



State of Illinois
Illinois Department on Aging

OASAC Medicaid Enrollment Oversight Subcommittee Meeting

May 23, 2023 (Approved on September 5, 2023)
1:00- 2:30 p.m.

Call in option: Dial: #1-415-655-0002 Access Code: 2457 912 2216#; then press # again

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

Members in Attendance:

Becky Dragoo, Deputy Director, Department on Aging (Chair)
Darby Anderson, Addus HomeCare, Inc.
Kelly Cunningham, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Jack Lockhart for State Senator Ann Gillespie
Marsha Johnson, Community Care Systems, Inc.
David Olsen, Alzheimer's Association Illinois Chapter

Department on Aging staff:

Sarah Carlson, Selma D'Souza, John Eckert, Sophia Gonzalez, Jennifer Hebel, Melissa Schackel, Iris Schweier, and Liz Vogt

Guests:

Meghan Carter (Legal Counsel for Health Justice)

Members Unable to Attend:

Lori Hendren, AARP
Marla Fronczak, Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging
Ann Irving, AFSCME Council 31
Dave Lowitzki, Lowitzki Consulting
Anna Moeller, State Representative
Terri Bryant, State Senator
Jackie Hass, State Representative

Call to Order & Approve Minutes of February 7, 2023 meeting:

John Eckert welcomed everyone to the meeting. Sophia Gonzalez shared the names of all attendees. David Olsen made a motion to call meeting to order and Marsha Johnson seconded. Eckert asked for a motion to approve the February 7th meeting minutes. David Olsen made a motion to approve the minutes and Darby Anderson seconded. All members voted in favor. There were no corrections or additions, the meeting minutes were approved and will be posted on the IDoA website.

Mandatory Board Member Training 2023

Sophia Gonzalez reminded everyone that the required Ethics and HDP training must be completed June 30, 2023. Reminders will continue to be sent to those that have not submitted their acknowledgment forms.

Review Quarterly Report Data & Trends

John Eckert shared that Kimberly Flesch is on vacation and he will be going over the reports she prepared. He asked everyone to look at the Quarterly Enrollment report that shows the number of individuals that are on Medicaid by PSA. He noted that there are no changes from the last meeting; all areas continue to show an increase in their numbers as they have been since back in 2019. He stated that we expect all these numbers to continue to grow because of the continued growth in the aging population in Illinois. Eckert went over the Enrollment Trend charts that support the growth and noted that we are at significant 77%. The Department continues working with areas that need to get their numbers up; we are still trying to get the PSA 08 number up to be at an acceptable level. The fourth chart on page 2 shows the total number of individuals on Medicaid for both CCP and MCO. When this committee first convened back in September 2018 that number was 64.9% and as of April 20th that number has grown to 77%. He believes it is a significant change and added that folks have worked hard at the CCU and MCO level to get people enrolled in Medicaid. Currently the Department only counts initial participants with less than \$4,000 in assets who are not enrolled in Medicaid. However, the next report will count all initials that who are not already on Medicaid, regardless of the asset amount. We anticipate these numbers to shift a bit.

Deputy Director Becky Dragoo shared that the change in asset limit that went into effect is expected to impact the number of individuals enrolled in Medicaid. The asset limit for Medicaid increased from \$2000 to \$17,500 and we will see an increase in the number of individuals eligible to enroll in Medicaid and the number of individuals on the CCP program that were not eligible. Dragoo noted that in respect to the PHE unwinding that the change in asset limit was timed to occur just after the ending of some flexibilities. On May 11th the flexibility that allowed individuals to come on Medicaid with presumptive eligibility ended as well. These individuals that came on with presumptive eligibility will need to be reassessed and file another application to see if they meet the eligibility requirements and the change of assets may help them.

Deputy Director Dragoo noted that another flexibility was slated to end on May 11th but HFS had received an extension on that when we filed for legally responsible individuals (LRI) to be caregivers for participants in the CCP program. It was extended that through November 11th and the Department is looking at what that might look like for participants that currently have LRI's in the future. Once this flexibility ends on November 11th it would have to come through the form of change or a permanent request in our waiver through HFS and CMS approval. Deputy Director added that these changes include a lot of extra work for our CCUs as they move forward with redeterminations and reaching out to individuals that came on with presumptive eligibility. Liz Vogt added that on Friday, the Department released an updated mandatory Medicaid policy to our network. It has been updated slightly with the new asset limit and she encourages everyone to look at it. There were no changes on the CCP asset limit only changes to processes and procedures that the CCUs need to follow to try to maximize all the individuals that could potentially be eligible for Medicaid.

Darby Anderson asked how the group felt about the redeterminations and asset limit for Medicaid change, these are two significant changes and asked if we want to track the progress. Perhaps change the way we have been tracking this and account for those two significant changes. The numbers speak for themselves, and it has been a great effort over the last 2 years to solve a problem and he doesn't know how much longer this

Subcommittee should continue. Eckert commented that now we have a baseline, and we can factor these two things in. We will certainly share this with Kim Flesch when she returns and add these two pieces moving forward. Deputy Director Becky Dragoo agrees that this is a good point, and we want to see the impact of the Medicaid policy. Marsha Johnson agreed with Anderson and stated that there we will see a lot of changes within the next few months and asked if this Subcommittee should continue. Eckert assured everyone that the Department will continue to update these reports and will be sharing the updates at OASAC and other stakeholder meetings. He added that this is not going away but we also know that this Subcommittee was put in statute with a sunset date. Anderson stated that he agrees with Eckert, we have fulfilled our legislative mandate, and this could be shifted to other groups.

Public Comment, Other Issues & Announcements

David Olsen asked if Aging will be impacted by the Undocumented Health Care Program because he has heard there is a lot of consternation with the budget process. Eckert shared that Aging has looked at our rule because there have been some individuals trying to apply for CCP and they do not qualify. Deputy Director Dragoo added that we do periodically hear about individuals that are in that status seeking long term care, they need skilled nursing or community services, and it is present in our minds on how we can assist. Kelly Cunningham shared that long term care services are not a covered benefit available under this program for health care benefits for senior immigrants or undocumented adults and it is under discussion right now.

John Eckert re-stated that this Subcommittee will be sunseting after the next meeting on September 5th. The Department will continue to track this data and continue to work with colleagues at other state agencies.

Adjournment

David Olsen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Darby Anderson seconded. All members voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.