



State of Illinois  
Illinois Department on Aging

## OASAC Medicaid Enrollment Oversight Subcommittee Meeting

June 8, 2020  
1:00- 2:30 p.m.  
(Approved September 7, 2021)

Call in option: Dial: #1-415-655-0002 Access Code: 177 625 6397#; then press # again

Video System option: Please see Outlook invite to join by video

### **Members in Attendance:**

Lora McCurdy, Deputy Director, Department on Aging (Chair)  
Pam Winsel for Kelly Cunningham, Department of Healthcare & Family Services  
Darby Anderson, Addus HomeCare, Inc.  
Marla Fronczak, Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging  
Marsha Johnson, Community Care Systems, Inc.  
Dave Lowitzki, Lowitzki Consulting

### **Department on Aging staff:**

Mike Berkes, John Eckert, Kimberly Flesch, Mary Gilman, Jessica Klaus, Sophia Gonzalez, Amy Lulich, and Gloria Simmons

### **Guests:**

Robin Morgan (HFS), Lauren Tomko (HFS)

### **Members Unable to Attend:**

Paula Basta, Director, Illinois Department on Aging  
Ann Irving, AFSCME Council 31  
Lori Hendren, AARP  
David Olsen, Alzheimer's Association  
Anna Moeller, State Representative  
Terri Bryant, State Representative  
Dave Syverson, State Senator

### **Welcome & Introductions**

Lora McCurdy welcomed everyone to the meeting. All members, guests and IDoA staff in Chicago, Springfield and on the phone introduced themselves.

### **Approval of January 26, 2021 Subcommittee meeting Minutes**

John Eckert asked for a motion to approve the January 26, 2021 meeting minutes. Marsha Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes. Dave Lowitzki seconded. No corrections or changes were noted. All members voted in favor. The approved minutes will be posted on the IDoA website.

## Review Quarterly Report Data & Trends

### Status of Medicaid Enrollment:

Kimberly Flesch went over the Quarterly Enrollment trend and noted that we had an increase in caseloads and the Medicaid enrollment percentage is slowly increasing; we were at 74% the last time we met and now we are at 74.5% and it includes MCOs. Lora McCurdy noted that in May 2019 there was a 65.1% enrollment. Darby Anderson commented that that is positive to see the trend and the objective of the enabling legislation being accomplished. He added that this is great work by everyone involved. Kim stated that we now have the trend that shows every month, based on a previous recommendation, and she has started to take off the previous month to add the new month. She added that this is an enormous set of data and we are looking at 2 years in this chart. We can see that each PSA is pretty much following the same trend. We did notice that there has been a slight decrease in PSAs 04 and a continuous decrease in PSA 08. The Department plans on talking to these CCUs to find out if there is a problem enrolling people in Medicaid. We do know that they have quite a bit of new people coming on that are not on Medicaid. Overall, the PSAs have been following the same trend, you look at the line graph. Darby noted that PSA 08 is going backwards and not improving and mentioned it could be demographics. He also noted that PSA 04 is a little low and that may be worth looking into a more. Lora stated that the Department can follow up with the CCUs to dig a little deeper with PSAs 04 and 08. Marsha Johnson commented that she in PSA 04, in Fulton County and they have had a lot of people come on, but they've been over assets for applying for Medicaid. She stated that she can reach out to them again, there are about 500-600 clients. Darby suggested looking at caseload numbers, they are the 2 largest growing PSAs since August. Kim shared that it could be a delay on getting Medicaid possibly, and we may need to look again in 3 months after everything is processed. Lora also mentioned that the Public Health Emergency protects people and maintains their Medicaid eligibility and she is wondering if these numbers down the road will have changes after the PHE period. Kim mentioned that the group had this discussion during the last meeting. Darby suggested that we get out there and publicize these results. Lora agreed that these results should be shared with the legislators in this committee.

