

11:04:00 And really we don't necessarily have an agenda for today.

11:04:04 Our goal is just to hear from our participants.

11:04:58 So I want to open us up by saying -- by just asking a question, how has the Corona virus or the VID pandemic im hearing from people -- we want to know how you're feeling and able to get grocery, or feeling loan LI or isolated and questions about staffing, questions about or comments about staying safe or issues with your group home?

11:05:04 Issues with special education services?

11:05:19 And so we really -- it's really just an open forum for people to tell us how they're being impacted or what you're experiencing.

11:05:33 >> : It's kind of hard for me as a disability person. I'm a peer mentor and getting trained and everything and we had to -- me and my friend's training, which is Laura.

11:05:34 >> : Hello.

11:05:52 >> : We live together and been hanging out lately and washing our hands and taking more showers and impacts us because we're so used to ripping and running. And not used to staying home and not doing nothing.

11:06:11 But I've learned that this COVID-19 is so serious that I don't go for walks half of the time. I stay home. If I do go for walks I come home and take showers. I will take three or four showers a day if I had to.

11:06:16 >> : How are you feeling about having to be home so much?

11:06:37 >> : My anxiety kicks in. I have to mainly stay with my roommate, my sister, just for my depression anxiety don't kick in. We're in four by four. So we can't really do nothing.

11:06:39 >> : Okay. Thank you for sharing.

11:06:43 >> : You're welcome.

11:06:43 >> :

11:06:49 >> : Someone is asking where is the raise hand button located?

11:07:17 >> : The raise hand button, if you click on participants at the bottom of your Zoom window should open a panel on the side and raise button if you would like to raise your hand or unmute or ask your question or add your comment. Please remember to be respectful of other people talking as well so we can try to get to everyone, thank you.

11:07:19 >> : Sorry. Go ahead.

11:07:20 >> : Go ahead.

11:07:22 >> : I like to comment.

11:08:11 >> : So as a service provider. I'm a licensed master of social worker and I work for a local center for independent living and I know as a person with a disability I had to really shift how it is that I'm providing support to respond to VID, you know, as a person with disability it's challenging for me to to provide support in a virtual format, but really at the same time focussing on making sure that people are safe and taking care of those basic unmet needs.

11:08:20 So I would say that it's been a shift for sure.

11:08:23 >> : Thank you for sharing.

11:08:48 >> : We do have a comment on Facebook as well. And that comment I am a mom of a young adult on the spectrum and her basic meets are be being meet and struggle with loneliness and unwanted STSH stay at home order has been challenging for her mental emotional help.

11:08:51 >> : We have some comments from Zoom.

11:09:02 >> : So far the impact is minimal. I'm enjoying the extended break but my adult son is starting to miss his friend.

11:09:16 >> : So far I have adjusted and at my parents house in Ypsilanti and not comfortable with reopening the economy until there is a vaccine that actually works.

11:09:30 >> : We have from Sandra does anybody have Info for adding payments since they were left out.

11:09:31 >> :

11:09:57 >> : I think right now we were on a call, some of our meeting Council staff was on a call yesterday and at this time the current bill that is being -- that is moving doesn't include that, but we RR assure ed that the disability advocates in Washington D. C. are still fighting for a fix for that.

11:10:18 If you go to the Social Security administration website there is more information about that. But at this time there isn't a fix for that.

11:10:54 >> : I'm concern about my son that he is 33 years old and has CLS and also very immune suppress and has numerous too often to mention BOUNTs with ammonia and I don't think he is going the sack VEEN State's Exhibit how are .

11:10:57 >> : We're trying our best, but I don't know.

11:11:10 >> : Does anybody know have any input about if they're going to let their children or someone with a disability go out again?

11:11:11 >> :

11:11:22 >> : We've got almost a hundred people on. So we will see if someone has a responds.

11:11:24 >> : Hello.

11:11:26 >> : Can you guys hear me.

11:11:27 >> : Okay.

11:11:28 >> : Okay.

11:11:38 >> : So I work for Life Span. I don't know how many of you are particular with Life span. We're out of Jackson.

11:12:14 I am actually the Respa house manager. So I know for you parents, guardians, that aren't getting services right now this is a very crucial and extremely difficult time. It can on our end, we're still kind of waiting in limbo to see on the first how we're going to continue with services. I know that CLS is also working on how they can reach out and help any of our people that are struggle right now.

11:12:28 We do have some staff in our company that are calling and doing like weekly check in to make sure that you guys have, you know, food, toilet paper. The necessity.

11:12:45 One of my co-workers has taken upon herself to do drop offs like puzzles or playdoh. Stuff to keep minds busy and going door to door and dropping off.

11:12:48 I'm not sure where everyone is from.

11:13:17 But the people that are car caring for our people and trying to come up with ideas and things we can do to help you guys and we know it's a crazy struggle. My home services usually like 55 people on a weekly basis and we are down to three. We have two that come every day. Because there is nothing else for them. They don't have school, they don't have the ABA therapy. No SLS.

11:13:32 So I just warrant you guys to know -- -- you're not in this alone and sometimes it feels like it and we're all quarantine and are other people fighting the same battle.

11:13:47 I'm willing to help in any possible way even if it's to talk to you on the phone or do a Zoom meeting.

Anything that will help any of you to get this through this and especially being stuck at home or if you need ideas.

11:13:52 I'm very hope to helping and helping you guys figure that out.

11:13:57 >> : Thank you.

11:14:45 >> : With Tori's comment I wanted to say as well. I'm from the Ann Arbor CIL and we provide support services to Washtenaw, Livingston and Monroe counties and also CIL aKROS the state that are providing services even if though the office building are physically close. We can provide that one to one support to families via phones e-mail and video conferencing as well as we're offering some regular visit CHUL programming as people are available to participate. To offer some peer support.

