



HFS

Illinois Department of
Healthcare and Family Services

JB Pritzker, Governor
Elizabeth M. Whitehorn, Director

401 S. Clinton St., Chicago, Illinois 60607
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Public Education Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, November 14, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: The meeting was held virtually via Webex

Audience: Public Education Subcommittee (Pub Ed)

Pub Ed Members Present:

Chair (*)

Sherie Arriazola Martinez- chaired the meeting on behalf of Nadeen Isreal

Tim Jackson, Designee for *Nadeen Israel

Kathy Chan, Cook County Health

Michelle Herron, Designee for Nancy Aguirre, Community and Residential Services
Authority

Edith Avila Olea, ICIRR

Sue Vega, Alivio Medical Center

Connie Schiele, HSTP

Edith Avila Olea, ICIRR

Brittany Ward, Lurie Children's Hospital

*Public Education Subcommittee Chair

Pub Ed Members Absent:

Chantel Bowen, SIU School of Medicine

State Staff Members Present:

Margaret Dunne

Melishia Bansa

Jenna King

Crystal Snodgrass

Jacqueline (Jac) Myers

Katherine (Kate) Yager

Kristin Hartsaw

Sara Bechtold-Medema

Jean Davis

Delores McKinney

Dr. Arvind Goyal

Jennifer Sauer

Megan Clark

Stephani Becker

Aileen Kim

Emma Watters-Reardon

Jerome Beverly

Dominic Marchiori

Jessica Griffin

Mariel Hamer-Sinclair

Jessica Bounds

Keshonna Lones

Scott Slater



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Public Education Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

- I. **Call to Order:** Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach | Boards and Commissions, called the meeting to order on Friday, November 14, 2025, at 10:03 a.m. The meeting was held on the Webex Platform. Ms. Bansa addressed housekeeping and ground rules for the meeting.
- II. **Housing Keeping Rules:** Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach | Boards and Commissions, reviewed the guidelines for submitting comments and asking questions during the meeting, applicable to both the general public and subcommittee members
- III. **Roll Call of Subcommittee Members:** Ms. Bansa, facilitated the roll call of the subcommittee members. The quorum was confirmed.
- IV. **Introductions of HFS Staff Members:** Ms. Bansa, introduced HFS Lead Admin Staff for Pub Ed Subcommittee.
- V. **Review and Approval of November 14th, 2025, Meeting Minutes**
 - A. Motion: Sherie Arriazola Martinez, Subcommittee member, moved approval of the meeting minutes. Kathy Chan, Subcommittee member, gave the first motion. Connie Schiele, Subcommittee member, seconded the motion. No oppositions. No abstentions. **Motion carried.**
- VI. **State Updates:** This complete presentation, including each section, can be referenced and reviewed on the HFS MAC website at the following link: [Presentation Decks | HFS \(illinois.gov\)](#)
 - A. **Division of Medical Programs: Keshonna Lones, Bureau Chief, Manage Care, introduced this segment:**
 - I. **HCI Contract**

Provided an update on FIDE-SNP, which included information that HFS is currently undergoing a re-procurement process and has issued a publicly available Request for Proposals (RFP).
 - II. **FIDE-SNP**

Provided an update on FIDE-SNP, which included information that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requires all states with MMAI programs to transition to the D-SNP model. As a result, the Illinois Medicare-Medicaid Alignment Initiative (MMAI) program



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ended on December 31, 2025. On January 1, 2026, HFS began offering Medicare Advantage Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs).

B. Eligibility Updates: Jacqueline Myers, Bureau Chief, Eligibility Integrity, introduced this segment:

I. Medicaid Applications

Provided an update on Medicaid application data, which included for the fiscal year to date (FTYD), as well as information on appeals.

II. Redetermination Data

Provided an update on redetermination data, which included redetermination data categorized by status—closed, pending, and retained—as well as by county, race, ethnicity, and language spoken. Additional details can be found in the [Illinois Report Center at Report Center](#).

III. Family Planning: Margaret Dunne, Division of Eligibility Program Analyst introduced this segment:

Provided an update on data current family planning enrollment figures.

C. State-Based Marketplace: Stephani Becker, Deputy Administrator State-Based Marketplace, introduced this segment: provided an update on the State-Based Marketplace, including the launch of *Get Covered Illinois* on November 1, 2025.

D. New Policy/Modification: Crystal Snodgrass, Senior Public Service Administrator for Medical Eligibility Policy, introduced this segment: provided an update regarding the new policies or policy modifications implemented between August 25 and November 2025.

E. Leadership Updates: Emma Watters- Reardon, Policy Director introduced this segment: provided an update on changes to Medicaid in H. R.1 and its impact on the Medicaid program.

F. DHS Updates: Sara Bechtold-Medema, DHS, Bureau Chief Policy Development introduced this segment: provided an update on the



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changes to the SNAP program under H.R. 1 and their impact on SNAP operations.

VII. Public Comments: Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach| Board and Commissions, introduced this segment:

A. No public comments.

VIII. Additional Business: Old and New: Nadeen Israel, Chair, introduced this segment:

A. Items for Future Discussion:

Sherie Arriazola Martinez, Subcommittee Member, shared the following request from Nadeen Israel, Chair of the Public Education Subcommittee:

- Nadeen Israel: Requested that HFS ensure eligibility and redetermination data in the *Reports Center* section of the HFS website are regularly updated.

B. HFS Announcements: Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach | Boards and Commissions, introduced this segment:

I. Pub Ed Resources:

Ms. Bansa provided updates on Pub Ed subcommittee resources.

II. Updates to the 2026 Meeting Schedule:

Ms. Bansa provided an update that the 2026 meeting dates will be posted on the HFS website soon.

C. Announcements: Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach | Boards and Commissions, introduced this segment: Ms. Bansa reminded the subcommittee members to complete their ethics training.

IX. Concluding Directives and Wrap-Up: This was facilitated by Sherie Arriazola Martinez, Subcommittee Member.

X. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

A. Motion: Sherie Arriazola Martinez, Subcommittee Member, moved a motion to adjourn the meeting. Connie Schiele, Subcommittee member, gave the first motion. Kathy Chan, Subcommittee member seconded. There was no opposition, and there were no abstentions. **The Motion was Carried.**