

# Unbundling Day Services IDD Workgroup

11 AM – 1 PM  
7/5/2023

## Meeting Attendance

Organization	Representatives
WSU	Zane May, Cy Rogers
KDADS	Robin Lohman, Seth Kilber
Capper Foundation	Ramona Macek
Happy Hearts	Carol Farnsworth
United	Carrie Kimes
Mosaic	Ambrosia Belchic
Johnson County CDDO	Judie White
ECKCDDO	Jacquallynn Branch
Riverside Resources, Inc. CDDO	Janice Denney
Life Patterns, Inc	Jon Gerdel
Day Service Director for Lakemary	Brooke DeNegri
Parent Advocate	Kathy Keck
The Arc of Douglas County	Angie Reinking
The Treehouse	The Treehouse

## Welcome/Introduction

Agreements Suggested:

- That we will be respectful of each persons' input
- The workgroup not be "top down" but rather have a collaborative space for everyone to share feedback equally
- Welcome new ideas and think outside the box

## 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.

## Purpose & Resources

Many day services in Kansas have different types of day programs. Many other states have "unbundled" these day services into separate service codes. KDADS has received guidance from CMS that Kansas should do this, also. This is to help increase

transparency, improve billing, and ensure individuals are getting the services they need. It would also help with persons-served getting the most individualized services possible.

Group considered whether meetings would boil down to developing billing codes for services and agreed this is mostly accurate but would require defining services as well and some other work.

Group questioned whether “employment supports” are something to include in the process as day becomes unbundled. There is a separate “employment” group. There are day services and supported employment. This group is meeting to break down the day services further to identify the steps between regular day and habilitation type supports to complete supported employment.

Group acknowledged that unbundling seems as if service delivery is going back to how it was in the nineties.

Group discussed billing challenges stemming from current codes. It’s important that we understand there is real value in us separating these services out and knowing where we are billing and spending money in Kansas.

A group member outlined that this is a great opportunity for day services with older persons-served that they may not want to utilize typical day services.

Group discussed opportunities to look at changing reimbursement rates. There will need to be some looking into what these rates need to be reimbursed at. That is not off the table for this group.

Group discussed how the day would be broken down for the people receiving services. This could lead to confusion and a lack of services being tracked accurately by staff. Group discussed that it would come down to individual need and would require knowing what services people are authorized to receive. Some of this work will require looking at what other states have done. Group member mentioned that when this is unbundled and there are separate codes for different services then each service will be tracked and billed individually.

Group member shared concern that there are limited licenses and rates that people depend on to stay in their homes and live as they want to/have been.

Group member described how there is angst around change and that there would be different levels of reimbursement and challenged the group to think differently and put the individual back in the center of the plan. For example, Person A needs higher support, the rate would be higher no matter what service is provided. This has potential to be a quicker way to categorize things and if we continue to tie rates to service types we will continue to see what we are seeing from providers. If we shift rate from service to what the individual requires it could be beneficial.

Group member stated that when there is a good mechanism for providers to get paid for the service they are providing it helps build capacity and incentivize providing the service.

Group member outlined that self-directed day service is a good thing. Something else to consider is to think about the purpose of day services. Sometimes “day service” doesn’t happen during the “day,” and when that word is in there it stifles some of the innovation and options. We are limiting when we think of it as “day” only.

Group member stated that consistent transportation and funding is important to fully supporting persons-served in their goals. Having adequate funding to support these goals and this work is essential.

## **Discussion**

What other resources does this group need access to in order to do this work?

- Descriptions of the different waiver services that are offered in different states. Brooke DeNegri has begun this work.
- Current utilization of each of day and supported employment services.
- Identifying what core programs day providers in other states are offering.
- A way to identify individuals who aren’t in the supported employment group but do need check-ins.
  - Does this need to be broken into a second service? What is priority in development of a new service?
    - Community access happens under “day” and OH, WI, and TN refer to this in some ways.

Individualized rate setting (topic raised by group during discussion)

- There is a trend in Johnson County that the PCSP has become a reflection of the BASIS instead of the wants and needs of the person. Having a more dynamic PCSP that reflects wants, needs, and desires is a good start to addressing this.
- Rates that don’t reflect the level of care needed makes it difficult for the provider to hire and support people the way they need to. A possible solution is setting individual rates for the person based on their needs.
- Moving to a member-based rate structure vs. code-based structure, how does KDADS go about setting rates for the members on the waiver?
  - Could be a base rate for the service to a tier 3 level person. Then it is added to when persons-served needs are higher.
- Have heard that Arizona allows the provider to negotiate the rate with the payor. This is not necessarily a suggestion as it sounds very difficult.
- It might be easiest that BASIS determines your getting services but that if you require 24/7 you might get an increased rate. The tier system has issues.

What are the employment services, or service outcomes, that will be essential to Kansans on the IDD Waiver?

- Figure out a way to incentivize employment for those with more significant disabilities.
- Medical exceptions should be re-visited. Some conditions last forever and looking at improving this policy could be helpful for many people.
- We can't forget customized employment piece for medically fragile, higher needs populations.
- TN has listed their community integration support services. Would cover employed and non-employed.
- Make sure we recall what community integration means. "Non-agency-based community integration."
- Supported employment/small group settings.
- The only thing missing from the other states are options for retired aged folks. Kansas might have some of these providers.

What are the non-employment services that will be essential to Kansans on the IDD waiver?

- As we know many people who are competitively employed are not employed full time. So, we need an option to bill for their day in parts that reflect their day.
- There is a need for a hub that outlines accessible restrooms in the community and other community supports.
- Does CMS have priorities that we should consider?
  - Final Rule and reducing reverse integration.
  - Not everyone has a full grasp of what options are available to them.
- Regarding Community integration, are the limited opportunities available FOR integration. Events do not often happen during traditional day service hours; Smaller towns are limited as to what is available. Not all are able to go to Wichita, or Topeka.

## Closing Questions

What would make our next meeting a success?

- Agree on four areas of service
- Map out what we want the services to look like
- Have a list of potential activities to consider
- Mapping out categories
- Exploring individuals working at, and starting, small businesses for individuals and how that can be supported
- What we want services to accomplish, what areas they are in, and what the services are would make a successful next meeting
- Providers in general will get anxious about this discussion but reminding people what is billable. Make it clear in the definitions that you bill the times that are billable
- Discussing the barriers to community integration is a valuable conversation to have for individuals with differing needs

- The state will work on pulling together utilization data, but we need to know what is needed
  - How many are using day
  - How many are using supported employment
  - Goal is to give us a starting place
  - Are there providers providing a la carte services and doing self-pay would be useful data

## **Wrap Up**

- Seth will pull together utilization data before next meeting
- Brooke will send information to Cy and Cy/Zane will disseminate that information to the group
- Next meeting: What we want services to accomplish, what areas they are in, and what the services are would make a successful next meeting
- Zane will send a Doodle Poll after this meeting for end of July.