



Networking Hour

Welcome to the Networking Hour!



Member Forum

February 23, 2024



Board Chair Report

Welcome

- *Donna Elbrecht, President/CEO, Easterseals Arc of Northeast Indiana & Cardinal Services*

Today's Agenda

- INARF Member Employment Transformation Collaborative Update
- Association Update
 - *Nanette Hagedorn, INARF*
- Industry Update
 - *Katy Stafford-Cunningham, Andrew Alvarez, and Courtney Scott, INARF*



Upcoming Events

- INARF Leadership Academy - Graduate Summit - February 29 & March 1
- INARF Leadership Academy - Class of 2024 / Part 1 - March 7 & 8
- Networking Hour, Member Forum, Annual Meeting, Board of Directors Meeting & Member Lunch to celebrate 50th Anniversary - March 22



Registration opens 3 weeks in advance. To register for open events, scan the QR code or go to <https://web.inarf.org/events>

INARF Member Employment Transformation Collaborative Update

Josh Martin, Marshall-Starke Development Center, Inc.

Jason McManus, Wabash Center, Inc.

Tonya Vandivier, Stone Belt Arc, Inc.

Pam Verbarg, The Arc of Greater Boone County



Association Update

Nanette Hagedorn, INARF



Membership Recruitment

Introducing: [Oasis Mental Health Consulting, LLC](#)



Located in Avon, Oasis Mental Health Consulting, LLC's vision is to provide care that is geared towards individual needs to improve their quality of life. President/CEO, Olawunmi (Ola) Burger is committed to "...empower individuals of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities with resources to support them in achieving their personal goals and fully participating in the community to live their best lives." Currently, they offer Behavior Management, Participant Assistance and Care, Psychological Therapy, Residential Habilitation, Respite Care Services, and Wellness Coordination in Boone, Hamilton, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, and Morgan counties.

We encourage you to visit their website (www.oasismhc.org) and/or contact Ola (Ola@oasismentalhealthconsulting.org), President/CEO, to extend a warm welcome and to learn more.



Membership Recruitment

Introducing: [KCARC](#)



Located in Vincennes, IN, since 1972, KCARC has led the effort to effectively play a positive role in the lives of those who have disabilities within their community. KCARC has been at the forefront of Knox County by being an economic asset, a major employer, and a haven for individuals and families served. As an organization founded by families who dreamed of having access to their choice of service options, KCARC is proud to continue the tradition of a community that fully supports and provides a voice to individuals and families with special needs through their many services including but not limited to, Special Education Preschool Services, Residential and Day Programming Services, Pre-ETS, Behavioral Management, Nursing Support, Employment Services, and their 1972 Community Center.

We encourage you to visit their website (www.knoxcountyarcc.com) and/or contact Nash Dunn (nash.dunn@knoxcountyarcc.com), KCARC President, to extend a warm welcome and to learn more.



"We (Will) Hear You"



Members are our #1 asset, and we strive to LISTEN to suggestions gleaned through casual conversations, email communications, survey feedback ...

Our efforts this past month focused on the **Annual Membership Satisfaction Survey**

- The brief survey focused on 6 key areas
- Responses Received: **111**
- Overall Satisfaction Rating: **4.72**
- At the March Annual Membership Meeting, we will present the analysis of your feedback and recommendations
- Thank you - \$50 Gift Card Drawing!



Mark Your Calendars:

INARF 2024 Professional Development Opportunities:

Leadership Academy – Graduate Summit | February 29 & March 1

Person-Centered Individual Support Facilitator Training | May 7 & 8; November 12 & 13

Incident Investigations & Recommendations Training | June 11

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Updates | July

Conference for DSPs | September

Pieces to the Group Home Financial Puzzle Training | September 17

Pre & Annual Conference | October 8, 9 - 10



Visits w/ INARF Members

Recent:

- Jan. 30 – Easterseals Legislator Appreciation Reception (Indianapolis)
 - Easterseals Northern Indiana
 - Easterseals Crossroads
 - Easterseals Rehabilitation Center



Upcoming:

- Feb. 26 - CEO Regional Lunch 'n Learn / ViaQuest Community Solutions (Indianapolis)





Industry Update

Katy Stafford-Cunningham, Andrew Alvarez, & Courtney Scott, INARF



Legislative Session Update

- [HB 1156: Report on Medicaid Behavior Analysis Services](#)
- [HB 1187: Special Service Review Team and Emergency Placement](#)
- [HB 1414: Managed Care Organization Reimbursement](#)
- [SB 132: Professions and professional services](#)



