



**OPWDD Family Stakeholders Agenda and Written Responses
For May 28, 2024**

Agenda

- 1. Commissioner Updates**
- 2. Housing**
 - a. Strategic Plan update for Housing. Have public comments on Housing Subsidy been shared?**
 - b. Anything new to share regarding the extensive wait lists for housing?**
- 3. Quality**
 - a. Has OPWDD DQI's annual report, Justice Center's reporting data and/or Board of Visitors Annual Governor's report found any correlation between the workforce shortage and quality of service delivery? What do these reports say, who reviews these reports, what action steps. Please share a summary of the trends.**
- 4. Managed Care**
 - a. PHP FIDA-IDD has an October 2024 deadline for their "demonstration". How is this being included in the Managed Care evaluation?**
 - b. Discuss- Provider agencies are part "owners/investors" of the CCOs, including PHP?**
 - c. Would this be the same for new Managed Care companies?**

Written Responses

Budget Review- summary of the OPWDD budget, actions associated (what is the money going to do to improve things).

- 1. How will 1.7% be ensured for certified and SD.**

Answer:

At this time, our plan is to require the submittal of a certification form by every provider indicating how the 2.84 percent COLA will be expended by category of personal service expense; this includes Fiscal Intermediary agencies who employ staff who are hired by individuals who self-direct their services. The instructions to the certification survey will include an excerpt from the enacted legislation including the specific reference to the use of 1.7 percent of the COLA for targeted salary increases:

Eligible individuals. Support staff, direct care staff, clinical staff, and non-executive administrative staff in programs and services listed in subdivision five of this section shall be eligible for the 1.7% targeted salary increase established pursuant to subdivision four of this section

In addition, we plan to include questions in the certification survey asking providers to identify the amount of salary increase that will be given to staff ineligible for the 1.7 percent component of the COLA. Based on provider survey responses, we will be able to determine if follow-up with the provider is warranted to determine compliance with the legislation.

2. When can SD anticipate a new template

Answer:

We're finalizing testing and expect release the template no later than the second week in June.

3. What does OPWDD expect the impact of changes to CDPAP for people with disabilities specifically.

Answer:

The 2025 Enacted Budget includes a single Fiscal Intermediary for the DOH Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program. The Fiscal Intermediary (FI) structure for CDPAP is separate and distinct from the FI structure for OPWDD Self-direction services. Changes made under the CDPAP program should have no impact to the OPWDD FI program. There are an undetermined number of OPWDD providers who are also FIs under the CDPAP program, serving mostly people w I/DD. Additional outreach should be directed to DOH who runs the CDPAP program.

Additionally, the final budget language requires that the single state FI subcontract with Independent Living Centers with experience in providing FI services to people with disabilities. There should be one in each rate setting region. We are hopeful this will help add cultural and linguistic competence to the single state FI, and of course, we will monitor whether there's any impact experienced by people who receive OPWDD services and CDPAP.

4. Ombudsman status

Answer:

The Request for Proposals from the Ombudsman program was released on February 6th. Proposals were due on March 11th 2024. OPWDD reviewed the proposals and anticipate an award will be granted shortly.