

**Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services**  
**Health Equity and Quality Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**  
**August 15, 2023**

**Members Present**

\*Howard Peters, HAP, Inc.  
Larry McCully, Touchette Regional Hospital  
Amber Kirchhoff, Illinois Primary Health Care Association  
Lisa Green, Family Christian Health Center  
Lauren Krause, University of Illinois at Chicago  
Melissa Simon, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine  
Ned Budd, Thorek Hospital  
\*Chair

**Members Absent**

\*\*Derek Robinson, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois  
Jennifer Cartland, Lurie Children's Hospital  
Andrea McGlynn, Cook County Health  
Craig Chico, Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council  
Karen Aguilar, Chicago Hearing Society  
\*\*Co-Chair

**HFS Staff Present**

Kyle Daniels	Lauren Polite
Dawn Wells	Melishia Bansa
Dani Mendez	Michelle Eckhoff
Teresa Flesch	Jenny Aguirre
Sharon Pittman	Kelly Cunningham
Janene Brickey	Brenda Vilayhong
Angela Ryan	

- I. **Call to order:** Howard Peters, Chairman, called the meeting to order.
- II. **Roll Call of Committee Members:** Melishia Bansa, Special Assistant to Director of HFS, facilitated roll call of committee members.
- III. **Introduction of HFS Staff:** HFS Staff were asked to provide introductions utilizing the chat feature of the virtual meeting platform. HFS Staff that were present are reflected in these meeting minutes.
- IV. **Review and Approval of the MAC HEQC Meeting Minutes:** The meeting minutes from the previous meeting were circulated to the subcommittee members for review. These were the November 2022 and March 2023 meeting minutes. Larry McCully made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lisa Green. The minutes were approved and posted on the website.
- V. **Telehealth Feedback:** Dawn Wells, HFS Bureau Chief of Quality Management, introduced Angela Ryan to the meeting. Angela Ryan, Bureau Chief of Legislative Affairs, discussed telehealth feedback. We'll have enough data in the Fall of 2023 to conduct additional analysis of telehealth utilization. The results of this analysis will be presented to the MAC as well as the Health Equity subcommittee for input and feedback. Amber Kirchhoff asked if the Department will be holding a public comment process to solicit feedback from stakeholders beyond the committee. Kelly Cunningham responded by saying it's definitely an idea that's worth some

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merit. She will take that back and discuss. We may want to set up a Webex. It could be very useful. She stated she very much appreciated the question. Melissa Simon wanted to back the support of public comment as well. Please send all public comments regarding telehealth feedback to Melishia Bansa. Remember to put in the subject line – Telehealth feedback so it can be easily identified.

- VI. HFS Review of Balancing Measures and Selection of Measures:** Dawn Wells gave the following presentation which can be found at this link:  
<https://hfs.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/hfs/sitecollectiondocuments/healthequityanqualitycaresdeck08152023.pdf>
- VII. Public Comments:** No public comments were submitted.
- VIII. Additional Business: Old and New:** There was no old or new business to discuss.
- IX. Items for Future Discussion:** Melishia Bansa wanted to remind the committee members that their OneNet trainings are due by December 15, 2023. If there are any recommendations or issues regarding telehealth, please send those to Melishia Bansa and put telehealth feedback in the subject line.
- X. Adjournment:** Amber Kirchhoff made a motion for adjournment. Larry McCully seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm. Please check the meeting schedule for the next meeting date on the HFS website.