- Requires a payment testing period before managed care is implemented
- Creates a workgroup of providers, MCEs, and FSSA reps to set the standards (billing formats, education, provider training, etc.)
- Allows for a 210-day period after managed care is implemented where providers can receive "temporary emergency financial assistance" if they don't receive reimbursement (15% of claims/billing period or aggregate \$25K over 21 days)



Legislative Agenda

- DSP Workforce Transparency:
 - 2/22: Amendment added to SB 148 in House Labor Committee
 - Requires FSSA to share DSP registry workforce statistics to the DWD so that the DWD shall post them monthly on its website
 - Could see changes to this
- Transportation
 - Hearing being scheduled on Tuesday, February 27th in Senate Transportation
 - David Dreith, Yolanda Kincaid, and a few self-advocates set to testify



Thank you, PAC donors!

Corporate Contributor	President's Circle (\$500+)	Activist (\$301 - \$499)	Advocate (\$151 - \$300)	Supporter (\$76 - \$150)			Contributor (\$26 - \$75)		Friend (\$1 - \$25)
	Debbie Bennett		Carrie Blackham	Andrew Alvarez	Christiaan Campbell	Brian Cook	Stephanie Anderson	Shelly Everett	
	Danielle Tips		Melissa Walden	Matt Harrington	Jason McManus	Jason Meyer	Kathie Parks		
				Barb Young					





Contribute to the PAC

Your contributions to the INARF PAC are a critical part of INARF's legislative advocacy efforts. They are used to support elected officials who serve as champions of the provider community. Please consider supporting the INARF PAC today.



For more information and to contribute, scan the QR code or visit: www.INARF.org/INARF-PAC





Q&A List Serve Posting

- This is for any question you would like to pose to the membership
- Getting started
 - Email Courtney Scott (courtney@inarf.org) directly





Q&A List Serve Posting

- The process
 - The question is sent out to the Membership
 - Up to 2 weeks for answers to be compiled
 - Compiled answers are sent back out to the membership
- [Access past asked questions here](#)

Hi Courtney! You're currently viewing your personal profile



Member portal home

Edit this profile

Pay open invoices

Relationships

Member Only Resources ▾

Membership Directory

Member Forums

News & Communications

Professional Interest Sections



Indiana Rehabilitation Commission

- RSA Federal Monitoring Visit
 - Strategic Action Plan with 5 priority areas
 - Increase # of participants served, increase % of students receiving pre-ets who enter VR, increase postsecondary enrollment on VR participants, improve vendor capacity, explore opportunities to increase non-federal match
- Order of Selection Update
 - Over 3,700 released from waitlist to date
 - As of January 3rd, 579 remain on waitlist, all priority category 3



Medicaid Unwinding

- For each month's renewal cohort, a portion of those due are still pending at the end of the renewal month
- Those who turned in their renewal paperwork by the due date retain coverage while they are being processed, until a final determination is made
 - For October 2023, they have 15,114 members that are still awaiting eligibility determination 90 days later (January 31, 2024)
- When a member returns their renewal paperwork during the 90-day reconsideration period, if they are found eligible, they will receive retroactive coverage back to the date of closure.



Employment Transformation Collaborative

- 16 Proposals Reviewed and Approved
- 11 Proposals in Review
- 5 Draft Proposals under review
- \$11.3 million allocated
 - Approved \$5.5 million



Rate Increase Update

- We have heard about issues with people losing services and have received the following guidance from DDRS:
 - For people who are at risk of losing services due to the rate increase and the impact to their budget, providers should work with that person to get their Team together and review their current PCISP and evaluate their goals as they relate to their services and supports. In the event the Team determines more services and supports are needed, the Case Manager should file an LTBR to address those additional needs.
- INARF submitted our public comment last week on the waiver amendments. If you submitted comments as well, please forward those to Courtney@inarf.org.



DDRS Advisory Council

- [Medicaid Forecast Update](#)
 - Pediatric Assessment – as the State refines the assessment process and creates more consistency with determinations made from the assessment tool, if there are children who could potentially lose eligibility due to not meeting nursing home level of care, FSSA is proposing a priority category if they meet eligibility requirements with an IDD diagnosis but do not meet Nursing Facility Level of Care
- Waiver Redesign – still on track



SFC Resources

- For INARF members who do not currently provide SFC on the CIHW and are considering adding that service
- [View the SFC and Attendant Care Side-by-Side Comparison Chart](#)
- [View the SFC Pro and Con Chart](#)
- Reminder – SFC providers do not have to be employees of the IDD organization



Medicaid Eligibility Redetermination Issues

With the return to our normal operation for Medicaid, individuals are required to go through the Medicaid redetermination process and are now subject to the eligibility rules that were in place prior to the PHE. From a DFR perspective, generally, what we have seen fall into two scenarios:

- Individuals turned 18 during the Public Health Emergency and did not have a disability determination from the Social Security Administration (SSA). Once an individual turns 18 they must apply for Social Security Disability through the SSA; failure to apply will result in the Medicaid disability being discontinued. During the PHE we were not able to require this process be completed. Now individuals must apply for disability with the SSA. If the application to SSA is denied, then the denial must be appealed with SSA for DFR to keep the Medicaid open.



