



HFS

Illinois Department of
Healthcare and Family Services

JB Pritzker, Governor

201 South Grand Avenue East, Springfield, Illinois 62763

Theresa A. Eagleson, Director

Telephone: +1 217-782-1200, TTY: +1 800-526-5812

Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) Meeting Minutes

Date | Time: Friday, November 17, 2023, | 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Location: Due to COVID-19 Concerns, this meeting was held virtually via WebEx

Audience: Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC)

MAC Members Present:

Chair (*)

Alejandro Clavier, Esperanza Health Centers at VIDA Pediatrics
Amber Smock, Access Living
Andrea Danes, Foster Parent
Audrey Pennington, Aunt Martha's
Cheryl Rucker-Whitaker, Health2047, Inc
Derek Robinson, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois
Howard Peters III, HAP Inc. Consulting
Kathy Chan, Cook County Health *
Larry McCulley, Metro East – Southern Illinois Health Foundation

Absences Recorded

Brian Cloch, Transitional Care Management
Kimberly Mercer-Schleider, Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities

HFS Staff Present:

HFS Director (*)

Medicaid Administrator ()**

Arvind Goyal

Ben Winick

Dani Mendez

Dawn Wells

Jaime Munks

Jenna King

Jenny Aguirre

John Hoffman

Jose Jimenez

Judith Ruiz-Branch

Kelly Cunningham**

Keshonna Lones

Kristen Kennedy

Lauren Polite

Laura Ray

Lisa Gregory

Maurcie Shaw

Mary Doran

Melishia Bansa

Melissa Black

Michelle Eckhoff

Michelle Schuster

Nathan McCann

Patrick Hostert

Patrick Lindstrom

Theresa Eagleson*

Tracy Keen

Tracy Withrow

Veronica Archundia

Veronica Trimble

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Kathy Chan, Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC), Friday, Nov 17, 2023, at **10:09 a.m. on the WebEx Platform**. Meeting basics and meeting house rules were provided by Ms. Melishia Bansa.
- II. **Roll Call of Committee Members:** Ms. Melishia Bansa, Special Assistant to the Director of HFS, facilitated roll call of Committee Members. Quorum was confirmed.
- III. **Introduction of HFS Staff:** Ms. Bansa, introduced Theresa Eagleson, Director of HFS, Kelly Cunningham, Medicaid Administrator of HFS and Jenny Aguirre, Assistant Director of HFS. Presenters from the HFS Executive Team were asked to make introductions during their presentations in the order they were listed on the agenda. All other HFS staff were asked to provide introductions utilizing the chat feature of the virtual meeting platform. HFS staff present will also be reflected in the meeting minutes.
- IV. **Review and Approval of Aug 4, 2023, MAC Meeting Minutes:**
 - A. **Motion:** Kathy Chan, MAC Chair, called for a motion for approval of **Aug 4, 2023**, meeting minutes. This motion was moved by Larry McCulley, MAC Member. Howard Peters III, MAC Member, seconded the motion. No oppositions. No abstentions. **Motion Carried.**
 - B. **Motion:** Kathy Chan, MAC Chair, called for a motion for approval of **Nov 8, 2023**, Nominating Special Committee meeting minutes. This motion was moved by Larry McCulley, MAC Member. Howard Peters III, MAC Member, seconded the motion. No oppositions. No abstentions. **Motion Carried.**
- V. **Healthcare & Family Services (HFS) Executive Report:** Kathy Chan, MAC Chair introduced the HFS Executive Report.
 - A. **Innovations & Equity:** This complete presentation including each subsection listed below can be referenced and reviewed on the HFS MAC Website at the following link: [MAC Meeting Presentation Decks | HFS \(illinois.gov\)](#).
 1. **Status of Redetermination Activity:** This was presented by Tracy Keen, Administrator, Division of Eligibility Administration.
 - a. During the presentation Ms. Keen provided redetermination statistics and data pertaining to the unwinding process.
 2. **HBIA/HBIS Updates:** This was presented by Ben Winick, HFS Chief of Staff.
 - a. During the presentation Mr. Winick reviewed both status of pauses on and continued efforts for the implementation on various changes and processes with regards to future enrollments into Managed Care.
 3. **Communications| Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement:** This was presented by Tracy Withrow and Melishia Bansa
 - a. During the presentation Ms. Withrow provided updates regarding the advertising campaign targeted at Medicaid Customers. She also reviewed updates to the "Are You Covered?" Messaging Toolkit located at [areyoucovered \(illinois.gov\)](#).
 - b. During the presentation Ms. Bansa reviewed the content of the Continuous Coverage second training series now posted on the HFS website located at [Continuous Coverage Webinars \(illinois.gov\)](#).
 4. **Healthcare Transformation 1115 Waiver Application:** was presented by Kelly Cunningham, HFS Medicaid Administrator.

