**W-2 Contractors’ Meeting** **Location:** MS Teams

**Date:** February 28, 2024

**Time:** 10:30am – 12:00pm

Invitees

FSC  Equus  WRI  WCI  AWWI  UMOS  Ross  Maximus Inc

**Please share the meeting minutes with your staff and access the** [DCF website](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/w2/partners/toolbox/contractorsmeeting) **for agendas and meeting minutes for previous W-2 Contractors’ Meetings.**

Call in option:

Microsoft Teams Meeting

**(608) 571-2209, 120 701 188#**

Agenda Items

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS **Owner**: Anna Sainsbury

**Time Allotted:** 5 minutes

Details: Roll Call

Discussion:

* Anna took attendance.
* Anna stated that the WPR Reporting agenda item has been postponed to the March 2024 meeting.

1. DCF STAFF UPDATES **Owner**: Patara Horn

**Time Allotted:** 5 minutes

Details: Update and/or discussion

Discussion:

* Patara is submitting paperwork to hire new section managers for the Contract Administration and Milwaukee Operations sections, and is looking to fill both positions in late March or early April 2024.
* TANF Automation Section (TAS) Manager Laura O’Flanagan will be on leave starting Friday, March 8, 2024. Patara will be the interim TAS Manager. DFES Deputy Administrator Linda Richardson will replace Patara as the interim Contract Administration Section Manager.

1. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE **Owner**: Patara Horn

**Time Allotted:** 10 minutes

Details: update and/or discussion

Discussion:

* BWF has been meeting with the DCF Secretary’s Office regarding the Emergency Assistance (EA) program.
* The number of EA denials has been increasing and approval rates have been decreasing.
* The EA program has been considerably underspent during past several fiscal years.
* The EA benefit will increase to $1,200 for housing emergencies for groups of 2-5 individuals, adding $220 for each additional person. The new maximum for an energy crisis will be $750 for all group sizes.
* These new benefit amounts are effective Monday, April 1, 2024, assuming that automation changes can be implemented by then.
* BWF will issue an operations memo providing additional details.
* BWF acknowledges that there may be concerns from agencies and has a monitoring plan in place.
* By increasing the benefit amount, EA will be a more useful tool to help families.

1. UPCOMING OPERATIONS MEMO **Owner**: Abby Harrison

**Time Allotted:** 5 minutes

Details: update and/or discussion

Discussion:

* BWF will issue an operations memo to align W-2 policy with Child Care policy.
* The memo will be published on Monday, March 4, 2024.
* The memo will also include a technical change.
* Questions can be submitted to Abby Harrison [abigail.harrison@wisconsin.gov](mailto:abigail.harrison@wisconsin.gov).

1. SYSTEM UPDATES **Owner**: Heidi Hammes

**Time Allotted:** 5 minutes

Details: update and/or discussion

Discussion:

* A [Help Desk email](https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/w2/help-desk/emails/022224-upcoming-system-change-notification.pdf) sent on Thursday, February 22, 2024, provided information about system updates effective Saturday, February 24, 2024, including the following:
  + DCF can turn off Job Access Loan as an application type in ACCESS if funding is unavailable.
  + Participants in Transform Milwaukee Jobs, Transitional Jobs, Children First, and ELEVATE can view and sign their Employability Plan in ACCESS.
  + Case comments have a new filtering functionality.
* The next System Subcommittee meeting will be held on Thursday, March 7, 2024. Attendees are encouraged to submit ideas for agenda topics.

1. DV FUNDING IMPACTS ON W-2 AGENCIES **Owner**: Marianne Hirsch

**Time Allotted:** 10 minutes

Details: update and/or discussion

Discussion:

* See the PowerPoint presentation below.



1. WISCONSIN WORKS AND RELATED PROGRAMS RFP PRESENTATION **Owner**: Patara Horn

**Time Allotted:** 20 minutes

Details: update and/or discussion

Discussion:

* See the PowerPoint presentation below.



* Brian Covey stated that it is one of the better written RFPs that he has seen.
* A Proposers Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Attendance is optional.

1. AGENCY UPDATES **Owner**: W-2 Agencies

**Time Allotted:** N/A

Details: Updates submitted via email.

* Workforce Connections Inc (WCI)



* UMOS



* Forward Service Corporation (FSC)



1. WALK-ONS **Owner**: All

**Time Allotted:** 15 minutes

Details: update and/or discussion

Discussion:

* No walk-ons.

1. CLOSING **Owner**: Anna Sainsbury

**Time Allotted:** 5 minutes

Details: Discussion if needed.

Discussion:

* Please submit agenda items via e-mail to Anna Sainsbury [anna.sainsbury@wisconsin.gov](mailto:anna.sainsbury@wisconsin.gov).
* Please include Topic, Presenter, and Duration for planning purposes.
  + Please provide Anna with presentation documents prior to the meeting.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

10:30am – 12:00pm

Microsoft Teams