

Minutes: Medicaid Services Advisory Committee

Date: 2/11/2020

Time: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location: Room 2360, [Elmer Andersen Building](#), 540 Cedar St. Saint Paul, MN 55155

Participation

Participating members: Robert Marcum, George Klauser, Kate Quale, Bradford Teslow, Hodan Guled, Kerri Gordon, Beth McMullen, Samuel Moose, Dr. Christine Foulkes, Shannon Bakshian, Dr. Jean Balestrery, Dr. Micah Niermann, Lynette Tahtinen

DHS staff: Krista O'Connor, Dr. Nathan Chomilo,

Presenters: PJ Weiner (DHS), Crystal Fairchild (DHS), Krista O'Connor (DHS) and Kylie Nicholas (The Improve Group)

Welcome and announcements

Krista O'Connor opened the meeting by welcoming the members. Krista also welcomed public participants and noted there was a public comment period at the end of the meeting. The HCA vision, MSAC purpose and duties were reviewed. The meeting agenda was also reviewed.

The Medicaid Services Advisory Committee is comprised of three categories which include beneficiaries/caregivers of beneficiaries, physicians/providers and non-profit/human services/consumer organizations. Members introduced themselves and stated the knowledge and skills they bring to the committee.

Nathan Chomilo, MD FAAP introduced himself as the new Medical Director for Medicaid and MinnesotaCare

Krista informed the group that Matt Anderson was recently hired as the HCA Assistant Commissioner and would be starting at DHS in late February.

Members approved October meeting minutes and new members completed final paperwork.

Krista announced that five seats were expiring in August 2020 and current members wishing to continue on the committee should re-apply utilizing the Secretary of State website.

Committee members shared updates.

Procurement input opportunity

PJ Weiner, Purchasing and Service Delivery Manager (HCA) explained that procurement of managed care purchasing is conducted every five years at a minimum. The process includes the state issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP), the health plans responding, and the state selecting the plans to participate. The state is in the process of developing the RFP and is looking for input on what managed care organizations (MCOs) should be doing or should have in place. Among other items, PJ mentioned they are interested in feedback on social determinants of health and their impact on health outcomes,

how disparities in health care outcomes should be addressed and/or measured, and health care for older adults and/or individuals with disabilities. PJ indicated that she will be following up with additional details on how this group can help inform the RFP for upcoming procurement.

DHS Equity Activities

Crystal Fairchild, HCA Equity Director presented on equity activities happening within DHS Health Care Administration. She explained that DHS's policy on equity strives to institutionalize an approach to decision making, program and policy development, implementation and evaluation that improves outcomes and reduces health and human services disparities and inequities for the people DHS serves. The Health Care Administration has an Equity Committee to advance the goals of the DHS policy. Crystal explained the purpose of the committee and the work it will accomplish. Crystal collected guidance from Medicaid Services Advisory Committee members on different activities that have been implemented within their organizations to reduce health disparities, what activities have shown results, and how DHS can utilize this information to reduce disparities for individuals receiving Medicaid.

Hodan Guled provided information on the use of "on the ground" navigators, open door policy, and walk in services. She also mentioned the practice of hiring from the communities they serve, meeting with people where they are at, utilizing trusted community partners to provide messages and information, and providing services in a user focused, efficient manner. Beth McMullen shared that they have also found it helpful to recruit volunteers from the communities they serve, and meet with individuals in convenient locations (churches, communities, diverse elder groups). She also mentioned that implementing system changes may be helpful in order to gather, track and measure necessary data.

Blue Ribbon Commission on Health and Human Services

Kylie Nicholas, from the Improve Group, discussed an approach for stakeholder engagement for the Blue Ribbon Commission. She provided an overview of the Blue Ribbon Commission's charge and the goals of the community engagement work. Kylie presented four strategies for the committee members to review. Committee members provided input on the potential benefits and downsides of the strategies, the implementation barriers and the impact of the strategies on different communities. Committee members were encouraged to participate in the Blue Ribbon Commission public comment periods, attend meetings and invite others to be engaged in the Commission's work. The final report is due to the Governor and legislature on October 1, 2020.

More information on the [Blue Ribbon Commission](https://mn.gov/dhs/hhsbrc/) can be found at: <https://mn.gov/dhs/hhsbrc/>

Public comment

Public comment is offered at all Medicaid Services Advisory Committee meetings. No public comment was offered at the 2 11 2020 meeting.

Adjourn and next meeting

The Medicaid Services Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 2:30. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2020, from 12:30 – 2:30 pm, and will be held virtually, via WebEx.

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