

# Home Care and Assisted Living Program Advisory Council Minutes

MAY 13, 2024

## Attendees

### Council members:

- Genevieve Gaboriault
- Jarrod Peterson
- Anna Petersmeyer
- Samiira Isse
- Karen Web
- Andrea Strobel-Ayres
- Sue Boyd
- Michaun Shetler
- Patricia Fitzgibbon
- Megan Leech

### Minnesota Department of Health (MDH):

- Daphne Ponds

**Public:** Many attendees via conference call

## Agenda

- Introduction and Welcome to New Council Members
- Systemic Mapping – Tuberculosis and Individual Abuse Prevention Plan Regulations
- 2024 Council Recommendations to the Commissioner
- Adjourn

## Welcome

Daphne Ponds, chair to the Advisory Council, welcomed the Council Members. Council Members were unmuted and encouraged to speak freely while public attendees were muted to reduce distractions but were encouraged to place any comments or questions in the chat feature.

There are two new council members: Megan Leech, a past or current resident, and another new appointment expected in June.

## Systemic Mapping – Tuberculosis and Individual Abuse Prevention Plan Regulations

Daphne informed the audience about meetings held for collaborative safety.

## 2024 Council Recommendations to the Commissioner

The Council reviewed and discussed the 2024 Council Recommendations for Home Care and Assisted Living. Please see coinciding document to view the 2024 Council Recommendations Draft.

The council members discussed the first recommendation, Training and Administrative Portability, and the Council agrees this can be finalized.

Council Members discussed the recommendation of Creating Standardized Forms. The council members expressed concerns about timely updates to regulations potentially affecting the ability to keep a standardized form current. The creation of a base form to help maintain compliance was suggested. These standardized forms, which are optional for providers, would address common compliance issues, with the UDALSA form mentioned as an example. Another council member proposed a guide to ensure minimum requirements are met, while another member asked for clarity on what providers must use verbatim to avoid citations. One member suggested including standardized terminology in the forms and creating a checklist based on statutes. The council agreed to prioritize the Individual Abuse Prevention Evaluations and Plans (IAPP) form and discussed making it easier for providers to find existing forms. Another council member supported the idea of sample forms and suggested ranking them for better usability and based on priority.

The council members discussed the recommendation of Fingerprinting and NetStudy 2.0 Funding, questioning why BGS Net Study needs to be run multiple times. They suggested involving DHS NETStudy or MDH to provide more information on the system. It was mentioned that there have been instances where employees were not affiliated, and providers could show completed BGS during surveys. The council agreed to address this recommendation after reviewing legislative findings and identifying what was not addressed.

The council members discussed the recommendation of medication administration training for RNs, emphasizing that it should not be limited to just medication. It was noted that under 144G and 144A, RNs must ensure proper delegation and competency. One member asked if the MN Board of Nursing could provide a compliance tool as a reminder. Another member highlighted that it is the provider's responsibility to ensure nurses are compliant and staff are competent. Delegation was recognized as challenging, with suggestions to consider training for medication certification aides and certified nurse assistants. The cost of these programs was also mentioned as a consideration. The council agreed that this recommendation needs further investigation and discussion.

The Council discussed funding recommendations for egress windows and issues related to environmental concerns, emergency preparedness plans, smoke alarms, and fire safety. It was noted that the top correction order for providers is in egress window compliance, particularly affecting single-family homes in Hennepin County. The council considered compensating providers who had to address these issues and discussed various questions about citations, fines, and equitable solutions. It was suggested that fines could be waived or suspended if providers corrected the issues. Additionally, there was a concern about how to implement these changes equitably. The council agreed to recommend suspending fines while ensuring providers address the issues. They also discussed combining this with recommendations on environmental issues and fire safety. The council emphasized the need for better communication and outreach to providers, especially those not affiliated with associations.

The council discussed recommendations for joint training between surveyors and providers, as well as training, toolkits, and FAQs for new providers. Council members support quarterly meetings and agree with a detailed outline provided by a member to help providers maintain their operations. Additionally, the council addressed tracking provider FAQs, emphasizing the need for a preventative approach.

## Adjourn

## Next Meeting

Monday, June 10, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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