



**DCF 57 Advisory Council Meeting - MINUTES**  
**July 22, 2025**  
**1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

DCF Staff			
Name	Present	Name	Present
Katie Davis	x	Elaine Pridgen	
Dana Johnson	x	Shelby McCulley	
Kristie Buwalda	x	John Elliott	
Mary Morse	x	Amy Bryant	
Rob Collins	x	Emily Erickson	x
Rachel Nili		Jeanette Paules	x
Dustin Hinze	x	Frances Bass	

Member	Present	Nominating Organization
Kathy Markeland	x	WAFCA
Mary Beth Dugan		Nehemiah Group Home
Dave Fretz	x	Forward Home for Boys
India Hansen		Office of Lived Experience @ DCF
Brian Peil		DOC – Juvenile corrections
Dr. Maurice Johnson		Moe's Transitional Living Center (COA)
Lisa Netterville (iPhone 2)	x	New Hope & Destiny Home II (COA)
Caylee Nichols	x	Positive Alternatives
Audra O'Connell		Walker's Point GH (homeless program)
Jennifer Pester		Office of Lived Experience
Jill Collins		DMCPS
Lisa Pendleton	x	WAFCA (Winnebago County)
Stephen Bedwell		WAFCA (Racine County)
Amy Rodriguez		DOC
Sandy Plascencia Karri	x	WAFCA

**Attachments:**

- DCF 57 Rule Revisions July 2025 AC Handout – *This includes proposed language changes to DCF 57 with questions for review by the Advisory Council.*
- 7.22.25 Advisory Council Meeting Agenda – *Meeting agenda*
- DCF 57 Overview of Proposed Changes Presentation\_AC Handout 2 – *Proposed DCF 57 changes overview presentation with information of rule areas most affected.*

## AGENDA

- ❖ **Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions. (Dana Johnson - DCF)**
  - See attendance roster above.
  - Agenda and minutes from last meeting were attached to the meeting invite.
- ❖ **Overview DCF 57 proposed changes & Feedback & Questions – *it should be noted that all elements in this sections are potential changes at this time, none have been formally approved by the Secretary or Governor.***
  - Rule sections with potential changes
    - Asked about liability amount for insurance. No limit is listed in the draft rule.
    - Positive feedback on personnel section don't need to get exceptions for 18- or 19-year-olds who have lived experience.
    - Clarified qualifications of director and manager related to age, degrees and experience.
    - Will need to complete the traineeship + orientation before staff can work independently.
    - Asked for clarification regarding the CPR, AED and first aid training qualify.
    - Diagram what credentials could be carried over to be approved for employment.
    - Asked about the anti-human trafficking training being transferrable if coming from another group home.
    - Question about the unplanned and planned discharge distinction. Is not included in RCC or DCF 56 rule.
    - Searches discussion. Reviewed the previous memo issued and added it into the rule.
    - Highlighted the incorporation of hair care, regarding consent. No feedback at this time.
    - No feedback on 28-day limit for respite. Important to have parameters around respite.
    - No feedback on sleeping arrangements.
    - Helpful to have flexibility in square footage requirements.
  - **DCF provided a set of questions for feedback and response at the meeting:**
    - ***What are the things you believe a staff member should be competent in besides training listed in 57.12?***
      - No comments.
    - ***Regarding background checks: What should be the requirements for background checks and even training for a contractor who comes in and provides a therapeutic group in the group home?***
      - Concerned that persons are providing a service and now need to upload them into PIE.
    - Removed the requirement for a TB skin test to be completed upon employment.  
***Should we include in the medical information that they disclose they have a communicable disease.***

- All group homes have nurses that can determine if communicable disease is a concern; can the nurse who works at the group home allowed to attest to this.
- **Recommendation:** all references to communicable disease be removed.
- **Concerns with scheduling the medical evaluation within 30 days of a youth entering the facility?**
  - No comment
- **Discussion re: 18+ year old residents.**
  - If they started their school year and are now turned 21; can they stay in care to complete their year of school? Yes.
  - This may be outside the scope of the group home rule. **FLAG for DCF policy team:** It is tied to rule on how old a person may be and still qualify for out of home care.
- **Feedback on planned vs. unplanned discharge.**
  - No feedback
- **Prevent access to the premises by a person who may be considered dangerous, language was added.**
  - No feedback
- **Space requirements for all areas of the group home were removed.**
  - No feedback
- **Needs determination process may be changing, reviewed high-level potential changes and overall thinking of DCF policy team:**
  - Collaboration with partners on identifying need on a statewide basis. Goal is to determine where we need resources using data, placement rates, etc. This ties into DCF requirement to certify that there is a need for additional capacity.
  - **ACTION ITEM: Could current providers provide feedback on need by taking the information from the meeting and asking their colleagues?**
- **What if all NEW group homes, after the rule is implemented, were required to have QRTP certification?**
  - **ACTION ITEM: Could current providers provide feedback on need by taking the information from the meeting and asking their colleagues?**
- ❖ **Next steps**
  - **ACTION ITEM: Review handout questions and ask colleagues for feedback on areas we discussed.**
- ❖ **Adjourn**