



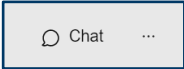
## Home Care & Assisted Living Advisory Council Meeting

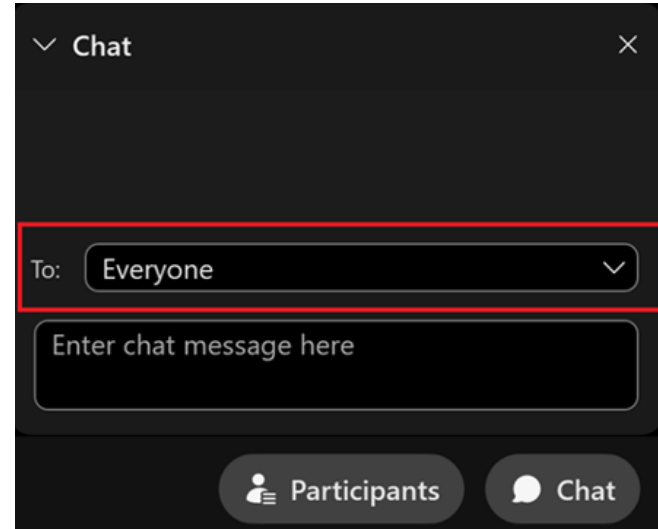
**May 15, 2023**

- Welcome and Housekeeping
- Social Connection Grant
- Other
  - Legislative Updates



# How to Ask a Question/Provide a Comment

- **Participants are muted.**
- **To ask a question** Click on the chat bubble  to open the chat, select Everyone, and ask a question or provide a comment. Messages sent privately may not be addressed due to logistics.
- **We will answer** as many questions as we can at the end of our time today.



# Social Connections Grant - overview

- Recommendation approved by Commissioner Malcolm in 2022
- Grants to be issued, up to \$5,000 per applicant
  - First applicants served being those not selected in 2021
- Total amount: \$250,000

July 14, 2022

From: Home Care & Assisted Living Provider Advisory Council  
To: Commissioner Jan Malcolm, Minnesota Department of Health

Dear Commissioner Malcolm,

Thank you for your approval in 2020 to use fine revenue from home care providers for grants to mitigate social isolation of vulnerable adults residing in home care provider settings. We are happy to report we found this grant process successful and will share more of that success below. Additionally, we would like to request to bring this idea back for a second round of grants.

On behalf of the Advisory Council, MDH successfully processed and encumbered 25 grant approvals to provide \$56,708.81 in grant funds for the benefit of vulnerable adults here in Minnesota. The Advisory Council solicited feedback from providers who were awarded grant funds, below are a few of the heartwarming comments on how these grants positively helped one or more residents:

- "These were a wonderful addition to our community! In particular, we have 1 resident whose daughter lives in Canada and wasn't able to come to USA due to Covid restrictions and they were able to facetime to see each other and talk. We also are able to take pictures and post to Facebook which help families and friends see their loved ones during activities."
- "The computer has helped the residents a lot. They used it to contact their families as well as their physicians. Residents seem very cheerful and their behavior improved a lot after they were able to talk to their loved ones. Residents were also able to talk to their psychiatrists via zoom using the computer."
- "... is a widow and does not get many visits from family during the week. I approached him and suggested we try this new equipment to contact his daughter. He was all for it and we set up a time...With the iPad on the stand and the wireless headphones on, we proceeded to contact his daughter with Facetime. As soon as she appeared on the large screen Karl had a big smile on his face and they began to visit. I left them to enjoy their time and returned to hear how it went. Karl said "oh boy, she is a sweetheart" and he doesn't get to see his daughter often enough. He told me the experience was "like having gold in his hand... It is a blessing to bring loved ones together with technology so they can connect more frequently. Thank you for providing this precious gift to our residents!"

As mentioned before, in 2019, with the passage of Session Law, Ch. 60, Art. 5, Sec. 2, subd. 3, fine revenue that had previously been deposited into the state government special revenue fund was transferred to a dedicated special revenue account within MDH to help implement recommendations of the Home Care & Assisted Living Advisory Council. The balance of the account totals more than \$1,900,000.

The Advisory Council would like to recommend per [\(144A.4799 subd. 3 \(c\)\)](#) to have second round of this grant process, with a few modifications on lessons learned from the first round. The Advisory Council would like to issue grants up to \$5,000 to providers (previously was \$2,500), with the first applicants to be served being those not selected in 2021, up to \$250,000 (previously was \$100,000).

# Social Connections Grant Review

- First come first serve – if the applicant scores full points
- Make sure language is clear, no confusion about the ask
  - Emphasize the budget – itemize anticipated budget.
- Make form/process electronic if possible

# Current Status of Social Connections Grant

- 35 grant applications have been approved by the Advisory Council (95 applications scored)
- \$140,699.53 of \$250,000 allotted for so far
- The applications selected are currently going through grant agreement process with MDH Legal
- Next steps are for MDH/Advisory Council to notify of selection and provide grant agreement

## Review Social Connection Grant process and applications



# Legislative Updates

- 2023 Session ends May 22 (next Tuesday)
- Home Care language has moved forward at this time
  - Better defines follow-up survey requirements
  - Further clarifies exit conferences
  - Includes notice that client may contact OOLTC upon termination of a service plan
- MDH's Assisted Living language did not move forward



# Assisted Living Updates Workgroup

- Workgroup began March 2023 with broad representation from stakeholders
- Focus on solutions (legislative, policy, other) to identify Assisted Living issues, main focus on small, residential providers with a capacity size of 5 or fewer residents
- First four subgroup topics: licensing, kitchen/food code, training, reimbursements
- Goal is to have recommendations by end of October 2023

- Other topics to discuss
  - What's next for the Advisory Council?
  - Other?
- Questions?



# Thank you!

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