



Pennsylvania State Lifesharing Coalition
Meeting Minutes
8/18/16

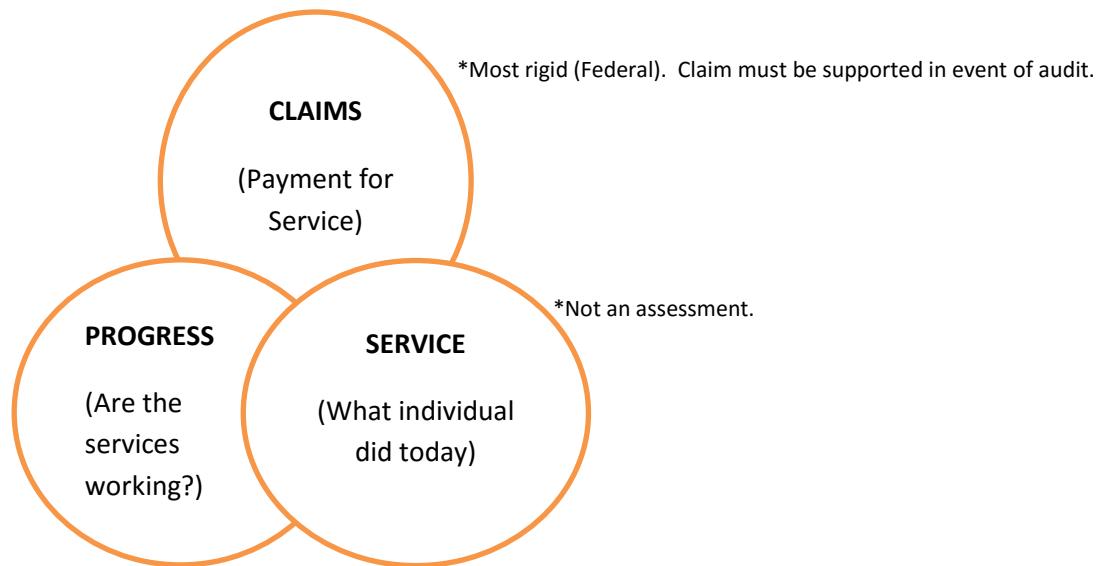
The mission of the Pennsylvania Lifesharing Coalition is to promote, support, and embrace the concept of Lifesharing and the philosophies of self-determination and everyday lives.

1. Ron Melusky-ODP & Focus group update

- **Questions for the regional leads:** *If you have questions, especially if it is situation-specific, please address with regional leads.*
- **SNAP benefits:** *Can Lifesharing individuals receive SNAP benefits? Ron is pushing for an answer for this with OIM, but it is currently on hold.*
- **Anticipated date of 6100 draft:** *Ron anticipates that a draft will come out in early October. 6100s will be tighter than Chapter 51s and have more internal consistency. **Ron emphasized that when this and any drafts come out, be sure to have comments and solutions in your response.***
- **ODP newsletter:** *This is currently on hold.*
- **WithFY 15-16 Lifesharing Start-Up Funds:** *Are funds available? Funds are still being evaluated for start-up. Continue to submit your request forms.*
- **RCG for Chapter 6500's:** *When will it be available for comment? This is on hold, as new Lifesharing service definition and 6100's are being developed for comment period in October.*
- **Individuals supported in Lifesharing:** *Can we have an official number of individuals who are supported in Lifesharing across the Commonwealth? Has there been an increase in Lifesharing numbers? There are approximately 1687 individuals in Lifesharing, which is an increase of about 154 individuals. Ron mentioned that Lifesharing has a higher rate of individuals in competitive employment and Coalition should highlight that in marketing.*
- **State Center initiative discussion:** *In June, Coalition sent a list of agencies who were interested in exploring possibility of Lifesharing with existing staff in state centers. Have point people been identified from each state center? What is the next step? There is no update on this. Vicki Stillman-Toomey is currently on vacation.*
- **Lifesharing's own service definition and change in waiver amendment:** *Will Lifesharing be open to relatives? Will comment period be open in October? Yes, Lifesharing will be open to relatives in some fashion. Watch for this in public comment. It is expected that the comment period will be in October. During comment period, be sure to ask clarifying questions as to what "relative" means. What does it include and **not** include? There is a new ISP manual coming out in September that reflects changes in waiver amendment. Waivers must be released by 7/17. 6100s will be in place **before** the waiver bulletin. Ron will try to obtain a timeline for us, provided one exists. 6100 documentation towards Outcomes will be for each billable unit. **WAIVER RENEWALS WILL ALSO BE OPEN TO INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM.** This has the capacity for growth in lifesharing numbers but competition may prohibit Lifesharing for individuals with IDD.*
- **Budget update related to expansion of Lifesharing**
- **ODP Rate Setting Changes for July 1, 2017 and Family Living through Lifesharing:**
We know that the residential group home rates are going to have a heavy emphasis on using the SIS scores. No one really knows how they will be used as of yet. What are Nancy and ODP thinking regarding Lifesharing rates? Not sure. From cost report to fee schedule, it won't be implemented until 1/2018 because there is so much

happening in ODP. Ron cautioned that if you hear something about 6400 rate setting, it probably won't apply to Lifesharing, so don't panic. On 8/29 there was a state-wide meeting with an announcement regarding this.

