



**HFS**

Illinois Department of  
Healthcare and Family Services

**JB Pritzker, Governor**

**Lizzy Whitehorn, Director**

---

201 South Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, Illinois 62763-000

**Telephone:** (17) 782-1200  
**TTY:** (800) 526-5812

### **Public Education Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Friday, April 18, 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 (\*)**

\*Nadeen Israel, AIDS Foundation of Chicago

Kathy Chan, Cook County Health

Sherie Arriazola Martinez

Sue Vega, Alivio Medical Center

Chantel Bowen, SIU School of Medicine

Connie Schiele, HSTP

Idalia Flores, Designee for Edith Avila Olea, ICIRR

Nancy Aguirre, Community and Residential Services Authority

#### **Pub Ed Members Absent:**

Brittany Ward, Lurie Children's Hospital

#### **State Staff Members Present:**

Margaret Dunne

Melishia Bansa

Jenna King

Crystal Snodgrass

Jacqueline Myers

Katherine (Kate) Yager

Kristin Hartsaw

Megan Clark

Michael Welton

Stephani Becker

### **Public Education Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

- I. **Call to Order:** Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, called the meeting to order on Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 10:03 a.m. The meeting was held on

**HFS**

Illinois Department of  
Healthcare and Family Services

**JB Pritzker, Governor**

**Lizzy Whitehorn, Director**

---

201 South Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, Illinois 62763-000

**Telephone:** (17) 782-1200  
**TTY:** (800) 526-5812

the WebEx Platform. Ms. Bansa addressed housekeeping and ground rules for the meeting.

- II. Housing Keeping Rules:** Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, 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:** Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, facilitated the roll call of the subcommittee members. The quorum was confirmed.
- IV. Introductions of HFS Staff Members:** Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach introduced Katherine Yager, Administrator, Division of Medical Eligibility.
- V. Review and Approval of November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, Meeting Minutes**
  - A.** Motion: Nadeen Israel, Chair, moved approval of the meeting minutes. Connie Schiele, Subcommittee member gave the first motion. Kathy Chan, 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: Michael Welton, Associate Administrator, Division of Medical Program, introduced this segment.**
    - I. Transforming Maternal Health Innovation Model (TMaH)**
      - I.** Michael Welton, Associate Administrator of the Division of Medical Programs, provided updates on several key initiatives, including the Transforming Maternal Health Innovation Model—an effort aimed at improving maternal health outcomes and reducing disparities. He also provided a status update on Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs), the 1115 Transformation Waiver, and HFS's initiatives related to Cell and Gene Therapy.
  - B. Eligibility Updates: Jacqueline Myers, Bureau Chief, Eligibility Integrity, introduced this segment:**
    - I. Medicaid Applications**

**HFS**

Illinois Department of  
Healthcare and Family Services

**JB Pritzker, Governor**

**Lizzy Whitehorn, Director**

---

201 South Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, Illinois 62763-000

**Telephone:** (17) 782-1200

**TTY:** (800) 526-5812

This section includes data on Medicaid applications for the fiscal year to date (FTYD), as well as information on appeals.

**II. Redetermination Data**

This section includes 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:**

This section provides data current family planning enrollment figures.

**C. New Policy/Modification: Crystal Snodgrass, Senior Public Service Administrator for Medical Eligibility Policy, introduced this segment:**

Crystal Snodgrass, Senior Public Service Administrator for Medical Eligibility Policy, provided an overview of new policies and policy modifications implemented between October 2024 and April 2025.

**D. State Based Marketplace: Stephani Becker, Deputy Administrator, State Based Marketplace, introduced this segment:**

Stephani Becker, Deputy Administrator of the State-Based Marketplace, provided an update on the SBM. Illinois officially launched its State-Based Marketplace on November 1, 2025, and is now considered a state-based marketplace on the federal platform. She also reported an increase in enrollment numbers since the launch.

**E. Health Benefits for Immigrants Adults/Seniors: Kate Yager, Administrator, Division of Eligibility introduced this segment:**

Kate Yager, Administrator of the Division of Eligibility, provided details on the upcoming sunset of the HBIA program, which will end on June 30, 2025.



**HFS**

Illinois Department of  
Healthcare and Family Services

**JB Pritzker, Governor**

**Lizzy Whitehorn, Director**

---

201 South Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, Illinois 62763-000

**Telephone:** (17) 782-1200

**TTY:** (800) 526-5812

Coverage for eligible individuals aged 42 to 64 will be discontinued effective July 1, 2025.

**VII. Public Comments: Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, introduced this segment:**

- A.** Elizabeth Durkin, Manager of Health Care Education and Counseling, Age Options provided a verbal comment.

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

**A. Items for Future Discussion:**

Nadeen Israel, Chair, suggested the following:

- Future meetings include data on Medicaid eligibility and redetermination, specifically regarding the application backlog and processing timelines.
- Requested future updates on the State-Based Marketplace (SBM).
- Requested future discussion regarding the potential impact of the Trump Administration on the Medicaid program.

Subcommittee members requested the following:

- Department share notices in advance for Pub Ed Subcommittee review and ensure that eligibility and redetermination data is regularly updated on the Report Center section of the HFS website.

**B. HFS Announcements: Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, introduced this segment:**

**I. Pub Ed Resources:**

Ms. Bansa provided updates on Pub Ed subcommittee resources.

**II. Updates to the 2025 Meeting Schedule:**

Ms. Bansa provided an update regarding the 2025 Quarterly Meeting Dates.



**HFS**

Illinois Department of  
Healthcare and Family Services

**JB Pritzker, Governor**

**Lizzy Whitehorn, Director**

---

201 South Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, Illinois 62763-000

**Telephone:** (17) 782-1200

**TTY:** (800) 526-5812

**C. Announcement: Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, 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, Chair.

**X. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

**A. Motion:** Nadeen Israel, Chair, moved a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sue Vega, Subcommittee member, gave the first motion. Kathy Chan, Subcommittee member seconded. There was no opposition, and there were no abstentions. **The Motion was Carried.**