

THE EXCELLENCE NETWORK

FOSTERING COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP
TO DRIVE AGENCY EXCELLENCE IN
LICKING COUNTY



Meeting Minutes 2/19/21 (Online virtual meeting)

• Old Business/Updates

- **COVID cases & Vaccination updates in Licking County:** COVID cases are decreasing in the general population and in the D.D. community. Most people who were willing in groups 1A & 1B in Licking County have received their first shot.
 - Please continue to assure DSPs know and are following proper protocol re: masks, hand washing, etc; and that all staff coming into regular contact with people (nursing, transportation, etc.) are doing the same.
 - If you note issues please let David or Brandi know ASAP.
- **ADS group size changes:** no questions from the group on this. No one seen an increase in the number of people attending facility-based programs yet.
 - state-wide only 32 additional folks have re-started ADS services in approx. the past month
 - Several providers said they have folks who want to come back but are waiting until their *vaccinations are completed and effective, so local numbers may improve soon.*

• New Business

- **Ohio Disabilities Community Transportation Network (ODCTN)-** Want to better utilize your investment in vehicles? The goal of the ODCTN is to increase transportation services to those with disabilities through a shared network of providers, and is funded by a grant from DODD. Please see the ODCTN website at <https://www.onseen.com/odctn/> for more info.
 - The fee to join the network (\$5,000) is being waived for initial providers in the pilot (!).
 - Rides would be paid for through the person's normal funding sources.
 - Providers gain access to sophisticated routing software.
 - People served access the system through an invitation from their primary provider.
 - Contact Mike Lanese at mike.lanese@onseen.com
- **High School Diploma/GED Rule Waiver Changes for Agency Providers:** The following changes are effective March 1, 2021-
 - Initial HSD/GED waivers will be issued for a two-year period. The employee must meet the educational requirement by the end of the two-year period.
 - A one-year renewal may be available if extenuating circumstances prevented the DSP from obtaining their HSD or GED during the two-year period.
 - There will be a new option to receive a non-expiring HSD/GED waiver if the DSP meets one of the following criteria:

- The DSP is over 50 years old;
 - The DSP will only provide services to family members; or
 - The DSP will only provide transportation services
 - HSD/GED waivers issued prior to March 1, 2021 to individuals who do not meet the requirements for a non-expiring waiver will be renewed for a two-year period to allow the DSP to obtain their HSD or GED.
- **Lump-sum payment on hold:** the planned 2-week payment planned by DODD (funded by County Boards of D.D.) is currently on hold at the federal level, along with all other requests. The payment is still likely to happen, just unknown when.
 - The payment will be calculated using the provider's total claims payments for **August 1 - October 31, 2020**. Providers can still make changes to this period until the payments have final approval.
 - **MEORC Delegated Nursing Service-** this may be a helpful services for ADS's, especially;

MEORC's Registered Nurses will ensure DODD rule compliance and implement systems that will ensure your individuals are healthy and safe. We will handle your Delegation and Medication Administration Training needs, at half the cost of hiring a full-time RN. Contact Steve Long slong@meorc.com (740) 507-8237

 - Mary & Mary indicated they had discovered a less-expensive alternative they are willing to share.
 - **Ohio Individual Service Plan-** implementation of Ohio's single ISP has been delayed until July 2021. Three trainings are currently available on DODD's MyLearning website.
 - LCBDD is planning to move forward with implementation as soon as the template is available.
- **Miscellaneous**
 - **We Thrive Together events!** On-line & Free
 - Website: <https://wethrivetogether.org/upcoming-events/event-calendar/>
 - Please contact Anna Jefferies with questions re: the Talent Show: Anna.Jeffries@lcountydd.org or 740-322-6911
 - Additional info. attached to email
 - **Funding available from LCBDD-** the County Board has funding available for up to 50% of initial provider association dues or MEORC provider services. Please contact David or Angie for details.
 - **Medications as possible rights restrictions-** a recent review of LCBDD's ISP process recommended SCs assure certain medications are not potential rights restrictions, so providers may see additional questions from SCs in this area.

Next Mtg.
Friday, March 19th, 10:00
 (Online virtual meeting)