



**Legislative Committee
10-19-2021**

Attendees: Alana Schriver, NASP ED; Hailey Humphrey, LEND/CLL Trainee

Providers: Brian Kanter, CSN; Justin Gulbrandson, CSN; Josh Midgett, ILC; Matt Kasik, Region V; Joe Dondlinger, Region V; Mark Matulka, Mosaic;

Related Business Partner: Mark Smith, MMI

Lobbyists: Joe Kohout; Kent Rogert; Matt Schaefer; Brennen Miller; Sean Kelly

1. Alana updated group on latest call with DDD Director, Tony Green (10-18-21)
 - a. When asked about 20% wage increase at BSDC, response was that they are unionized
 - i. Counterpoint by this committee: does the state want providers to unionize? Probably not.
 - b. When asked about a FOIA request for 2018 rate methodology study with unprotected fields in order to 'back into' data and find where it went rogue, Tony's response was:
 - i. To not dwell on a previous study and focus on getting them FY21 cost reports and that will tell the state where the study is off
 - ii. And providers testified at the time that they wanted that study implemented, so it would lack integrity for providers to now say that study is flawed
 - c. When asked why Nebraska left \$60 million on the table with our ARPA / FMAP 10% spending plan, Tony's response was that it isn't "free money" because there is significantly reporting that comes along with it that would require new hires to complete.
2. LR 184 Hearing Oct. 29th 9:00am with HHS Committee [LR184.pdf \(nebraskalegislature.gov\)](#)
 - a. Matt Kasik, Region V, will work with Kent Rogert to speak on behalf of providers
3. Meeting with Governor Rickett's office
 - a. Alana will send a Doodle poll with 6 potential dates in early November for this group to meet with Governor Rickett's office
4. Basic Income Statement Comparisons
 - a. Joe Dondlinger (Region V) will set up a meeting with Justin Solomon (ILC), Justin Gulbrandson (CSN), and Sara Bartroff (Mosaic) representing the four larger providers
 - b. Will look at data from Jan-June period before pandemic and Jan-June period after pandemic
 - c. We want to be able to pay \$2 more per hour than fast food because the work is harder; therefore we could compare what McDonald's was paying per hour pre-pandemic to their current hiring wage (\$8.75 vs \$15) - "Big Maconomics"
 - d. Ideally this data would be available by Oct. 29th hearing
 - e. Another option would be to look at 4th quarter 2020 vs. 4th quarter 2021
5. Our potential "ask"
 - a. Inflation rate + BSDC 20% = our ask