11:14:46 And so.

11:14:48 Activities to keep people busy.

11:14:51 Feel free to reach out.

11:14:55 >> : Thank you.

11:14:57 >> : I have a question.

11:15:01 >> : I work for a non.

11:15:35 Profit and I work for IDD adults out of Wayne county and we are still an essentially workers. So we do get to go into our office a couple of days a week. And I work with the direct a lot of the partners or guard yens of the POA are worried because after this happens their afraid the direct care workers are not going to come back because on unemployment for the next six month and getting a lot more than what they are.

11:15:59 Is there going to be a provision once the stay at home goes away? Not going to be able to get the unemployment. A lot of the parents are calling me and saying they are frantic because they're not going to be able to have anybody come to work for them that has come to work and making a lot more money than they were making.

11:16:04 Not sure who I would ask that about.

11:16:05 >> :

11:16:09 >> : Have a hard time understanding what is being said.

11:16:35 >> : I'm not sure as far as as all of the other company. I know our company had a big lay off. My part of the company is one of the only ones that is still up and running, because we are a crisis prevention center, but I do know, that our company, we are doing everything in our power actually to try to get majority of our staff back.

11:17:01 So how I was saying we are reaching out to parents and calling and you know doing Zoom meeting and part of

bringing part of the staff back. I know they had a meeting yesterday and coming up with some idea of what else they could do to come back, so a lot of our staff, our eager to come back even though they are making a lot on unemployment.

11:17:23 A lot of them, are like you guys. They are at home. Stir crazy. A lot of them have kids. I have kids. We're read decide to be back and get back to work and help you guys and know that you guys are struggle. One good thing about our company we love what we do and missing that a lot right now.

11:17:30 So we miss our people and who we work with and reaching out and helping them on a daily basis so much.

11:17:43 It literally feels like you're missing part of yourself. As far as people coming back to work -- as far as our company I really don't feel you have to worry about that.

11:18:16 >> : Okay. Thank you. We have 180 direct care workers and probably 60 are only left working and help ing. The others are on lay offs because of the COVID-19 virus and a lot of the parents like I said when they call them we might stay home for the four months and some of them work for two or three people and I believe getting paid two or three people the extra money and looking at it in that instance and that is where I was.

11:18:30 Worried get ing all of these people back to work to help our individuals that need the help. And I am in contact with them every day and say to them hopefully they come back.

11:19:02 >> : I completely understand. I don't think that will be as much as an issue as you think it will be. I can't speak for everyone, but I know with our company our CEO is literally on a daily basis busting her butt trying to figure out how we can bring our staff back and what we can do to help our staff that are struggle and the parents, because they don't have any of the services. We are completely aware of that. That is why I said.

11:19:12 Feel free to reach out, you guys, I literally, I will help in any way that I possibly can if I can't I will reach out and find you help somewhere else.

11:19:18 >> : We have a couple of hands up. CAT REEN has a question.

11:19:19 >> : Thank you.

11:19:26 >> : Tedra, for doing this. Zoom. It's a wonderful way to stay connection.

11:19:37 I want to comment about employees and whether or not they are going to be there when the COVID situation becomes more manageable. I believe they will be.

11:19:53 I believe we will have an opportunity when the economy damns our non-profits do better. We won't have the competition with some of the other companies that aren't doing as well right now.

11:20:24 So I think the most important thing is to engage on a regular basis. We make calls to every one of our staff WUNSZ a week to check in. How are you doing. Are you ready to come back? Are are you doing with the COVID-19 and make ing sure you're building the RA port. And Michigan health of human service did send around a link and post our job openings and moving people to that website.

11:20:26 When they're looking for work.

11:20:42 So I would just say hang in there. I think it will be a better day at some point for us. For non-profits. And people to get quality people to provide support services. So thank you.

11:20:42 >> :

11:20:57 >> : So thank you and what we're going to -- I can see that we have a lot of activity in the chat and take the next couple of raised hands and go to Patty for the chat question and comments.

11:21:02 >> : Next question was from Caroline. You're unmuted.

11:21:34 >> : My name is Carolyn and a behavior and supervisor for Network 180 and Can he not county -- -- that are putting out right now. My staff has submitted a lot of articles to them about various lee sure activities for fames with individuals disabilities.

11:21:40 Proactive how to make a schedule to help keep the routines up in this home.

11:21:50 How to provide good praise and how to help people with disabilities right now sort of adept to the crazy circumstanceses that we're under.

11:22:24 So their newsletter I've looked at it briefly and has a lot of great articles. I believe it's a few news litter. Autism -- -- of Michigan if you go to their website. That is a resource for families and speak on behalf of my team and seeing increase of depression, and anxiety. Increase rates of med non-compliance. So we're definitely seeing some effects on the individuals that we serve from this.

11:22:29 So, thank you.

11:22:32 >> : One more question from Jane.

11:22:33 >> : Thank you.

11:22:51 >> : So I'm very curious. I'm Jan EKSZ. Right now one of the things I'm doing is working with a group of people that are trying to make sure that people with disabilities have equal access to medical care. Particularly if they

end up in a hospital, because of COVID-19.

11:23:20 So I'm curious to know from the people that are on the call who experience disability or have a disability what your -- if you had any experience yet try TOG go to emergency room or see your doctor or what your biggest worries and concerns about medical care. I know that is a huge question and maybe this isn't necessarily the only place that I might get this answer, but I'm just curious.

11:23:27 >> : That is a good question, Jane. Thank you.

11:23:44 >> : The other Carolyn, if you want to ask your question go ahead and unmute yourself, if you can.

11:24:22 >> : The question that I have is are son has a habitation support labor and during all of this his iPad that medicaid had provide ed initially is no longer working. And he cannot access things that he would do routinely on a daily basis with his iPad. We've been unable to get any assistant from any agency in this state. So if anybody has a suggest on who to call, I would really appreciate it. It is limiting his access.