### PHE extension and Appendix K

Mike Berkes shared that it is great to have the HFS team on the call that have worked with us on Appendix K. He stated that beginning in March 2020 federal CMS has been authorizing 90-day extensions for the PHE. Earlier Pam Winsel (HFS) reached out to CMS to make sure that our Appendix K would expire 6 months after the PHE period ends. Currently, the PHE period that had been extended to April 15<sup>th</sup>, was extended another 90 days to mid-July. If the PHE period is not extended from July, our Appendix K would be set to expire on December 2021. Mike added that this group should recognize that as we work through the Restore IL phases, we are looking at reaching Phase 5 this Friday and are providing guidance to all our providers. Now that we will be moving to Phase 5, we will be resuming our face to face activities, cautiously and safely, but after talking with Pam we will leave the Appendix K as to create a safety net. Darby Anderson commented that he had thought he heard that the Biden Administration was going to extend the PHE to the end of December 2021. Amy Lulich stated that Darby may be correct in that they do expect to extend the PHE another 90 days through the end of 2021.

### FMAP Incentive

Lora McCurdy shared that federal CMS shared guidance to the states on the American Rescue Plan and the ability for states to collect a 10% enhanced FMAP. A 30-day extension was submitted to CMS for the submission of the spending plan, it is now due by July 11<sup>th</sup>. Pam Winsel added that the spending plan may be submitted sooner that within 30 days. Lora stated that with the FMAP, the Department would also be collecting a 10% enhanced FMAP from April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022, which must be spent by March 31, 2024. She added that there is still a lot of information that is unclear to the Department but the communication and conversations with CMS will continue. Pam added that communication and clarification from CMS is still needed not only by our State. Information needs be obtained from CMS on how much money will be received and then we can create our spending plan and outcome measures. Pam shared that HFS has gathered ideas from our sister agencies with the various waivers. Once the spending plan is approved, we would need to submit a quarterly report to CMS. Pam shared that they have received feedback from associations and citizens on how they feel this money should be spent. A public notice comment on the HFS website was posted that ended last Friday, but it will be extended to June 18<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in submitting a comment it can be found on the HFS website. All comments received will be shared with the waiver agencies. Lora shared that the CMS guidance can be shared in the chat or sent to everyone on the call. If anyone has any feedback it can be sent to the HFS inbox before June 18<sup>th</sup>. Marla Fronczak asked what kind of feedback is being requested; ideas on what to spend the money on? Lora responded that there are a lot of options under the guidance and ideas would be helpful. She shared that the CCP Association submitted comments. Feedback on overall guidance, services to enhance quality of life and keep people in the community.

### Report Uploader Data

Mary Gilman shared that as of September 1, 2020 the Department started requiring the CCUs to go into an application and submit proof of when they are completing an initial assessment and an initial Medicaid application and attach a copy of the first page of the Medicaid application or the conformation from ABE. Mary shared that Kim Flesh had recently ran the data shared and noted that in June, July and August this requirement was not implemented yet. The small numbers you see in those months are the CCUs that were testing the uploader for us. Kim shared that everyone should be looking at the data from September and on. However, this is still during the pandemic and many of the Care Coordinators are were working from home and only going into the offices to do some specific work and they may have not been able to upload these applications. These low numbers have been identified by CCU and we do plan to contact them to figure out what happened. She did note that this is the first time we are collecting this data and have nothing to compare it to. Kim shared that she could see a reason for why some numbers would be up, maybe because more people are needing assistance, but she can also see why the numbers would go down, if they do not want assistance. Maybe because they are not wanting people in their homes, it will be interesting to see how those numbers change over time. Kim shared that the Department will continue to watch these numbers and update everybody. Mary added that the lower numbers in certain PSA's make sense because they are CCUs with less people on the caseload. There are some CCUs that have not updated any applications. Marla Fronczak asked if this is how the CCUs get paid. Kim responded that every initial is at the higher rate, the billing is based on the initial assessment. Marla commented that she thought it was a follow up. Marla stated that it looked low. Marsha Johnson stated that it was only for

initials; they do not upload for any others. Lora McCurdy mentioned that it was very helpful to look at this data and asked if anyone else had any questions.

Public Comment, Other Issues & Announcements

None.

Adjournment:

Dave Lowitzki made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marsha Johnson seconded. All members voted favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m.