

SB147 Assisted Living Rate Group
July 18, 2018
Drifters, Ft. Pierre, SD

Present: Gloria Pearson, Amanda Van Balen, Rhona Snyder, Laura Wilson, Brett Hoffman, Denice Houlette, Darin Ries, Michelle Hudecek, Katie Nagle, Paula Cape, Misty Black Bear, Jeremy Schultes, Steve Dueis, Roberta Hindberg, Heather Krzmarzick (via phone).

Gloria Pearson welcomed the group to the second meeting and expressed appreciation for their willingness to participate.

Misty Black Bear provided an overview of the **Home and Community Based Options and Person-Centered Excellence (HOPE) Waiver**, describing the basic premise of a 1915 (c) waiver, the benefits and eligibility requirements and the services included. There were no questions on the first part of the presentation. Following, Misty covered the new services added in the recently approved HOPE waiver amendment, including Community Transition Supports, Community Transition Coordination, Community Living Service and Structured Family Caregiving Service. There was brief conversation regarding the differences in the Community Living and Structured Family Caregiving Services and circumstances which might be ideal for this type of residential living. There was also discussion regarding the method of payment system and the enrollment of Medicaid providers to submit billing to Medicaid for the service. Misty shared that the Department is actively recruiting providers for these services and invited providers to participate in the webinar being presented by Senior Link regarding Structured Family Caregiving. The waiver amendment for the new services is effective August 1, 2018. Brett Hoffman offered to distribute information regarding provider enrollment through South Dakota Health Care Association (SDHCA).

Michelle Hudecek presented information on how the Community Health Assessment (CHA) was used to determine rate tiers for the Community Living Home and Structured Family Caregiving models. The questions asked during the assessment process help to calculate a score, which can be used to delegate assessments into tiers of payment. This is an option that could be used in a similar fashion for Assisted Livings. Michelle pointed out one area of potential interest to consider for Assisted Living providers may be Incontinence issues for individuals. There were no questions about the assessment; there was some discussion regarding rate tiering. Steve Dueis shared that he had contacted a facility in Minnesota that calculates payment based on services completed for the individual and shared a copy of the Care Fee Structure tool for group consideration.

The members broke into small groups with the task of considering other points which should be considered in the rate methodology. There was good discussion before the group reported out on their group discussions.

Factors to consider include Cognition, Nursing time (medications and physician orders), Special dietary needs, oxygen use, level of assistance needed for activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living, as well as assistance with transportation to medical appointments. Department staff will

consider these recommendations and evaluate how many of them might already be captured in the CHA and how they could be converted to a tool similar to the Minnesota document.

Darin Ries and Amanda Van Balen then presented information on the Assisted Living Cost Reports. There was some discussion about the history of the Assisted Living rates and the decision to use 50% of the nursing home rate until cost report data could be gathered for Assisted Livings. There was a suggestion to make the assisted living center rates more individualized like nursing homes, but it was explained there isn't enough historical data to accomplish that at this point. A question was asked of what we were trying to accomplish – set the rate methodology or set the rate? It was reiterated that the actual rates depend on approved budget authority. The goal of this workgroup is to establish a good methodology which considers all relevant factors.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 23 at Drifters.