11:24:35 To health care at this point. And his support coordinator did put through a request for services but it's been over a month.

11:24:57 Like I said I called every agency. Michigan Protection AP advocacy. And all of the agency for advocacy and no one has been able to assist us. If anybody has a resource they can think of. I appreciate it. Thank you.

11:25:10 >> : Have you tried to contact your local, maybe Lions Club service agency and might be able to help with that.

11:25:48 >> : The thing that we're trying to do is ensure that he gets what medicaid should be provided and know that we can -- we as his parents can go out and buy him an iPad, but it's about, he was provided initially from medicaid.

What we probably will do is end up doing that, because we're not getting any response. We would like to ensure something like this is systematic delivery denial in a sense. Realize as almost like.

11:25:54 Health care rationing or not having the appropriate response. Do you know what I'm saying?

11:26:03 It's not so much, is the money available? Even though he wouldn't have it. For us it would be a cost.

11:26:26 It's about individuals with disabilities and needs being realized and then respond ing in a correct way.

Shouldn't be so difficult if it's something they had provided before to do a replacement, especially now. I know that we can't just go to Apple store and buy one either. It has been and putting it out there.

11:26:51 Because one of our concerns is RAGing of health care accessibility during this time, because we have that in a sense and those several people have tried to get testing that have disabilities a couple of people required an ambulance to assist them to the hospital. The hospital has refused today test the individuals.

11:27:05 So that is the kind of thing that we're seeing out there. I'm bringing it up, because I do think it's important. These are civil rights issues. These are ADA concerns.

11:27:12 And if we're not even getting a call back. I mean that is kind of frustrating for us.

11:27:21 I spent several days on the phone trying to get somebody to listen on this.

11:27:26 >> : Thank you Carolyn.

11:27:32 >> : We have one more question from -- Tedra go ahead.

11:27:42 >> : Let's go to the next question and go to path ty. I can see the chat is really lively.

11:27:46 >> : Go ahead and ask your question, if you would.

11:28:22 >> : Okay. My name is Kars and I work for Intentional Communities of Washtenaw. I'm use ing the chat incorrectly. I go to hit enter and I didn't mean to. What I'm trying to send you is a form that was developed by a doctor at Stoney Brook and has one in her website and I sent you the form for Michigan and complete ahead of time, BHEN you have HIEM to think through all of the steps.

11:28:49 In case your loved ones need to go to an emergency room. It's a preKAGS NAR measure that you can fill out the form and have all of your paper work and hopefully you won't need to, but if you need to take your loved one to the emergency room and won't be able to be with him or her and have the paper work filled out and make sure the emergency room people understand this is a person.

11:28:56 With developmental or intellectual disabilities.

11:28:58 Thank you Kara.

11:29:02 >> : Patty, how are we doing with the chat?

11:29:15 >> : We have a lot of great questions and comments coming. I'm going to try to do my best to state the questions and good commentary on people providing answering.

11:29:31 One question from Jackie is regarding payment. My adult son has not received r receive ed payment. My parents are elderly and still no payment yet.

11:29:47 >> : Is my colleague Brad Williams, I believe he is on the line.

11:29:49 >> : I unmuted.

11:29:59 >> : Will you speak to the adult dependent issue in regards to the payments.

11:30:19 >> : Yes. If my understanding that if you adult dependent you had to file a form with Social Security administration by yesterday. They announced it and only live my understanding for six days.

11:30:32 From Social Security administration. If not, if you haven't filed the paper work you would file it for 2020 and receive it in 2021. .

11:30:36 I see some shaking head, is agreement or disagreement?

11:30:42 >> : That is what Erin, in fact, reported on the call yesterday.

11:30:45 >> : And from what I read as well.

11:30:58 >> : And so I guess, if we're if you're indisagreement with that the best thing to do is probably to contact your federal legislature.

11:31:24 >> : As well as double check with the Social Security administration and make sure it has been waived, because there was quite a voice capitol hill from what I understand, let people know this was a very, very, short time frame and how are people supposed to really know what to do in a period of literally less than a week.

11:31:26 >> : Thank you, Brett.

11:31:27 >> : Certainly.

11:31:29 >> : Patty.

11:31:45 >> : We have another question asking are there any providers looking to get all staff tested for COVID-19? What about new higher?

11:31:49 >> : Could you repeat the question, please.

11:32:00 >> : The question are there any providers that are looking to get all staff tested for COVID-19? And what about new higher?

11:32:24 >> : I can't answer that directly, but what I can say is under, I believe, it's the second COVID-19 package possibly the third from the federal government, amount of money dedicated for testing. I don't know how that is going to funnel down into individual care givers.

11:32:26 Or how that is going to work.

11:32:38 I think as the money is disperse guidances will be issued to kind of determine how and how this money will be utilized for testing.

11:32:42 >> : Thanks Brett.

11:32:44 Patty.

11:33:13 >> : We had a comment from Kelly. I'm concern for limited human contact this is a main concern for those I service. The developmental disability and for myself and family. I think we will see a spike in home lessness and depression and suicide and touched on a bit

11:33:18 >> : Hang on one second. I'm going through the chat.

11:33:37 >> : While Patty is going through the chat. I do want to state, we might not be able to answer every question today, but again, we are collecting this information so that we know what information we need to -- what resources and information that we need to provide.

11:33:51 So if you have a question don't get frustrated with us, if we can't provide the answer today. We will get back to you today. We are working.

11:33:56 >> : We have one question. Lisa. Go ahead and ask your question.

11:33:57 >> : Thank you.

11:34:20 >> : I work for Network 180 in Grand Rapid IDZ and feel the need to say from the federal administration the individual that comes out for our individuals is confusing to us as support coordinators as well and trying to explain it when we don't totally understand it is difficult.