Medicaid Eligibility Redetermination Issues

- Individuals' claims for SSA disability are being denied or terminated and they are not appealing the denial or termination with SSA. Failure to appeal the denial will result in the Medicaid being closed or the individual being placed on a category that is not compatible with the waiver (i.e., HIP)
- We allow 65 days for individuals to appeal the SSA denial.
- If the individual is unable to independently address their concerns regarding their Medicaid Eligibility; the Family, Provider, or the Case Manager assisting the individual must be designated as an Authorized Representative for Medicaid.
- **Providers should continue doing monthly eligibility checks**
- If you are continuing to experience eligibility issues, contact Adrienne Shields (Adrienne.Shields@fssa.in.gov)



INARF Upcoming Events: CQL Webinars

- DSP Workforce Issues – March 12, 11 AM (EST)
 - INARF DSP Workforce Strategic Priority
- Data & Decision-Making – April 9, 11 AM (EST)
 - INARF Data Collection Strategic Priority
- Introduction to the Basic Assurances[®] - May 14, 11 AM (EST)
 - INARF Managed Care Strategic Priority




CMS ARP State Spending Summary

American Rescue Plan Section 9817 State Spending Plan Summary

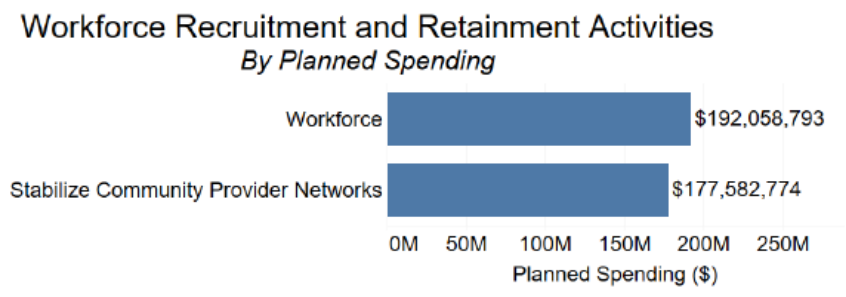
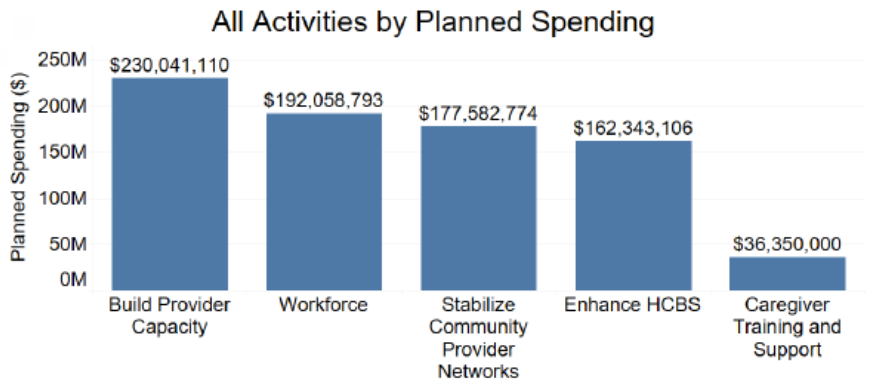


\$798.4M
total planned
\$177.3M
total reported
spending



5
activities
planned

Indiana



Activity Highlights

Recruitment and Retention of Workforce: Enhance the direct service workforce through a comprehensive direct service workforce strategy that involves best practice research and engagement with subject matter experts and stakeholders. Includes an investment grant opportunity for providers that must be directed to their direct service workers to improve recruitment and retention. Explores structural strategies to ensure sustainability of investments.

Integrate HCBS Data Systems to Improve Quality and Reduce Inequities: Improve home and community-based services (HCBS) data systems through system upgrades, updated data management resources, expanded data partners, and enhanced development capacity, and through engagement with national peers to streamline real-time information sharing. Establishment of a comprehensive and integrated HCBS data environment will improve understanding of differences in health outcomes and increase efficiency, which is pivotal from a quality and equity perspective.



Member Forum Survey

Please Take our 2-Minute Survey!





Thank you!

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