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2020 Minnesota Legislative Session Updates

With the 2020 underway, we at MRCI want to keep you updated with some items that may affect your programs.

1. PCA Rate Reform: currently a coalition of participants, advocates and providers have been working towards getting the PCA unit rate into the Rate Management System in an effort to increase wages. The current bill is authored by Senator Relph and Representative Lippert. If you would like to follow these bills please look for Senate File 3457 or House File 3654.
 1. Programs affected by this: PCA Choice
 2. Best Life Alliance: there are several bills under the coalition group of Best Life Alliance. One of which is to



assist the current Rate Management System so it can accurately reflect the market cost by using Department of Human Services data. If you would like to follow these bills, please look for Senate File 3353 or House File 3551.

1. Programs affected by this: Persona Supports and Respite
2. Pilot Project for DSP's: this bill would develop a pilot project for direct support professionals (DSP) and Personal Care Attendants (PCA's) called Direct Care Services Corps. This bill would allow for the professionalization of the direct care industry. If you would like to follow these bills please look for Senate File 2080 or House File 2182.
 1. Programs affected by this: PCA Choice and Personal Supports and Respite

MRCI continues to monitor the legislative session to see who or what affects all the families we serve. If you have any questions please connect with Julie Lux, jlux@MyMRCI.org or 800-829-7110.

DHS Hosting Information Meeting on Autism

Tuesday March 24th, DHS is hosting an informational meeting about services for young people on the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or related conditions in Winona. You can come in person or listen by phone. For more information please visit the DHS website or by clicking [HERE](#).



2020 Training Schedule

Each year MRCI is required to assign training to all workers under the 245D programs of Personal Support and Respite. Below is the calendar of when the trainings will be assigned. Please remember that training is assigned in the beginning of the month and is due by the last day of the month. If your worker does not complete the training they will be temporarily suspended until complete.

Month:	Subjects:
April	Vulnerable Adults, Universal Precautions
June	HIPPA/Data Privacy, First Aid
August	Client Rights
September	Positive Supports Rule
October	CSSPA Review, Person-Centered Planning,

Whose Line Is It Mankato? Postponed

Originally scheduled for April 17th, the event is being rescheduled to the Fall in light of the recent Covid-19 Pandemic.

More details coming soon!

COVID-19 Update

For over 65 years MRCI has taken pride in providing the best possible service to the clients and families we serve. For the best interest of our clients and families, MRCI-CDS will not be allowing any outside visitors into our office building during the next two weeks (March 16 - March 30). Once the two weeks are complete, MRCI-CDS will re-evaluate and send communications to our families regarding the next steps. This action is in response to Governor Walz's announcement of a peacetime state of emergency regarding Covid-19 (Coronavirus).

During these next two weeks we ask all clients, families and direct care workers who need to drop items off please do so at our Map Drive location or the designated envelope at the Premier Drive location. Our staff will do the very best to ensure there is no interruption in the payroll process, paying goods and service vendors and hiring employees. The State of Minnesota is actively working on contingency plans to ensure no interruption as well.

At this time, we at MRCI-CDS ask you to review your back up staffing plans to ensure the continuation of care. If you are concerned with your staffing or other needs during this time, please connect with your county case manager for further assistance from your county.

The world health community continues to monitor COVID-19 as it continues to spread. It is important that all of us take action to prevent further transmission to reduce the impact of the outbreak.

Please read and adhere to the following guideline as it can assist with disease prevention and control at home and in our community.



- Stay home when you are sick.
- Wash your hands frequently
- Utilize hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap is unavailable.
- Cover your mouth with tissues whenever you sneeze and discard used tissues in the trash or cough into your sleeve.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid touching your face, eyes or mouth.

MAKING THE DIFFERENCE



MRCI is one of Minnesota's largest human service non-profit organizations providing meaningful opportunities for individuals with disabilities or special needs to remain in their homes.

Visit our website at www.MRCICDS.org

Reach us by phone at 800.829.7110



MRCI is "creating innovative and genuine opportunities for people with disabilities or disadvantages at home, at work and in the community."

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