11:34:55 The fact that this is having -- -- the effect that this is having on my individuals. Is large. A lot of my individuals live in group home and confined and can't get out. They're not having none of their regular support. The day programming or work they attend and don't understand as much as I and other support system try to explain to them this is a health and safety thing. Many of them don't understand the necessity to stay safe and stay home.

11:35:44 I have an individual that I serve as well, who is semi-independent and we still to see her daily, but it's been DASically cut and I'm seeing an uptake in phone calls as well as myself as other support and I got a phone call at 3:42 in the morning and called three of us a total of 50 times. That is directly related to she doesn't have access to her support systems at this time and it's challenging for those of us who are still trying to provide some support as a social worker slash support coord

11:36:02 Many of my colleagues are working from home. We're doing everything from phone calls the best we can and it's just a challenge. Our individuals can't see us. Many of our individuals can't speak and that creates its own issues

too, because now we don't have interactions with them.

11:36:19 I think the biggest frustration right now for me is from a confusion standpoint from our federal government and I know that is nothing you guys can do, but I just wanted to stay say it.

11:36:26 >> : Thank you

11:36:29 >> : Anything else you want to read to us from the chat.

11:36:31 >> : Yes.

11:36:36 >> : One moment.

11:36:53 >> : We did have a comment from Sandra and she is asking is anyone else upset and scared by the people saying to call the herd let the weak die and the protesters are saying and putting on signs.

11:36:53 >> : Yeah.

11:36:56 >> : And we have another.

11:37:16 >> : We have another question, Jackie saying my son requires sedation dentistry and has a loose tooth and 25 years old and causing him anxiety and sensory issues. When might these services be allow ed again?

11:37:17 >> : Next question.

11:37:19 >> : Is there another one.

11:37:24 >> : Yes.

11:37:29 >> : Hang on one second.

11:37:48 >> : We had two questions from Ashley what are some of the greatest concerns you would like employers to consider regarding disabilities what would successful employers and work support look like to you?

11:38:21 >> : Those are two really good questions. That I don't know that we can necessarily answer today, but if Ashley K would put her e-mail in the chat we can connect her with our employment person at our office to kind of talk through that and look at some of the supports that are being suggested at the national level on employment supports.

11:38:29 >> : Yes.

11:38:58 >> : We have another question, I've been hearing from some clients they are having difficulty with BRIJ card. Getting delivery of grocery. Have you heard of the benefits being able to utilize for deliverly and delivery and pick up services is difficult and available of products any suggestions other than going to the senior disability times at the stores?

11:39:38 >> : That is a really good question and we are actually hoping our session -- we're working towards having our session next week on accessing food, because there are some in our state. There are some retailers that are accepting EBT for grocery pick up and a pilot projects go on and a different resources available for people to access food and we are working towards right now putting together the next week session on.

11:39:44 That topic. It can we have a L question from Pam.

11:39:45 >> : Thank you very much.

11:40:20 >> : I'm from Michigan and I have a home care company for the last 20 years. My problem is I have a particular client that I take care of for nine year and he refuse ing to get a flu shot and refuses to get wear a mask. He is wheelchair bound. When the weather gets nice loves to go outside in the wheelchair and doesn't respect the distance ing with neighbors and refusing to wear a mask. Does anybody have this experience?

11:40:31 How can I combat this? Not only affecting the health of himself and the care givers that have been working with him.

11:40:34 >> : I had the experience.

11:40:41 >> : This is Lisa in grand Rapids. I had that experience with one of my individual that I serve.

11:41:26 >> : And the gist of it is educating. Because she is still allow to make her choices whether I agree with them or not. All of the supports in her life continue to try to educate as much as they can. At times if it's a health and safety issue trying to rearrange how and what services are provided so that so she is not getting as much and the service providers are making sure they are wearing #345Sing and doing thing mask and individuals are allowed their choice and even when it affects heal

11:41:28 Force them to do something they don't want to do.

11:42:03 >> : We do that. We do exercise the caution and safety with the care givers wear ing mask and trying to get Lysol wipes has been a challenge and I have joined the bleach and water mixture. I have strict rules going into any of the client's houses. First thing you do is wash your hands. Nobody is allowed in the house, no friends or families until this is over. I appreciate your recommendations and I know we can't force #24E78.

11:42:15 You're try -- you're trying to keep them safe and alive. SE BRAL PALS SI and lung issues. I appreciate your comment.

11:42:17 >> : Thank you.

11:42:23 >> : I want to go to Tracy and see about any comments that we got on Facebook.

11:42:26 >> : All right. Sure.

11:43:07 >> : So Elaine mentioned she is a director of a large vocational and doing drop off of equipment and activities as people are calling their agency and reaching out to participant to set up Zoom meetings and set up contact with friends. Tracy had mention they're continuing to have weekly sessions using Zoom and appointments as needed and doing Zoom social calls and watch parties. To keep people connected.

11:43:19 And Khristy asked and mentioned a website and if you would put that website in the chat box. Carolyn, thank you for sharing the resource.

11:43:30 And the other question we have is from Tracy and she asked what are the guidelines for community living support workers?

11:43:45 Has someone ready to become a CLS and her daughter needs support?

11:43:48 >> : Thank you Tracy.

11:43:54 >> : I waned to Patty did we get to everything in the chat.

11:44:23 >> : We have one more question from Marcia. As restriction s in the state loosen we are concern about keeping individual safe and healthy and aware that the caution will continue. My question is what will this look like for agency and individuals loosen and integrated for into the community.

11:44:31 >> : Also, Jaime. Did you have your hand up and want to add something?

11:44:35 >> : Yes, I wanted to speak to the individuals not wearing mask.

11:45:02 One of the things that I found -- I want to introduce myself. My name is Jaime Junior. I'm a peer mentor. A member of the DB council and help on the disability rights for an organization in Detroit Michigan that is helping to respond to the mental health and well-being issues.

