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Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 12:21 PM
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Cc: Brown, Holly M; Song, Yixuan; Stenglein, Kelsey
Subject: [External] 9/9 IDA Rate Refresh Meeting Notes

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Good afternoon,

As a follow-up to Thursday's discussion on the IDA rate refresh, we have compiled the following notes and action items. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Meeting Summary

1. Fee Development Status Update

- ODP has been meeting with the Provider Workgroup
 - There have been two meetings to date with 8-10 provider representatives, with the final meeting scheduled for Friday 9/10.
 - Specific areas of concern raised in the workgroup meetings:
 - Sign-on bonuses for nursing staff. Also includes \$1,500-\$2,000 bonuses for direct care workers.
 - Health benefit rates for ERE assumptions
 - Productivity assumptions
 - Director level positions
 - Training hours for supports coordination
- ODP indicated that it is planning to implement refreshed rates for the three IDA waivers on 1/1/2022, retro to 7/1/2021.
- ODP is submitting the Adult Autism Waiver renewal to CMS as-is; ineligible fees will be updated with an amendment at a later date consistent with IDA (likely for 1/1/22). ODP will need refreshed day habilitation rates before January for AAW.
- Mercer is currently refreshing the rate models in the following service groups: Residential, Non-Residential, Participant-Directed Services, and Residential Ineligible. This includes refreshing wages and bringing in new BLS data for employee-related expenses. Specific timeline to finalize fee ranges will depend on ODP's data collection outlined below.

2. IDA Items for Confirmation

- *Transportation Service Fees*
 - Refreshed fees are not needed for Transportation Services for the IDA Waiver. The enhanced fees must stay in place for six months after the end of the PHE.
 - ODP may request assistance from Mercer to update the cost-based rates for select transportation providers as this will require submission of new cost reports (targeting to begin in October/November).
- *Statewide versus regional wages/fees*
 - Reviewed PA wages by county, to statewide BLS and Philadelphia BLS wages
 - ODP would like to move forward with using the statewide BLS wages for IDA rate refresh, using 75th percentile as the upper bound of the wage ranges.
 - Include overtime adjustment and Philadelphia SFY22 minimum wage (\$14.25 per hour) as the floor for all occupations/services.
- *Ineligible fees for IDA and AAW* – Develop ineligible fees for two areas for IDA. ODP will confirm using statewide fees for AAW.
- *Agency with Choice FMS Admin Fee* – Survey was previously done to collect FY 2014 data. ODP noted they have heard concerns around this current fee and have an upcoming meeting to discuss with one of the providers.
- *Residential staffing survey*
 - A smaller survey (with 16 questions) will be distributed to the workgroup participants for residential services to inform full-time/part-time and vacancy factor assumptions. Providers to submit responses

by 9/20.

➤ ODP shared the 2016 residential settings survey with the workgroup and is discussing in the 9/10 workgroup meeting if they will reissue the survey for completion. ODP will need assistance from Mercer to collect and analyze survey data.

3. Initial ODP feedback related to assumption changes for IDA services

- ODP is reviewing notes from prior workgroup meetings before discussing detailed feedback on changes to the assumptions.

4. Next Steps

- Coordinate another meeting to discuss wage ranges. Continue to check in with ODP to determine when the team is ready to discuss more detailed assumption changes for IDA waiver rate refresh.

Action Items

ODP:

- Summarize notes from prior workgroup meetings and share with Mercer (week of 9/13).
- Provide update on meeting with FMS provider regarding the AWC FMS fee
- Confirm if separate areas are needed for AAW ineligible fees.

Mercer:

- Develop a summary comparing wages for SE counties to rest of state to share with ODP in next meeting.
- Schedule a meeting in the next week to discuss refreshed wage ranges with ODP.
- Identify options for a refreshed "Enhanced Communication Fee" factor to apply to wages and review with ODP.
- Share previous Agency With Choice admin survey for ODP decision on moving forward with another survey.

Thanks,
Jason

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