**HCPF Update on HCBS ARPA Spending Plan**

October 14, 2021 10:30 p.m.

Zoom

Led by:

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**Wage Pass-through Reporting**

Providers:

Must demonstrate compliance with WPT rules 8.505 and 8.507

Must keep WPT related documentation for at least three years

Must keep Provider Portal contact information current

**New Federal Provider Relief Funding**

$25.5 billion for health care providers affected by the pandemic

Application period started 9/29/21

*Deadline 10/26/21 at 10: p.m MT*

**ARPA Funding Update**

**Project Start Updates**

Currently putting the framework in place for initial project launches

Prioritizing and setting up a phased rollout process for projects

**Targeted Rate Increase**

2.11% retroactive rate increase

April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022

Upcoming memo (no later than Friday) will outline services and billing information

Note: For July 1, 2021 to March 21, 2022, the 2.11% is applied on top of the 2.5% across the board increase that was approved by the JBC.

**$15/hr Workforce Base Wage Initiative**

All direct care staff must receive a base wage of $15/hr

Rate increase is to be used to get all direct care staff to this base wage

The wage pass through assumes care worker wages is at minimum wage. If an agency is already paying above minimum wage, then discretion is up to the agency on how to use extra money (more for wages, compression pay, benefits, admin costs, etc.)

*\*\*\*Agencies will be able to keep the difference between current wages and $15*

**Standardized Training**

Develop a standardized baseline curriculum is competency-based and adult-learner centered for homemakers and personal care workers

Use of this training would not be required but if used, would be transferable across employers

Additional modules will be developed to assist workers in specializing and advancing

The goal is to make the trainings free for workers and employers

Training fund: pool of funding that will be made available to individuals, employers, or training providers through an application process.

**Community First Choice (CFC)**

Will make services available to an expanded population

Includes mandatory services

States can choose additional services

Increases access to Consumer-Directed Service Delivery Models

Compliance with HCBS settings rule and CFCM is required prior to implementation

**New Tools & Technology**

**Eligibility Systems Improvements**

Bidirectional interface between CBMS and CCM system

Eliminate need for intermediary, PEAKPro

Identify other enhancements to CBMS, CCM and interchange

Train case managers and eligibility workers