11:45:04 That folks with disabilities are facing.

11:45:34 In regards to the mask issue, one thing that I've heard from some of my constituency for not wanting to wear mask is because they cannot breathe in them. So that maybe something to consider. For the gentleman that won't wear a mask. He may not just be defiant and may not be able a to breathe.

11:45:51 If he has limited control over his throat muscle he could be, you know, aspirating, whatever the mask is it chokes him so that maybe one avenue to look into.

11:46:24 Additionally, we hope WOW, the organization that I'm on. Wheels for #3 We host a -- -- for folks with disabilities to decompress, discuss and gain resources. It's own Meet. And I can put in the chat for anyone who would like to join. t.

11:46:42 Also, if you live in Detroit and you need grocery delivered with your EBT card, right now we have limited funding and we developed a program to help folks gain access. We have delivery drivers.

11:46:48 So we're launching a pilot right now and looking for additional funds to keep this going.

11:46:58 So if you need it any assistance, the turn around is about two days.

11:47:06 We do deliveries on Wednesday -- Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and take registrations on Monday and Friday.

11:47:10 I will be happy to put my e-mail.

11:47:18 And as well as the Google chat information in the chat box.

11:47:35 Additionally, if folks need support, I am available. So if you send me a message, we can Google chat even if it's just to see someone else's face.

11:47:44 Thank you Jaime, if you would put all of those resources in the chat, we would greatly appreciate it.

11:47:56 We are going to from today's conversation taking down all of the question and comments what the issues are and develop an FAQ that is going to go out to everyone.

11:48:04 Go out to people participating. If you give us your resources then it will become a part of the record.

11:48:28 Laura, from MDH HS behavioral health I think had an answer Patty, to the person the Facebook comment about getting CLS. How to get a CLS worker, but it's been a lot of chatter since then.

11:48:43 And so if we could read that question -- if you could find Laura's response, Tracy can take it down and type it in the chat in Facebook for the person that is watching.

11:48:50 >> : Sure I think this is from Laura Dem.

11:49:02 >> : CLS worker has training requirements loosen and background checks waived during this crisis and get CLS working faster than usual.

11:49:03 >> : Okay.

11:49:07 >> : Thank you. Laura.

11:49:07 >> :

11:49:28 >> : We have another question, from Noah. How is the DD Council rationing medicaid. We have been in the front lines trying to fight these issues with the federal government?

11:49:57 >> : We have -- Counsel along with several disability partners in the state we sent letters to the governor and other officials about medical rationing and I think that we are all trying to battle that and helping to make sure that does not become a reality or that, you know, too many people aren't affected by it.

11:50:06 I'm going to ask Brett, to unmute again and see if there has been any -- if we got any response.

11:50:47 >> : Yes. I have not personally received a response. We have sent out a (inaudible comment) which is our tool that addresses immediate stop to health care rationing with people with disabilities and establish federal guidelines as Tedra shared the council is working with several groups that are working very diligently to ensure that health care rationing does not take place and that all people with disabilities have equal and equitable access STO health care.

11:51:07 Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. -- so there is a lot of things going on. We are also in the throws of having one more letter sent out.

11:51:15 So we have been up front and and tried to bring to people's attention this is unacceptable practice.

11:51:41 Health and human services, recipient rights have release, I think March 28, had released a document that supports the position that people with disabilities should not experience any health care rationing and basing a lot of our positioning around that federal guidance.

11:51:51 >> : And there is other people working with this, as well, Jane did I leave anything out?

11:51:56 >> : I can't unmute myself very quickly.

11:52:21 There is going to be, there is, the same group that is Brett is talking about and writing the letter to our public policy officials is also going to be hosting a, I don't know, webinar on Tuesday, I think it's going to be at 9 a.m. and get invitation and Tedra getting that to you to send out.

11:52:36 That is four people to help them understand what their rights are and understand some tools or strategies for advocating when you're standings there in the emergency room possibly not getting the testing or treatment that you need.

11:52:59 Some of it, some of the work has to be broad public policy and some of it has to be while you're standing in the emergency to get what you need and try to give you some tools and hear them, some tools and strategies for make ing sure that you get the treatment that you are entitled to.

11:53:34 >> : I like to add one other thing we've been working with one of the leading advocate for people with disabilities and health care on setting our positions and setting the terminology and words used within these letters so we were very confident that we're doing as much as possible to ensure that the people who regulate this know our position and it's backed by, by legal authority.

11:53:39 Thank you Brett and Jan. Anymore questions.

11:53:46 >> : Or comments in the chat, Patty or Tracy? From the Facebook.

11:54:03 >> : We have a question from Carolyn. She said if a person is experiencing health care rationing having a disability and having medicaid who should they contact if others are not responding?

11:54:04 >> :

11:54:15 >> : That is an excellent question. If recipient's rights and PAS aren't responding.

11:54:23 >> : Is there anyone on the line that has an answer that can answer that question?

11:54:34 >> : Otherwise, we will have to track it down and get back. Laura say call the newses.

11:54:55 >> : This is Jaime again, I would also say to reach out to your cities of right's department. They may be able to help you. We had a lot of success with that in Detroit.

11:54:58 AP .

11:55:01 >> : Thank you Jaime.

11:55:20 >> : Thank you Jaime.

11:55:20 >> : Has anyone experience a slower response from their caseworker or support coordinators during the pandemic?

11:55:22 >> : No. We haven't.

11:55:30 >> : We've been doing Zoom for everything. Work and everything.

11:55:34 >> : Hold on.

11:55:34 >> : Thank you.

11:56:04 >> : The one thing I like is, I'm a huge fan of Super Natural, so their conventions and stuff they're doing them online. So we get to interact with the actors and stuff and they're doing more live Instagrams just to have your heros personal touch. Just people you look up to. That is one good thing about this.

