

# Nursing Home Oversight Working Group Meeting Minutes

November 26, 2018

**Members:**

Monica Hutt  Pam Cota  Lindsay Gillette  Steve Monde  Sean Londergan  Laura Pelosi  Diane Novak  
 Judy Morton

**Staff:**  Camille George  Candace Morgan  Stuart Schurr  Liz Perreault, Rebecca Chalifoux, Will Eberle, Conor Kennedy, Kathleen Denette

**Members of the Public:**

**Invited Guests:** None

Topic	Discussion	Action
Review and approval of 10/31/18 and 11/09/18 minutes	After review of the October 31 minutes, Lindsay Gillette had previously asked that in the section of “Review and Finalize the Recommendations on the Transfer of Ownership Process”, first sentence, the word “decided” to be changed to “proposed”. This change was made in the October 31 minutes.	The October 31 minutes were approved with the word change.  The November 9 minutes were approved as written.
Ongoing monitoring of financial stability of nursing home: Final discussion of relevant data and process for emergency financial relief (section 1 & 2, page 2 of Act 125)	<p>The question, what data would allow for optimum ongoing monitoring of financial stability of a nursing home and should be included in the report to the legislature, was posed. It appears that anything that could indicate instability the State already receives from facilities.</p> <p>Some things that could be early indicators and prompt an investigative audit request from the Secretary of AHS would be hearing things through word of mouth, news articles and complaints from family and residents.</p> <p>Another tool in an early warning system of financial instability is when a CPA firm audits and has opinions that are concerning.</p> <p>In the last meeting the idea of notification of a change or loss in critical services was brought up and the reporting could go to Survey and Certification.</p> <p>The challenge is that there isn’t any one specific thing that causes a nursing home to be in financial distress. There are usually multiple factors.</p> <p>Once instability is identified, the Commissioner of DAIL could ask to meet with the owners and make recommendations to help avoid a closure. Some sources of support would be technical support from Survey and</p>	<p>Potential recommendations to include in report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request notification of property sales and transfers for knowledge only, not to approve</li> <li>• When a nursing home holds their financials out of state, request that they provide needed documentation and access to proper staff for a financial audit</li> <li>• A study of Medicaid rates and how they are established</li> </ul>

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Certification, Extraordinary Financial Relief and receivership.

Review case rate mix report and discuss rate setting rules regarding Medicaid reimbursements to nursing homes

In January 2018, DAIL and Rate Setting collaborated on a *Report on Nursing Facility Medicaid Rates and Case-Mix Scores*. This report has a lot of information that can be used in the NHOWG report to the legislature.

One recommendation in the report that could be included in the NHOWG recommendation is to lower the occupancy rate from 90% to 80% since the average occupancy is now 82%.

It is also imperative that the type of resident be considered when setting a rate. A person with significant cognitive impairment, aggression, dementia, Alzheimer's or any other complex issues require more staffing hours than the average resident and should have a higher rate.

Public Comment Summary

None

The next two meetings: December 7 and December 21, will be extended one half hour.

Next agenda topic: Licensing Proposal and Transfer of Ownership Proposal.

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