LIFE PATTERNS

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Deadline for filing Taxes

Tax Day for 2023 tax year is April 15th, 2024.

If you need your W2 resent, you have until April 12th to request it.



Office Closed May 27th, 2024 In observance of Memorial Day

Life Patterns Lowdown

Planning for Summer!

Change in hours

Some members may have received an increase in hours for the summer months if the member still attends school or has an Integrated Educational Plan (IEP). Any member may refer to their ISP for this information or call our office. We are happy to help you understand your services.

Workers

If you plan on hiring a worker that has worked in the past, they may need to re-clear the background checks prior to being able to work. Call our office and we can check on the background check status for any returning workers. If you are hiring new workers for the summer, they need to complete a hire packet and return it to our office. The hire packet can be found on our website at www.lifepatternsks.org.

Background Checks

This is a reminder that all background checks must be reran every two years for all workers under Home community Based Program (HCBS) for all waivers.

Two years from the date of hire, Life Patterns Inc. will remail out the background check forms for worker to complete, sign and return to our office for processing.

Failure to return the completed forms by the due date listed on the attached letter will result in deactivation of the worker ID. The worker is out of compliance with state law and would need to re-clear all background checks before they can start working again. There is no back pay in this case.

The AuthentiCare Service Prompt Saga

As you and your workers surely have noticed, there have been a few disruptive updates in the recent months to the AuthentiCare IVR (call-in) system. While Life Patterns does try to maintain excellent communication with our contacts at AuthentiCare, we are not always warned about changes made to the system, and are therefore unable to warn all of you.

To ensure you and your workers are clocking in for the correct service, we strongly encourage you to listen carefully to the services listed when clocking in. The service will always be listed with the waiver first, then the specific service listed after. The system currently lists all the waivers with all the services with what the member is authorized for listed first. If you do not hear the correct waiver listed first, you must listen and wait for the correct waiver; then the correct service will be listed after that.

You may have also heard it ask for an "Observation Code." On the IVR system, press "8" to bypass this. On the AuthentiCare phone app, you can just skip that step.

Fraud & Abuse

Medicaid Fraud

Fraud is a punishable crime and has to be reported to the Attorney General's Office. Life Patterns Inc. is a mandated reporter for fraud. Once reported to the AG Office, there will be an investigation, and if fraud is proven, Medicaid eligibility may be lost. Consequences can include arrest and prosecution, fines and jail time, civil damages and monetary penalties.

What is considered Medicaid Fraud?

- Clocking in and claiming hours that weren't worked.
- Clocking in and claiming hours under someone else's AuthentiCare ID number.
- Knowingly submitting false information.
- Double billing or being clocked in while the participant is in school, admitted to the hospital, or any type of facility.

Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation

Any vulnerable adult or child is protected from any type of abuse, neglect, or exploitation by the Kansas Dept of Children and Families (DCF). Staff who work for anyone considered vulnerable who are suspected of abuse, neglect, or exploitation can be investigated by DCF.

What is Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation?

Abuse—any act or failure to act that causes harm or injury. Examples are physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, isolation of an individual, or deprivation by a care taker of goods or services that are necessary.

Neglect– failure or omission of a caretaker or other person to provide goods and services that are necessary to ensure safety and well being.

Exploitation– wrongfully appropriating of a person's resources or to take advantage.

If abuse, neglect, or exploitation is suspected it should be reported to <u>Jon Gerdel at 785-273-7189</u>.