11:56:06 That's's been helping you.

11:56:18 >> Mmm.

11:56:19 >> : Thank you.

11:56:43 >> : This is Elizabeth in Kalamazoo. Just to talk on the delay response from the support coordinator. I am a support coordinator in KA LA ma zoo and a lot of my coworkers and myself personally this is a different time for us not being in our office. Working on a cell phone, verses that.

11:56:58 I would DAFT encourage if -- if you feel you're not being supported by your case manager to reach out to supervisor and reach out in any other way that you have if you're not getting the support from them.

11:57:16 Me personally I know I have a little one here with me and are times I'm not going to be able to get to my phone how I normally would. If you feel you're not having that support and reach out to whoever else you know that you can have staff reach out to somebody else.

11:57:25 Have family, because, yeah, I would really hate to, you know, know that somebody doesn't feel they are being supported.

11:57:28 Yeah. That was just my two cents.

11:57:31 >> : Thank you, Elizabeth.

11:57:52 >> : Also, to add to that. I know that our logo on CMH for Washtenaw county and responding to this crisis they are staggering their support and and so our support coordination is still happening, but looking a little bit different.

11:58:18 So the response time is still there but how they're delivering those supports is definitely presented in a different way and they're really working at staggering their team. And still delivering those essentially services.

11:58:19 .

11:58:21 Thank you, Anan.

11:58:21 >> : Yeah.

11:58:31 >> : Patty, looks like we got some more chat.

11:58:33 >> : I don't know if they are questions or just comments.

11:58:35 >> : We have a lot of commentings.

11:58:39 >> : We have a lot of people helping each other. Which is great.

11:58:44 >> : I see you posted a Facebook message. Do you want me to read that one.

11:58:44 >> : Yes.

11:58:45 >> : Okay.

11:59:07 >> : This is from Facebook and Tracy, my daughter had surgery in the past and stayed with her until she was discharge ed in the hospital and scares me to think of her needed medical care and me not being there to advocate for her and reassure her.

11:59:07 >> : Thank you.

11:59:32 >> : I do know, I think it's on a case by case basis but some hospitals are allowing depending on what it is they are allowing you to have a person if it's a life, you know, life and death situation, but I think it definitely does depend on the hospital. And the staff at the hospital.

11:59:44 >> : This is Eileen. I appreciate that, but I think because there is no listing. You can't say, we will make sure they go to this hospital.

12:00:03 And you know, you don't know about staff whether it's going to be different or not and we're hearing from our client the same type of issue and just the concern if they have to go in there they are -- they may not be able to advocate for themselves as much as the family could advocate.

12:00:07 So it is a huge concern on parent's minds.

12:00:17 >> : So one of the forms I can't remember who put it in. Someone put the form in the chat and we will make sure that we definitely send it out.

12:00:41 It is a form that you complete that has a lot of information that if you -- if your family member with DD has to go to the hospital and you're not able to go with them it's a form that you complete a lot of information on them for them to take with them to the hospital so the hospital would have that information.

12:00:55 I did reach out to a colleague that works for the Michigan Hospital can have Association to see if Michigan Hospitals would accept and honor that -- I have not heard back yet.

12:01:35 And so hopefully in the next, within the next couple of days to a week, we will be able to really distribute that widely. It's not, it's not anywhere close to being the same as someone, you know, being there with you, but it does, you know, assure that people can take their wishes with them. Especially people that aren't able to speak for themselves.

12:01:41 >> : Any other questions or comments or anything else that people want us to share?

12:01:56 I would like to also ask if there is other topics that you want us to cover that you would like to see resources or find identify spepers that can speak on certain topicment.

12:01:58 >> : Food stamp benefits.

12:02:37 >> : I'm receiving, I was receive ing before this pandemic happened. I was never told me why -- 1\$94 was coming to the house. It wasn't me eating them, the house eating them to. And cut me done. And we down -- we didn't have a hearing or nothing.

12:02:54 So now, since the pandemic happened we're receiving them until June, which I'm thankful. When JUN comes you're going to receive \$16. What is 16 dollars going to do for three people that live in the house.

12:03:01 >> : You definitely want to reach out to your case manager at DHHS for that and ask those questions.

12:03:05 >> : Okay. Thank you.

12:03:15 >> : Brett, Mr. Williams.

12:03:15 >> :

12:03:17 >> : Yes.

12:03:47 >> : I wanted to just say to know if you could touch a bit, I know we were just able to see the K caver in the last couple of days, but if there was any information in the K waiver that is applicable to any of the questions or concerns that people have brought, is there any of this being addressed in that waiver that you submitted to CMS.

12:03:54 >> : Yes. But as far as all of the particulars that what is going to have to explore a little bit more.

12:04:17 Some of the things about meals and are addressed in the K waiver, but this is going to be a process. There is other waivers 1114 demonstration waiver and use the K waiver and open the door and get out the numbers. Basically going to be a process.

12:04:32 The areas addressed is food delivery. Some of the other things personal protection equipment for not only the care workers and one of the questions I have for the beneficiaries as well, I would hope that will be the case.

12:04:40 Some of the things asked today are addressed, but in the process of researching how that is going to play out.

12:04:46 >> : I 24 what we will do, I know that we were able to see the applications in the last couple of days.

12:05:04 >> : I think over the next couple of weeks we will definitely hold one of the sessions on the waiver and get someone from behavioral health and come on and speak to the specifics that are in the waiver.

12:05:27 It's just an application at this point. Has not been approve ed. And so I want to let people know, that while SMS center for medicare and medicaid has been rapidly approving them ours from Michigan has been submitted and hasn't been approved as yet.

12:05:39 >> : If I may add CMS, happened had been approved and fairly quickly.

12:05:46 >> : Any other questions, comments, concerns?

