7-12-23

Budget Authority Workgroup Agenda

1. Welcome

Jan Lampman, Todd Koopmans, Stephanie Laird, Heather Hallett, Melissa Frash, Courtney Trunk, Tonya Lawrence, Angela Martin, Marie Eagle, Sheryl Stumbaugh, Sheryl Kuenzer, Laura Demeuse, Tayler McQuay, Jill Gerrie



2. Mileage in Budgets

- Whether it's included in a budget varies around the state/county
- Doc appointment travel is a covered service
- Living your life =
- Having a meaningful wage – increase = \$.65 right now
 - **Save for a different time!**
- Laura – if mileage is included in the service you are directing, it's included – rate is the same
 - Melissa – comes out of CLS rate
✓
 - Tonya – lots of budgets where it is a separate line item
 - Angela - No uniformity – something our group can add to our list – **needs to be expectation around what's acceptable** and the **same everywhere** – it is more about the CMHs/PIHPs which makes it frustrating for FMS organizations



- If mileage comes out of CLS rate it affects the hourly rate – people lost when they find out they have to use their own vehicle if there’s no or not enough money reimbursed
 - ✓ People with lots of hours – mileage doesn’t affect wage as much
- Every person will need mileage at some point, so... every budget should have a mileage line item.
- FMS has on templates?
- When person is planning budget is mileage included?
- Is a common problem in a certain county. No results when asking for policy from CMH.
- Waivers – where’s mileage? Tucked in somewhere?
- .65.5 federal rate for mileage – people using federal or state rate for mileage?
- We need one set of guidelines for everyone!

3. Look at Everyone’s Top 5 Priorities

- Need recommendations to be contract requirements!
- Utilization and Management
- Compare Michigan process against CMS against CMHs
- Budgets in plain language
- Budget flexibility
- Budget reductions are based on need
- Utilization Management and what they do
- Simplify rules
- Get PIHPs to stop requiring additional training
- Good training for people using S-D and professionals
- Talking to other states about billing codes
- Work on Waiver language
- Raising pay and benefits



- Home Help discrepancy
- Making sure plans and budgets are signed
- Lack of money should not cause a reduction in budgets
- Start process with plan not money
- Not enough peers
- Peers working remotely

Angela will send out a Qualtrics survey that will only let us pick five items to help narrow the list. Thanks Angela!

4. Budget Template – Jill forgot to send out the Doodle Poll! Will schedule a meeting in July.

- Need something understandable in plain language. We decided we needed a small group to work on this. Members to include Sheryl K., Laura, Marie, Jill, Melissa, Tonya – Jill will send out a Doodle Poll.



5. MDHHS Update

<https://arcmi.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2023/07/07.-PAS-Dept-Update-July-23.pdf>



6. Help Desk – No activity

<https://arcmi.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/15/2023/06/04.-June-2023-Helpdesk.pdf>



7. Ottawa CMH Update

- No update until October



8. Other?

- **Talk to someone at CMS regarding paying for internet.** Rules under Social Security Act allow payment for internet (Special Needs Trust). Need to explore further.
- Internet - Verizon has a program for \$25 per month
 - Comcast - if you meet the income level you can get a lower rate or no cost
 - Affordable Connectivity program for reduced rates



9. Future Meeting Dates

- 08/09/23
- 09/13/23
- 10/11/23
- 11/08/23
- 12/13/23

