

FROM: Tom McAlvanah
RE: OPWDD Call Notes

Hi all,

Yesterday (May 21, 2020) OPWDD held its briefing with the stakeholder group.

Here are some of the highlights:

Data: as of 5/21, OPWDD has recorded 2,611 positive COVID -19 cases statewide. 2,148 were people living in congregated care facilities. We also learned that 392 individuals with a positive COVID-19 diagnosis passed away. The demographic data reflects what has been seen previously including region, gender and co-morbidities. Discussion noted the somewhat positive trend, a slowing of diagnoses and deaths, but certainly more to do from here.

Fiscal Update: Kevin Valenchis reported that the January and April increases for the respective 100, 200 and 300 codes were being reviewed at DOB, the two-level review that is now the norm. He reported that DOB is supportive of this rate package, but still needs final sign off. Still....

The second report from Kevin brought out what we have been suspecting, the slow processing of the Retainer Day and Service Unit calculations. They are close, and Kevin believes it will be completed in the next few business days.

Lastly, Kevin's unit and DOH are reviewing the cases where an individual may be the recipient of some of the Federal stimulus actions, such as Unemployment benefits. Will it be counted as income? More to come on these cases.

Finally, there was a great deal of discussion and frustration about the lack of clarity for many in Self Direction. The time it takes for brokers and families to get budget adjustments by people in the Regional offices is not allowing for timely and needed response to this crisis. OPW promises to come back to the group.

Have a great Holiday weekend As best you can.

Stay safe,
Tom