12:05:50 We do have one question through Facebook.

12:06:01 >> : And direct care workers are not consider essentially workers, why is that?

12:06:03 >> :

12:06:08 >> : Why aren't direct service professional considered essentially.

12:06:08 >> : They are.

12:06:09 >> : They are.

12:06:14 >> : They are requested.

12:06:30 >> : Direct because they fall under the health care category and the governor was clear about that. Health care workers are essentially workers and continue to provide support.

12:06:33 >> : Thank you Angela.

12:06:39 >> : Patty, any more questions or comments in the chat?

12:06:41 >> : No more questions.

12:06:43 >> : Tedra.

12:06:46 >> : We have a lot of great comments.

12:06:49 >> : Can I add to that last comment.

12:07:25 >> : So direct care workers are essentially workers as that individual stated. I found from a consumer standpoint and a support person for people with disabilities the one thing that is really helpful for protecting access to those support at this time is having a letter that states that particularly staff person is providing that essentially service.

12:07:43 So that if they are stopped by the police or something of that will nature they have that documentation that say they are providing that essentially work.

12:07:49 Thank you, Anaa.

12:07:52 >> : We have another question from Carolyn.

12:08:21 >> : She asked does anyone know why the night supervision and safety hours have not become available to individuals on the support and approved by the CMS as of Oct, 2020.

12:08:32 >> : I will ask Laura if she knows the answer to that question. If not we will work with behavioral health and

get a response for Carolyn.

12:08:36 >> : Can you guys hear me?

12:08:36 >> : Yes.

12:08:38 >> : Okay.

12:09:21 >> : My only thought is that because such a new service a lot of CMH are struggle ing trying to figure out how the implement and when it's appropriate and when it's not appropriate. So it shouldn't be that it's not available or you can't use it it's just that a lot of CMH are trying to make sure their dotting all there i s and crossing their T and unfortunately causing a delay for some people.

12:09:41 >> : This is Yasmina, Laur put out any guidance to make this process easier for them? Because if they are so -- the bottom line is that it's not available. So it might be (inaudible comment) if there is some guidance that could make it more available.

12:09:56 >> : There is fact sheets and a regular deliverly that goes to the PIP and SMHs and include information about it. Still a lot of people have a lot of questions.

12:10:31 That aren't clearly answered at this time. I think, and that was kind of one of the things that we knew when the service was designed is that we were going to kind of have to put it out there and see how it went and then be able to kind of make adjustments as we go along and we need people to jump in and start using it before we can kind of TIETening up some of -- tighten up some of the loose ends, because the design.

12:11:01 Of CLS work and over night work and safety help and similar and a lot of people are been use CLS for over night work and that is when the confusion when are we okay to use CLS and when should we be using the over night help and safety. At the department there is a clear deLIN nation and a lot of confusionings, because it's always been okay to use the CLS before.

12:11:12 Trying to figure out when we do switch from the over night health and safety to the CLS at this point?

12:11:18 Thank you, Laura.

12:11:24 Patty, it looks like we've got a couple of questions in the chat.

12:11:41 >> : We had a good comment from Eilee NEKZ, there is a definitely disparity on the services and connecting. Requesting it's going to be a large aspect of advocacy in the comings month.

12:11:51 >> : And we have a question from Facebook from Abby. She ask is there talk about hazard pay for CLS workers?

12:12:01 >> : Brett, has there been any talk about hazard pay for CLS worker.

12:12:11 >> : Excuse me, there is and I have a question to the department to get that answered.

12:12:13 >> : This is S HEKZ.

12:12:14 >> : Sorry.

12:12:16 >> : Our office,.

12:12:49 >>: Ageing and adult services our director has been advocating for hazard pay for direct care workers that work with anyone throughout the state, so there is some discussion at the managerial level to provide hazard pay for direct care workers. Right now it's in the discussion stage. And well aware of it and working on it through the state, the managers at the state.

12:12:52 >> : Thank you, Sherri.

12:13:18 >> : The Washtenaw county CMH directors are also advocating for CLS supports to be falling under hazard pay, but there is more work to be done in that department, but the conversation has started.

12:13:20 Just share that.

12:13:23 >> : Thank you Anna.

12:13:27 >> : Yup.

12:13:29 >> :

12:13:49 >> : Any other questions or comments in the chat or on Facebook?

12:13:50 >> : Seeing none.

12:14:06 >> : Do we have any other -- anybody else want to share your experience? Share how the COVID-19 crisis is impacting you.

12:14:12 Do you have any questions or comments?

12:14:25 >> : I have a comment. This is Jaime. Again.

12:14:31 One thing I would like to say to all of the people on the call.

12:14:39 I'm an advocate. I do a lot of work around the state and I'm still having trouble dealing with this.

12:14:51 Dealing with the distancing. Not being able to see friend and families. My mom is in the hospital right now and -- and they were a lot of things going on.

12:15:14 And the only reason I share that. Is to say no matter, I say that to say that be kind to yourself, because no matter how you you know something like this is hard. Be kind to yourself and don't be afraid or ashamed to reach out to someone for help.

12:15:39 >> : Thank you, Jaime. I think taking care of yourself is really important at this time. For us to -- for us all to give ourselves grace and be kind and gentle and reach out if we know we need help is really important in this time.

12:15:59 I also want to add with everyone -- with all of these concerns that we're bringing up today or being brought up today that people should definitely be reaching out to their state and federal legislature and let them know about your concerns.

12:16:28 We do know that in DC, the disability advocates are advocacy for specific disability resources and specific disability ask and issues for the next package, if there is another round of funding to be able to work directly on disability issues.

12:16:51 So if your legislatures hear from you and they hear these story and they hear how you're being impacted and what you're experiencing and be more likely to pass a stimulus package that direct ly relates to disability concerns.

