

SELF-DIRECTION DELIVERED



LIFEWAYS COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SELF-DIRECTED SERVICES NEWSLETTER

March 2021

Special Edition!

What's New?

We would like to take time in this Special Edition Newsletter to introduce the LifeWays Self-Determination/Self-Directed (Self-D) Advisory Committee.

A word from Melissa Callison Chair, LifeWays Self-D Advisory Committee:

Families and friends,

I am reaching out to you today as the Chair of the newly-created LifeWays Self-Determination/Self-Directed (Self-D) Advisory Committee. Our mission is to promote the awareness and knowledge of Self-D Services in Jackson and Hillsdale counties. Our objectives are to: provide guidance to individuals, families and advocates of those receiving or interested in receiving Self-D services; provide a forum to connect recipients with available services; promote education of Self-D knowledge for all involved in delivering Self-D supports; and provide a platform for timely communication of information.

It would great to have a member of your organization be a part our committee. We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month at 1:00 PM.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions concerning this request. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Melissa Callison

Chair, LifeWays Self-D Advisory Committee

Melissa.Callison@LifeWaysCMH.org

(517) 392-1004

Please see Attached for Guardian Self-D Checklist



*Just when the caterpillar
thought the world was ending,
he turned into a butterfly.*

~Proverb~

Your Self-Directed Services Coordinator

Stephanie Justice

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Helpful Tips

Home Help Services for Minor Children

When providing for minor children, personal care services must be shown to be a necessary supplement to usual parental care, justified by the high service needs of the family. High service needs are those which arise from a physical, medical, emotional, or mental impairment of the minor child and which require significantly higher levels of intervention than those required by a child of the same age without similar impairments.

Children typically have responsible relatives (parents/adoptive parents) able and available to provide for their care needs. When responsible relatives are unable due to a medical condition, or unavailable due to employment or school, they can hire a caregiver to perform the activities of daily living, medication administration and meal preparation required during the parent's absence. Parents cannot be the paid caregiver for their minor children.

A medical needs form must provide verification the responsible relative is unable to provide care due to a medical condition. If the responsible relative is unavailable due to employment or school, they must provide a work or school schedule to verify they are unavailable to provide care.

The adult services worker must not authorize approval for tasks that can be completed by the responsible relative during the time they are available.

For any questions or comments please feel free to reach out to your Case Manager to assist in the MDHHS application process.

Direct Care Worker continued wage passthrough

The current direct support professional pay was increased to \$2.25 per hour for premium pay and has been extended effective from 3/1/2021 through 9/30/2021.

As a reminder, this premium is paid as an additional dollar amount separate from the primary wages. It is indicated on a separate line from the wages on the paychecks

The maximum hourly wage varies from person to person based on how the employer chooses to use the budget. There may have been some maximum hourly rates that were increased to account for the increase in the LifeWays budget based on total reimbursement from unit claims. In those cases the maximum hourly may be reduced, however that does not mean that the staff will lose the \$2.00 rate. We also found some cases where the LifeWays budget was not properly accounting for the \$2.00 (.56 per unit). In most cases the current per unit rate is \$4.51 which is the rate used to build the maximum hourly. The per unit rate paid to CLN, which is used in the LifeWays budget, is \$5.07. This includes the additional funds needed to pay the supplemental \$2 premium. If you have further questions or believe there is an error in a premium payment or hourly maximum calculation, please reach out to Sam Brown at CLN. If you feel that that does not resolve the situation, please contact Conner Gibbons or Michael Cupp at LifeWays Contracts and Provider Network Management.

Conner Gibbons— conner.gibbons@lifewayscmh.org Phone: 517-796-4509

Michael Cupp— michael.cupp@lifewayscmh.org Phone: 517-789-1273

Sam Brown— sbrown@communityalliance.com Phone: 734-482-3300 ext. 205

Reminder

We understand that many staff have completed external trainings. For those trainings that are completed outside of Relias, Guardians please discuss with your staff and make a plan for these documents to be uploaded into Relias.

Example: First Aid trainings.

Our Mission

LifeWays Community Mental Health inspires hope and promotes life-enhancing recovery.

Our Vision

We envision a fully integrated healthcare network that supports individuals in our community to reach their full potential.

Our Values

Exceptional Service

We are dedicated to ensuring all customer interactions exceed expectations.

Innovation

We embrace a culture of continuous improvement.

Integrity

We demonstrate accountability and adherence to professional ethics.

Compassion

We are sensitive and caring to those around us.

Strategic Partnerships

We achieve success by partnering with agencies who share our commitment to improving the health of our community.

Person-Centered Care

We empower the people we serve to achieve their hopes, dreams, desires, and goals through treatment focused on their individual needs and preferences.