

Unbundling Day Services IDD Workgroup

3 PM – 5 PM
7/10/2023

Meeting Attendance

Organization	Representatives
WSU	Zane May, Cy Rogers
KDADS	Seth Kilber, Theresa Singh
Happy Sun Care	Regina Gakinya
Ability Point	Kevin Fish, Amanda Riddle
TCM Manager Goodwill Industries	Bren Williams
Executive Director CDDO of Butler County	Nicole Hall
OCCK Inc.	Susan Sprague
Medicalodges/New Hope Services	Lori Palmer
Rainbows United	Lindsay Kral
UHC	Carrie Kimes

Welcome/Introduction

Agreements Suggested:

- No additional agreements were suggested or submitted

Workgroup Background

Notes from meetings will be sent out after the first round of meetings. Once the first round of meetings has been completed the notes will go out and will be posted on the website. Participants will be able to provide comments on these notes and other groups work. These comments will be folded into the next notes.

There were no questions on the background of the workgroups or how they were established.

Purpose & Resources

Group member pointed out that camp is the biggest area of concern with ratio billing, but personal care services may also need looked at

There were no questions on the resources provided.

Discussion

Seth Kilber of KDADS informed the group that changes in ratio billing have been prompted by COVID, staffing shortages, and some of the creative work done by providers across the state. KDADS is wanting to see what can be done with the waiver to make this a service option.

Group member gave background on Rainbows experience with adjusted ratios based on need. Ratio billing and having to bill one-to-one creates a hiring problem to ensure there are enough staff to cover children participating. Complicating this more is that the camps are about inclusion and communication, and some of the children feel stifled with one-to-one staffing.

Theresa Singh of KDADS asked about staff coming in that are seasonal or part-time and where they might come from. Group member shared that some are returning from the previous year, and that most of their staff come from schools (paras and other support staff) and college students. Their service is billed as IDD respite. The goal this summer was to do one-to-one, but staff have also done one-to-two, and one-to-three.

Group member outlined that Ability Point is celebrating the 35th anniversary of their summer program. We have many students who don't need, or want, staff with them. The other consideration is that if we have 20 students and add 20 support professionals, we are having to limit who can go on outings because staff are taking up space on the bus. Ratio billing makes sense financially, for the persons-served, and for increasing the number of persons-served.

InterHab has some previous workgroups done on this and it could be a good resource. Nicole participated in this workgroup and will share what they have.

The group stated that this additional resource would be helpful for this group:

Group member outlined that there was consensus in landing on going up to a 1-2/3 ratio and there are other states doing similar things. Ability Point runs it's summer program this way: in the 9-12 age group there would be 25-30 students and all of them are staffed at a ratio. For example, there are ten staff and some kids need one-to-one and others need less. As a group they go together and there are staff assigned before the day starts. Additionally, these same staff are assigned to these kids for the whole summer

Question was asked if parents/family members were allowed to provide services to an extent during Covid. Do we have numbers of persons who are funded but not being served due to lack of employable staff, particularly in our rural areas? Seth Kilber outlined that paid family caregivers is in the waiver amendments now and will be staying.

Group discussed ratio billing could be an option for extending services, particularly in rural areas. For example, an afterschool latchkey service. There are providers who

would like at this as a potential option and it should be worth researching and pursuing. Group member mentioned that you could extend this to adults pre-and post- day programs.

For the next meeting these things should be focused on:

- We don't need a full and specific definition worked out in this group.
- We do need to find consensus. If the group does not find consensus multiple recommendations can be made.
- For the next meeting it would be helpful to understand the codes KDADS is considering for ratio billing – KDADS outlined they have not considered any codes so far and that everything is on the table. Will require referencing the CMS technical assistance guide and seeing what other states have done.
- The possibility of ratio billing being a new code/service.

Wrap Up

Things to do prior to the next meeting

- KDADS will check into resources from InterHab
- Folks on the call could research what other states are doing and what successful outcomes they have had
- Doodle Poll will come out soon and next meeting will be for defining ratio billing and talking about summer programs. You can reach out to WSU or KDADS in the short term with questions.