



Waiver Reimagine Advisory Committee

Meeting 14: April 25, 2024

Live captions: <https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=WRAC>

Welcome!

Facilitator Lea

Agenda

Agenda	Time (total time: 2 hours)
Welcome/Agenda/Meeting practices	10 minutes
February meeting recap	10 minutes
Today's Meeting objectives	5 minutes
Implementation Timeline Update	15 minutes
Legislative Hearing on Waiver Reimagine	5 minutes
WRAC Member Input	65 minutes
Wrap-up and future meeting information	10 minutes

Meeting practices

- When speaking, re-introduce yourself (and who you represent)
- Speak slowly so the captioner can accurately capture what you share
- Stay present giving your full attention to this discussion; let us know via chat if you need to leave the discussion and when you are back
- Please stay focused on the agenda item being discussed (Jot out note for reference later) (chat guidance)
- Share your main thoughts/key points early when speaking
- All members have the right to share their ideas and all ideas are valuable
- Be respectful of other participants - including privacy (avoid sharing private details)

Meeting practices (continued)

- Listen to other members and DHS with an open mind
- Focus on the issue, not the person giving feedback
- Assume positive intent – embracing a mindset that will lead to something good
- Advocate for all, not individual situations - stories are shared to inform the policy
- Summarize what you heard to ensure understanding before reacting to another's comment
- Please be mindful of the distracting nature of chat messages to both presenters and other members and use chat to add to the conversation when you are unable to directly share your thoughts.
- Time has been allotted throughout the meeting for questions and discussion

February Recap

Reviewed residential habilitation requirement to explore option to keep or remove the requirement in the two-waiver structure.

- Summary of input on removal of requirement:
 - Can enhance informed choice and person-centeredness
 - Remove barriers to access services
 - Minimize biases and stigmas through program design
- Summary of input on keeping requirement
 - Provides accountability for meeting planned needs
 - Promotes opportunities to explore options a person may not have previously considered
- Next steps
 - Prepare additional public input opportunities (e.g., survey) prior to making a final policy recommendation.

Updates on Previous WRAC Input

WRAC input	Next steps/outcomes
Recommended names for two waivers	Waiver Reimagine leadership discussion on next steps
Recommended services under two waivers	Other stakeholder conversations will add to DHS's process with CMS
Recommended budget exception types	Refining exception types internally and drafting process for WRAC review in early 2024
Case Management Qualifications and Requirements	WRAC recommendations will be included in final policy development.
Habilitation Requirement input	Prepare additional public input opportunities (e.g., survey) prior to making a final policy recommendation..

Today's Meeting Objectives

- To provide information on:
 - *Implementation Update*
 - *Legislative Hearing*
- To receive member feedback

Waiver Reimagine Implementation Timeline Update

- DHS is currently reconsidering the timelines for waiver reimagine implementation, taking into account the delay of MnCHOICES full implementation and concerns we have heard from community members about the waiver reimagine project.
- Current implementation date: January 2026
- DHS will take sufficient time to **recalibrate the individual budgets based on updated assessment information** and rates that have changed since the individual budget framework was created in 2019

12 months of MnCHOICES assessment data + 18 months to recalibrate

- Additional time to hear from community members

Waiver Reimagine Legislative Hearing Update

- Hearing held on Monday, March 18th at 3:00pm
- Link to hearing details <https://www.senate.mn/schedule/individual/18504/20240318>

Implementation Timeline

- Questions on the Implementation Update?
- Any feedback on the implementation update?

Survey Responses - Program Simplification Topics

Process related

- Cross-county moving & process changes
- Available providers for waived services
- Work services
- Who to contact for specific issues
- Making it simpler to change case management agencies with a third party.
- Discuss the appeal process: how to find guidance in making a decision to do or not, what the process involves etc. perhaps those who have done so can give examples?

Budget related

- How higher budgets going to for-profit congregate care facilities is not going to encourage institutionalization?
- Clear explanation to program participants as to how services budgets are calculated.

More general

- How were stakeholders engaged in the design of processes/procedures?
- For whom has this process been simplified?

Previous member input - future discussion topics

- Review past meetings and decisions
- MnCHOICES & Its impacts on Waiver Reimagine
- Self-Direction & Consumer-Directed Community Supports (CDCS)
- The plan to transition between waivers
- Specific impacts on clients if we do not decide on certain issues in programs, process, and planning to better understand the needs to determine better outcomes that need progress.
- How to ensure that waiver recipients are able to receive their needed services and to better inform those receiving disability services about community organizations and programs.
- Please include stakeholders in setting agendas. We are capable of more than providing feedback on DHS's selected topics (which are often not a priority for stakeholders.)
- Discussion about budgeting differences between the two waivers: discuss the change of traditional waivers which currently do not have set budgets to a model of all participants having a set budget.
- Exceptions should be discussed further especially given the financial state of current waived services and already being over state budgets, using surplus etc.
- Unused waived dollars going back into the waiver budget rather than being out into the general fund as this would help offset the need for using other money such as surplus tax money.

Member Input - Future WRAC Topics/Process

- • P U WT T P
- • T W W W

Upcoming Survey

- Upcoming Survey to be sent out to larger community
- Please share survey
- Will also be using that feedback along with other community engagement and WRAC feedback to inform the WR work.

Thank You!

Waiver.reimagine@state.mn.us

Reminders and future meeting

- Future meetings:
 - Thursday, June 27, 2024
 - Thursday, August 22, 2024