



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 and
Continuity of Care Administrative and Simplification
Demonstration (CoC) Annual Public Forum Meeting Minutes**

Date: Friday, June 12th, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: The meeting was held virtually via Webex

Audience: Public Education Subcommittee (Pub Ed)

Pub Ed Members Present:

Chair (*)

*Nadeen Israel

Brittany Ward, Lurie Children's Hospital

Connie Schiele, HSTP

Edith Avila Olea, ICIRR

Marcelino Garcia, Designee for Kathy Chan, Cook County Health

Sue Vega, Alivio Medical Center

*Public Education Subcommittee Chair

Pub Ed Members Absent: None

Chantel Bowen, SIU School of Medicine

State Staff Members Present:

Melishia Bansa

Margaret Dunne

Jenna King

Crystal Snodgrass

Katherine (Kate) Yager

Sarah Sugar

Sara Bechtold-Medema

Avery Dale

Natalie Lawson

Megan Clark

Laura Phelan

Jim Brinkman

Jacqueline (Jac) Myers

Jerome Beverly

Delores McKinney

Aileen Kim

Jamie Munks

Sarah Sugar

Geannette Wittendorf



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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, June 12th, 2026, 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:** Nadeen Israel, Public Education Subcommittee Chair, facilitated the roll call of the subcommittee members. The quorum was confirmed.
- IV. **Introductions of HFS Staff Members:** Ms. Bansa introduced the HFS Lead Admin Staff for the Pub Ed Subcommittee.
- V. **Review and Approval of June 12th, 2026, Meeting Minutes**
 - A. Motion: Nadeen Israel, Public Education Subcommittee Chair, moved approval of the meeting minutes. Connie Schiele, Subcommittee member, gave the first motion. Sue Vega, Subcommittee member, seconded the motion. **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. **Leadership Updates: Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, introduced this segment:**

Provide a thank-you to all subcommittee members for their participation and their willingness to work collaboratively with HFS.

Per the Chairman's request, the agenda has been adjusted. She asked to move Section VI.F (HR1 Implementation) and Section VI.E (DHS Updates) earlier in the presentation due to the significance and priority of these topics. Please see the section notes below for the corresponding sections.
 - B. **Division of Medical Programs: Sarah Sugar, Special Assistant for Managed Care, Division of Medical Programs, introduced this segment:**
 - I. **HCI Contract**



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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. Specialty Managed Care Plan for Youth in Care and Former Youth in Care (currently YouthCare)

Provided an update on the YouthCare re-procurement process. YouthCare is a specialized MCO designed to support current and former youth in care, and HFS is currently undergoing a re-procurement process.



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C. Eligibility Updates: Kate Yager, Administrator, Division of Eligibility, 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: Jac Myers, Bureau Chief, Eligibility Integrity, Division of Eligibility:

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 the current family planning enrollment figures.

IV. Manage My Case: Margaret Dunne, Division of Eligibility Program Analyst, introduced this segment:

Provided an update on ABE customer statistics and ABE Manage My Case daily metrics.

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 March 2026 and June 2026.

E. DHS Updates: Sara Bechtold-Medema, DHS, Bureau Chief, Policy Development, introduced this segment:

Provided an update on the changes to the SNAP program under H.R.1 and its impact on the SNAP program, including work requirements, new rules for non-citizens, and 6-month redetermination.

F. HR1 Implementation: Kate Yager, Administrator, Division of Eligibility Initiatives, introduced this segment:

provided an update on H. R.1 implementation and its impact on the Medicaid program, including work requirements, new rules for non-citizens, and 6-month redetermination.

VII. Public Comments: Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach



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| Boards and Commissions introduced this segment:

A. No public comments.

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

A. Items for Future Discussion:

Nadeen Israel, Public Education Subcommittee Chair, made the following request:

- 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.

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 Nadeen Israel, Public Education Subcommittee Chair.

X. Annual Public Forum: Continuity of Care Administrative and Simplification Demonstration (CoC)

A. CoC Waiver Updates: Avery Dale, Deputy Administrator of Policy, Division of Eligibility, introduced this segment:

Provide an introduction to the CoC Annual Public Forum, offering an overview of the forum, including its purpose, annual public forum requirements, and waiver updates.

B. UIUC Interim Report Presentation: Chi-Fang Wu, Professor, University of Illinois Urbana- Champaign, introduced this segment:

Provide a summary of the CoC Interim Report that was submitted to CMS. The report reflects the midway point of the demonstration and outlines the progress of the waiver, including the implementation of two key policy initiatives: extending Managed Care reenrollment from 60 to 90 days and implementing Hospital Presumptive Eligibility.

C. CoC Public Comments: Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach | Boards and Commissions, introduced this segment:



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Provide guidelines for submitting public comments regarding the CoC demonstration. One comment was received from the public.

XI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

A. Motion Nadeen Israel, Public Education Subcommittee Chair, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sue Vega, Subcommittee member, gave the first motion. Edith Avila Olea, Subcommittee member, seconded. There was no opposition, and there were no abstentions. **The Motion was Carried.**