12:17:03 And so we definitely should be reaching out to state and local legislatures while your specific concerns.

12:17:12 >> : Anybody else in the chat, Patty?

12:17:19 >> : Not at this time. Just some really good comments. Which we will have a record of this as well.

12:17:34 >> : Really good resources has been shared and want to make sure we're able to get this out to the group.

12:17:38 >> : Robert said he will let his voice be heard.

12:17:46 >> : Thank you, Robert. He is the last person that commented. I can see that.

12:17:48 >> :

12:17:57 >> : There was someone in the chat, I just saw group homes come through. So many comments. I can't see.

12:18:02 Someone provided a question or comment about people being stuck in group homes.

12:18:32 >> : That was me. I sent an a letter from behavioral health about restrictions, freedom of movement and visits in group home and nursing homes. So basically the letters talks about just because we have the stay at home, stay in place order does not mean that you have to keep people at home. It talks about hiking and walking as long as you're maintaining the six feet distance.

12:18:40 Figuring out a person's center way to help people not be huddle up at home. That's all.

12:18:56 >> : Laura, are there resource FRS the department at group home safety and what to do if someone in the home is ill? Or or one of the workers is ill?

12:19:00 >> : Has anybody been put out by the department on those issues. 1234.

12:19:21 >> : Yeah, there is a not only the overall MDHH website and behavioral health has their own COVID-19 page and has a lot of resources and put that in the chat, if you like?

12:19:23 >> : Could you e-mail that?

12:19:27 >> : That information.

12:19:29 >> : This is someone from Detroit.

12:19:31 >> : I will put it in the chat.

12:19:32 >> : Okay.

12:19:39 >> : Yes, Laura, if you put it in the chat we will make sure it gets distributed widely.

12:19:40 >> : Okay. Good.

12:19:45 >> : Did you have another comment or question?

12:20:37 >> : Well, what we're doing, we're getting VPE to the group home and staff and people, residents, because we had a couple of group homes had a hard time -- all the people were tested positive in the group home. A couple of deaths. So it's really, really, important for the staff and the residents get P PE and talked about nursing home and direct health workers and get the same amount. And the N-95 mask and dealing with people and take IG care of people that maybe COVID-19 or recovering from

12:20:48 What we've been doing is delivering food and PPE equipment to the group homes.

12:21:21 To our people with IDD, that live with their relatives and so forth. So I think that's a big issue, because we experienced a few deaths. People dying from COVID and people making makeshift mask. If you have someone in the home with COVID you need an N-95 MAS trying to get them.

12:21:30 >> : I have order right now. Delivered a hundred and I'm trying to get them.

12:21:41 One group that I'm working with that sell them for \$7 each. Another group that will sell them for 4 \$each.

12:22:08 But I don't have have the money. We're paying out of our pocket for these mask and get them donate. Someone, trying to get them from Slyvia and Karen. So that is what we're doing. Is donating or getting the PPE equipment order for the staff and the residents. The one ins the group homes and live on their own.

12:22:17 Thank you Lauranen.

12:22:39 >> : Are people having trouble accessing telemedicine? You're able to have a doctor's appointment online or via Zoom or via phone and that has expanded in Medicaid, how is that going for folks?

12:23:06 >> : This is Lisa in Grand Rapids and speaking with a couple of the group home that I support. They don't have the technology in their homes. They don't have a computer or smartphone to be able to access Zoom or Skype. They do try to do some through phone call and it is much more challenging for the individuals to get those appointments.

12:23:39 And then when they do phone calls there aren't nearly as many people involved in the appointments and often just the psychologist and psychologist in the individual and doesn't call the support coordinator or the other people involved in the individual's care to find out from us. Our input. It is definitely affecting the individual individuals because not full input is received at those appointments.

12:23:40 Thank you.

12:23:59 Anyone else working with people that are having issues accessing telemedicine or telehealth?

12:24:07 >> : Okay.

12:24:22 We are scheduled to go to the 1 o'clock, however, if there are anymore -- 1 o'clock if there are anymore questions or comments I think it would be okay for us to sign off.

12:24:52 >> : So I want to ask again, just make sure that everyone on the call had a chance to express themselves, express their concerns, let us know what you're experiencing or how you're being impacted?

12:24:58 Marcia asked a question.

12:25:00 >> : Yes.

12:25:06 >> : Are you planning a follow up meeting how guardians and consumers will hear about it.

12:25:34 >> : Yes, we plan to hold a weekly so all of our partners are putting it out. We put it on the Council or like our page, like the Council Facebook page you can be notified of when the next meeting are.

12:25:46 Our next one will be next Thursday at 11 and the topic will be on accessing food and groceries.

12:25:53 Or accessing food so that people are able to get groceries.

12:26:14 And if you would like -- we also send it out to the Council listserv and if you would like it directly I will -- if you put your e-mail in the chat, anyone who puts their e-mail in the chat can get their notice directly the Council listserv.

12:26:18 >> : We have a question about the Zoom link.

12:26:24 >> : Will the Zoom link be the same for each Thursday 11 a.m. meeting?

12:26:37 >> : It will not. Zoom is recommending for safety and security to use the the random Zoom numbers.

12:26:39 Use the random meeting links.

12:26:47 >> : So we are not going to have the same link every week.

12:27:08 >> : I see we're getting a lot of e-mails in the chat.

12:27:17 Any more questions or comments on Facebook, Trac?

12:27:26 >> : Well, thank you to everyone, for joining us. We really appreciate it. And we will talk with you all next week.

12:27:39 >> : And if you were one of the people helping to facilitate today will you please stay on so we can debrief just for a short while.

12:27:48 >> :

12:28:07 for doing this.

12:28:11 >> : Good to see you Jaime.

12:28:14 >> : You're welcome, Jaime. Thank you.

12:28:18 >> : You're welcome.