- a. During the presentation, Ms. Cunningham provided a status update regarding the application process and provided insight into beginning phases of the implementation planning process including stakeholder engagement.

5. **HTC Collaborative Update:** This was presented by Kelly Cunningham, HFS Medicaid Administrator.

- a. During this update, Ms. Cunningham shed a light regarding the continuous effort regarding the HTC Collaboratives with more to come.

B. HFS Program Updates: This complete presentation can be referenced and reviewed on the HFS MAC Website at the following link: [MAC Meeting Presentation Decks | HFS \(illinois.gov\)](#).

1. **Transportation Policy Update:** was presented by Jose Jimenez, HFS Bureau for Professional Ancillary Services.

- a. During the presentation Mr. Jimenez provide an update on the on transportation providers.

2. **Director Eagleson's Resolution:** This was presented by Kathy Chan, MAC Chair.

- a. During this presentation Ms. Chan and the entire MAC recognized, congratulated, and applauded Director Eagleson for her great efforts and leadership in the Medicaid space. The resolution will be made available at the following location [Meeting Minutes | HFS \(illinois.gov\)](#)
- b. **Motion:** Kathy Chan, MAC Chair, called for a motion for approval of Director Eagleson's resolution by the MAC. This motion was whole heartedly moved by Howard Peters III, MAC Member. Cheryl Rucker-Whitaker, MAC Member, seconded the motion. No oppositions. No abstentions. **Motion Carried.**

3. **Director's Comments:** These comments were provided by Theresa Eagleson, Director of HFS.

- a. During this presentation, Director Eagleson expressed her sincere gratitude the entire MAC and HFS Team, with special acknowledgement to the Kelly Cunningham, Medicaid Administrator and Melishia Bansa, Special Assistant to Director.

4. **Other Administrative Comments or Updates** were provided by Kelly Cunningham, Medicaid Administrator.

VI. Subcommittee Reports & Recommendations: This complete presentation can be referenced and reviewed on the HFS MAC Website at the following link: [MAC Meeting Presentation Decks | HFS \(illinois.gov\)](#)

A. Community Integration Subcommittee Update: Kathy Chan, MAC Chair provided update that this final subcommittee report is under review by HFS.

B. Health Equity and Quality Care Subcommittee Update: Howard Peters, Subcommittee Chair, provided brief insight into subcommittee progress to date.

C. NB Stakeholder Subcommittee Update: Regina Crider, Subcommittee Chair, provided brief insight into subcommittee progress to date.

- D. **Public Education Subcommittee Update:** Nadeen Israel, Subcommittee Chair, provided brief insight into subcommittee progress to date.

VII. Nominating Committee: This was presented by Cheryl Rucker-Whitaker on behalf of the Nominating Committee: Larry McCully, Cheryl Whitaker, and Kim Mercer-Schleider, with HFS Staff support from Dr. Arvind Goyal, HFS Medical Director and Melishia Bansa, Special Assistant to Director of HFS.

- A. During the presentation, Dr. Rucker-Whitaker, presented the following recommendations for MAC nominations: Audrey Pennington for Chair of the MAC and Amber Smock for Vice Chair of the MAC.
- B. Additional Nominations were called from the floor by Kathy Chan, MAC Chair. None were presented.
- C. **Motion:** Kathy Chan, MAC Chair, presented motion for the Nominations to be closed and approval of Nov 8, 2023, Nominating Special Committee Meeting Minutes. This motion was moved by Howard Peters, MAC Member. Dereck Robinson, MAC Member, seconded the motion. No oppositions. No abstentions. **Motion Carried.**
- D. **MAC Voted unanimously to approve** Audrey Pennington for Chair of the MAC and Amber Smock for Vice Chair of the MAC. **Motion Carried**

VIII. Public Comment: Provided by Katie Thiede, Executive Director of ICAN and Elizabeth Durkin, Manager of Health Care Education and Counseling AgeOptions

IX. Additional Business: Old & New

- A. **Items for future discussion:** Request for information on Provider Medicaid Payments,

B. HFS Announcements:

1. Dr. