



Northeast Lifesharing Coalition Minutes—March 27, 2018

Mission: The Mission of the Pennsylvania Lifesharing Coalition is to promote, support and embrace the concept of *Lifesharing* and the philosophy of self-determination and everyday lives.

Facilitator: Joe Karpinskie

Agenda Builder: Alison Karnish

Note taker: Jen Tomaino

Question or topic	Outcome
Opening Round--Introductions	Refer to sign-in sheet attached.
ODP Updates – Tim Little, ODP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When is technical guide for service documentation going to be released? Tim shared Joan Accardi, working with policy/procedure workgroups. Hopes it will be out next couple of months. • ODP Memo 023-18 ISP Manuel – Update Lifesharing Codes released. • ODP Question & Answer Memo 028-18 released March 20th • What type of feedback is ODP looking for regarding 6500's and RCG (Regulatory Compliance Guide)? Joe recalled Ron Melusky, ODP, asking for feedback from licensing experiences with which provider agencies had disagreement/6500 regulation interpretation. Offering opportunity to provide input to be considered with development of the RCG. Comments can be forwarded to Jen/Alison who Chair/Co-Chair RCG workgroup (created from this years PATH). Tim asked to be copied on these comments when sent to Ron. • Room and Board for Lifesharing with Relative. Tim noted Ch. 51 R & B for Residential Services/Lifesharing is required. Provides a paper trail for Social Security. This was on the grid for PID (Policy Issues Discussion). Formal response from Ron pending discussion.
Everyday Lives Conference	<p>A few persons were in attendance. Feedback: No workshops/break-out sessions (neg). Closing speaker was great.</p> <p>Tim responded ODP is taking comments into consideration. He will share.</p>
Rate Changes	<p>Question re: rate change and if agencies have made rate adjustments. Joe reported increases; rate adjustments based on SIS Levels L1 70, L2 80, L3 100, L 4 130 for one-person homes. He noted when a second individual is in the home (lic. for 2) the rates reduced significantly.</p> <p>Question directed to Tim/ODP on how set rates for 1 vs 2-person homes. Tim could not speak to</p>

	<p>fiscal question – ODP Fiscal Director is Rick Smith. No one else offered rate adjustment information. There had been discussion at prior regional meeting re: how agencies come up with rates: based on LOC, set rate for Lic. & Unlic., SIS levels.... Methods varied.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question re: ODP’s expectations of provider agencies and new rates. Tim - Provider agencies are expected to increase payments to LSP/DSP’s. • SIS discussion: Ascend can respond to questions re: the assessor, the tool itself but questions re: The Score would be directed to ODP. <p>In a public forum it was shared by Rick, ODP, that there is an algorithm utilized to come up with the final SIS score. He was not able to share any additional information.</p> <p>HRC reported when SIS re-assessments were granted and completed initially (CLA) they appeared more accurate, but moving forward when Lifesharing was re-assessed, they have become more skewed. Due to inaccurate scores, rates are not based on SIS scores at this time. Back to seeking clarification on how they are being scored?</p> <p>Discussion re: SIS and initial communications that this assess. would never have anything to do with money. Provider agencies needing to reassess importance of accuracy of responders and assessors. Tim indicated Kenly Hoats is the ODP contact re: SIS.</p>
PA HCBS Residential Provider Self-Assessment	<p>Webinar 3/6, Public Comment ended 3/16, anticipated start 4/1 due 5/15. Alerted group to PA HCBS Self-assessment and anticipated release date. Webinar discussion stated the assessment was a one-time assessment. It was to be completed for Lifesharing sites, CPS, CLA, and Day Hab Services. One assessment per-site, not per person.</p>
Licensing & recent experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While looking for Key for new LII, Chris Hadley NE Region Lic., was contacted. he reported he believes new LII removed. We can use old. • Third inspector hired? Yes, Tim reported her name is Jackie and she worked in the SE Region. • Providers reported LS inspections seem to be occurring closer to original inspection dates. • No one had recent licensing experiences to share. • 1059 Form: Part of the Provider Qualification Process. Details re: form usage are located on the DHS/Provider Qualification Training.
Respite vs Substitute Care	<p>ODP Q & A Memo released 3/20. Brief discussion re: utilization of respite services. Reviewed some details – see memo.</p> <p>Joe offered existing law suit JEV’s, Philia. and LS Providers. Employee/Contractor.</p>
Conference Committee Update	<p>Alison, committee member, reported the 2018 conference is being held @ Seven Springs Resort in the Western part of the state. They have been meeting weekly for planning. Keynote speaker is identified as Kristin Mackey. Plan to return to Kalahari Resorts in NE PA for 2019 conference.</p>
State Coalition PATH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth Families as Lifesharers:

	<p>Joe who is on this committee shared they are in the process of developing a pre-service agreement to be provided with agency contracts to review with relatives that are interested in being providers. The agreement covers topics that may not be in contracts or would offer more detail than the contract re: regulations, IM, Rights... It will be shared with the coalition for review. Challenges/barriers to balance biological family relationship and contract requirements. How to best communicate/handle situations such as a late with an appointment, requirements for maintaining receipts etc.</p> <p>They are also looking at trainings, in addition to required trainings, that may help families to understand the needs of their adult family member in Lifesharing (i.e. Charting the Lifecourse). Tim was aware of one family in the NE Region. There was a home in the Chambersburg area but closed after a few months as the family caregiver did not anticipate the level of care etc.... entailed.</p> <p>Tim stated there was a provider who was licensing a home that was with relative. Lifesharing with relative in Unlic. however, expectation is same re: meeting regulations, ensure health and safety, and have oversight.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifesharing Expansion – No report on this committee progress. • Service definitions, ISP Manual, Chapter 6100's Regs/RCG (RCG info. discussed earlier in minutes).
Biological Families/Lifesharing?	Previously discussed above in PATH discussion above.
Picnic	<p>July 20, 2018 at Mauch Chunk Lake; balance of \$550.03 towards next year; Pathways has reserved the Agnes McCartney Pavilion. Alison provided save the date to be distributed to providers. Jen reviewed purpose of picnic is to celebrate our providers, families and consumers. Agency staff throw picnic for them, so they can come and enjoy. Need volunteers for Planning Committee.</p> <p>Committee will prepare: brochure, date saver, begging letter, photos and release, food, donations, activities & entertainment. Committee call to be scheduled.</p>
2018 Dates—State Dates (tentatively scheduled)	<p>April 19, 2018--State College – Ron Melusky ODP attending.</p> <p>June 21, 2018—State College</p> <p>August 16, 2018—Camp Hill</p> <p>October 15-16, 2018--Conference</p> <p>December 6, 2018—Camp Hill</p>
2018 Dates—NE Regional Dates	<p>May 8, 2018- CSG. 54 South Commerce Way, Bethlehem 18017</p> <p>July 20, 2018—Picnic—Mauch Chunk Lake Park—Agnes McCartney Pavilion 11 am-3 pm</p> <p>Sept. 11, 2018—Keystone, 3722 Lehigh St., Suite 403, Whitehall</p> <p>Nov 13, 2018-Step by Step, 744 Kidder St., Wilkes-Barre</p>
Next State Meeting	April 19 th @ State College Ramada Inn
Next Northeast Meeting	May 8 CSG CSG—54 South Commerce Way, Bethlehem PA 18071

Next NE Coalition meeting will be 5/8/18 at 12 pm (CSG—54 South Commerce Way, Bethlehem PA 18071).

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