

Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee (FCRRC)

October 5, 2022

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Nebraska State Office Building (Lower Level Lancaster Room)

301 Centennial Mall South

Lincoln, NE 68528

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Co-Chair, Felicia Nelsen, called the meeting of the Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee (FCRRC) to order at 1:04 p.m., and asked Adam Anderson to call roll and attendees to introduce themselves.

II. Roll Call and Introductions

Committee Members present (7):

Phillip Burrell

Felicia Nelsen

Lisa Story

Jackie Meyer

Cindy Rudolph

Michelle Moline

Alisa Ryan

Committee Members absent (2):

Bobby Loud

Liz Lovejoy-Brown

Ex-Officio Members present (1):

Kari Rumbaugh

Ex-Officio Members absent (3):

Brenda Brooks

Remonte Green

Kathleen Stolz

A quorum was present.

Guests In Attendance (8):

Adam Anderson

Manuel Escamilla

Darcy Kramer

Kevin Bagley

Tawnya Hansen

Nanette Simmons

Trisha Behrens

Lori Harder

Theresa Goley

a. Notice of Publication

Recorder for the meeting, Adam Anderson, indicated that the notice of publication for this meeting was posted on the Nebraska Public Meeting and Nebraska Children's Commission website in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. The publication would be kept as a permanent attachment with the meeting minutes.

b. Announcement of the placement of Open Meetings Act information

A copy of the Open Meetings Act was available for public inspection and was located at the sign in table and on the Nebraska Children's Commission website.

III. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Lisa Story and seconded by Cindy Rudolph to approve the agenda as presented.

There was no further discussion. Roll Call vote as follows:

FOR (7):

Phillip Burrell
Jackie Meyer
Michelle Moline

Felicia Nelsen
Cindy Rudolph
Alisa Ryan

Lisa Story

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (2):

Bobby Loud

Liz Lovejoy-Brown

MOTION CARRIED

IV. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Jackie Meyer to approve the February 22, 2022 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Phillip Burrell. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

FOR (7):

Phillip Burrell
Jackie Meyer
Michelle Moline

Felicia Nelsen
Cindy Rudolph
Alisa Ryan

Lisa Story

AGAINST (0):

ABSTAINED (0):

ABSENT (2):

Bobby Loud

Liz Lovejoy-Brown

MOTION CARRIED

V. Co-Chair Report

Co-Chair Nelsen noted new members have been appointed to the Committee and Michele Moline has agreed to and been appointed as Co-Chair. She stressed the importance of representation from all required areas. Nelsen reminded the Committee what work has been done recently.

VI. Membership Update

Adam Anderson shared a membership update. Anderson noted a number of departures from Department of Health and Human Services. He noted that he reached out to Stephanie Beasley earlier in the week for recommendations to fill the vacancies. He added that membership vacancies include representative with a child welfare agency that contracts with Southeast Service Area of DHHS. Anderson noted that he will share a list of vacancies with the Committee.

VII. 2024 Report Topics & Timeline

Co-Chair Nelsen noted that the Committee worked very hard during the year prior to the report submission in 2020 and that in the upcoming year that will be necessary again. Adam Anderson will send out invites and

reminders for the workgroup membership and meetings. Co-Chair Nelsen tabled this agenda item until the next FCRRRC meeting. Adam Anderson noted that the report is due to legislature July 1, 2024.

VIII. CFS Tiered Level & Rate Increase Update

Nannette Simmons shared that the tiers and rate increase went into effect on October 1, 2022. She noted that seven agencies responded to the Request for Quote. Simmons continued, noting that not all homes will provide the fourth and fifth level of care, and that agencies will notify DHHS of homes that are participating. Simmons shared that she has received questions regarding Letters of Agreement (LOAs). She relayed to the Committee that the expanded tiers won't resolve all the LOAs. Simmons will share a link to the website with the rates listed, the agencies that responded to the RFQ, and a copy of the NCR. Simmons noted that not all agencies applied for the expanded tiers, but kids won't be moved specifically because an agency did not apply for the higher levels of care. She added that if a child changes placement another conversation would be had regarding the LOA. The application is open until March of 2023. She welcomed feedback about things that are working or not as DHHS moves forward.

Simmons shared that the Children Need Amazing Parents (CHAMPS) program will be getting started again soon to work on recruitment efforts. Members discussed placements and how the changes to the Nebraska Caregiver Responsibilities (NCR) affect availability. Lori Harder noted the potential to provide services to support agencies. Members asked about the specific hourly training requirements and the methodology for coming up with that determination.

Kari Rumbaugh shared information regarding the use of Professional Foster Care by Probation. She added that Probation is evaluating the newly implemented NCR tiers and how those tiers fit in the way Probation utilizes foster care. Rumbaugh shared information regarding current waitlists for PRTF and therapeutic services across the state. She shared information regarding Probation's Emergency Foster Care.

IX. Medicaid Update on Treatment Family Care

Medicaid Director Kevin Bagley shared information regarding the Treatment Family Care (TFC) program. He discussed the recent [report](#) that was shared with the Committee. He shared research found from other states. He shared examples from Oregon, Texas, and Nevada. Bagley noted that Medicaid Waiver programs allow for youth that meet the level of Disabilities Waiver are then eligible for additional services. Bagley discussed the need for a standardized tool to determine the level of care and clearly state that a kids' needs make them eligible for the program. After the need for a tool for determining level of care, Director Bagley noted a tool is needed to determine what services are needed. The final step, Director Bagley shared, is to determine the rates at which providers will be paid to provide those services. Bagley shared that he believes the program is scalable with time. He noted that Medicaid will be engaging stakeholders for further discussions. He asked the group for feedback and ways for going about engaging stakeholders. Bagley also shared his goal of improving communication pathways and noted an email address to communicate concerns: DHHS.MLTCEXperience@nebraska.gov. He hoped that with data from these communications issues can be addressed quicker.

X. New Business

There was no new business.

XI. Public Comment

Co-Chair Nelsen opened the floor to public comment. There was no public comment.

XII. Upcoming Meetings

- a. January 10, 2023
- b. March 7, 2023
- c. June 6, 2023

d. September 12, 2023

XIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

DRAFT