

Montana's Provider Rate Study – Why Participate as a Senior and Long-Term Care Services Participant?

Minutes

May 20, 2022

1:00 PM (MST) – 3:00 PM (MST)

1. Welcome

Jamin Barber welcomed attendees to the meeting, presented the agenda for the meeting, and began facilitating.

2. Background on Why the Rate Study is Happening

Guidehouse presented a background on the rate study.

3. How the Rate Study Impacts You

Guidehouse presented on “How the Rate Study Impacts You”

- Attendee: With CFC there is self-direct, but the member doesn't set the wage – its part of the fee schedule.
 - Attendee: My question: is the budget authority part changing too?
 - Attendee: That's tied only to the Bonanza options.
 - GH: Thank you for providing that clarification.

4. Participant Feedback

Guidehouse opened the floor for feedback from the audience.

- Attendee: I had a member on BSW recently bring up the idea of shifting caregiving from a “job” to a “career.” It could help recruit better workers and retain caregivers with an emphasis first on increasing wages but also merit raises, benefits, PTO.
 - GH: I agree with everything you said. There are lot of variables with this pipeline of the industry. Rates are a huge portion of that, but it's not the only one – just the one we are focusing on right now. The other variables that really have an impact on these career paths are a clear and realistic job preview to help them really understand the day-to-day tasks involved, implementing shadow programs so that when someone onboards, they

aren't surprised by the amount of work involved and have a better understanding of the necessary skills for the work. Additionally, training is a huge variable. When we can train people continuously, their work improves, their job can feel easier for them, there's a higher level of satisfaction. This is a really important consideration if we want to funnel more people into these service industries.

- Jackie: The public comment meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2022, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm MST. Please go to <https://ratestudy.mt.gov> to get the zoom information.

5. Answer Questions

Attendees did not share any further questions or comments.

Adjournment @ 3:00 PM (MST)

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