

Iowa Alliance in Home Care

2009 Legislative Priorities - DRAFT

Medicaid Fee Schedule Appropriations

Background

The current Medicaid Home Care “fixed rate” fee schedule implementation date is July 1, 2009. IAHC has submitted a report to IME that includes recommended fees based on thorough analysis of the cost of delivering home care services by Iowa home health agencies. To ensure adequate reimbursement at or close to these recommended fees will require the Iowa legislature to include sufficient funds via the approved Iowa DHS appropriations bill during the 2009 Iowa legislative session.

IAHC Legislative Priority#1

Ensure that Iowa DHS appropriations fully fund the new Medicaid home care “fixed rate” fee schedule.

Health Care Reform Inclusion

Background

Several “health care reform” initiatives are currently being considered by the Iowa legislature. Home care is an often overlooked consideration in the broader debate. IAHC must remain vigilant in its efforts to participate in committee-level (i.e. task force, commissions) activities that facilitates key dialogue.

IAHC Legislative Priority#2

Ensure that the Iowa home care community is included in any health care reform committee-level appointments and is included in all resulting reports and ultimate legislation.

Direct Care Worker Certification & Licensure

Background

A recently released Direct Care Worker Task Force report recommends the creation of a state board that would certify the workers, a process of certification at three separate levels and the development of standardized training and continuing education requirements.

IAHC Legislative Priority#3

Support appropriate Direct Care Worker initiatives through non-regulatory processes.