2. Ron provided unofficial Daily Documentation Guidelines: THESE ARE ONLY *RECOMMENDATIONS*. See Attachment.



Note: **Service:** Not documentation of an assessment. Used for Progress Notes.
Claims: Auditors have no programmatic experience. Claim must be supported in event of audit.
Progress Notes: Used for “bigger” picture over the long-term by Program Specialist. Determines to what extent services are working. Purpose is to minimize amount of overlap paperwork that providers do.

*****If there are documentation/tools that providers are currently using regarding daily documentation, please forward to Stephanie Brown at sbrown@kencrest.org. All tools will be forwarded to Ron. (regional agenda item)**

3. **Excellence in Lifesharing awards winners:** Award winners receive \$250 gift certificates. Winners' names will be engraved on our Excellence in LS awards plaque and announced at the LS conference banquet in October. *There were 26 nominations in all. Award winners from each region were selected. All of the nominations were worthy, and it was very difficult choosing winners.*

4. Update on Lifesharing Coalition PATH (Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope)

- **Social Media/Advancement Group update:** Still need stories, pictures, events, and outings for newsletter. Bring LS stories to regional meetings. Newsletter is pending. Selfie contest will be held again during Conference. Will provide feedback regarding updating LS brochure. Group has not had a phone conference since June. *Contest for new Coalition logo will be posted on Facebook and on LS Website. New logo will be unveiled at LS Conference. Award winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate.*
- **Training Group update:** SC training was updated and forwarded to leadership for review. SC training will be used as a Lifesharing training at Conference. Training Hub being worked on with Cody.
- **BHSL Work Group:** After your agency is licensed, continue to respond to the BHSL survey. BHSL licensing questions were forwarded to Sheila Page and Jim Richards. *Sheila and Jim graciously answered our Chapter 6500 BHSL questions. Unofficial answers to Chapter 6500 BHSL questions will be emailed to the Coalition.*

5. Lifesharing Conference Update:

- 4th Annual Lifesharing Conference on October 17 & 18 at Blair County Convention Center
- Keynote speaker: Andrew Steed
- Theme: Dancing through life...sharing lives. Focus will be supporting people through all phases of their lives.
- Session topics have been finalized
- Brochure is being finalized
- Regional Basket Donations are being requested for give away at the Conference. Please do not include agency labeled items. *Regional items should be collected in September. (regional agenda item).*

6. **Conferences:**

ODP Everyday Lives Conference, Wed. Sept 14 – Fri. Sept. 16 at Hershey Lodge, watch for details

PAR Conference: LEAD. Inspire. Act. October 24, 25, 26 (post conference 26th). Hilton Harrisburg

7. **RCPA Hires Steve Suroviec as COO and Director of IDD Division**

RCPA announced the hiring of Steve Suroviec as Chief Operating Officer (COO) and director of the Division of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

8. **Budget has passed for FY 2016-17**

9. **PM16-080:** *We Are Worth It* regional award nominations at PAR Solutions Conference. Recognize exceptional leaders. Email Victoria Tadros at victoria@par.net.

10. **PM16-079:** PAR Conference-Sponsorship and Exhibitor opportunities are open. Email Victoria Tadros at victoria@par.net.

11. **October official Lifesharing month:** Coalition reached out to State Representative Tom Murt to continue with the annual Lifesharing proclamation, declaring October as official Lifesharing month in Pennsylvania. ***During the month of October, please be sure to celebrate Lifesharing in your agencies, SCOs, and AEs. Be sure to celebrate Lifesharing in your agencies and organizations. (regional agenda item)***

13. **Coalition Member Updates:** Jamie Walker has secured another position and Maggie Rothenberger has been promoted at KenCrest, so their new duties do not permit them to remain members of the Lifesharing Coalition. The Coalition thanks them for their many combined years of dedication and service to the Lifesharing community. Both of these women can be credited with the institution of the annual Lifesharing Conference and contributions to numerous committees, focus groups and trainings. We thank them for their leadership, advocacy and guidance and wish them well.

14. **Regional updates:** Next meetings are scheduled as follows:

Central	9/14 at Skills
SE	9/13 at KenCrest Services
Western	9/15 at Emlenton Truck Stop
NE	9/20 at HRC

15. **Next Coalition meeting:** December 8th at Giant Community Center. Hosted by SE region. Training to be determined at a later date.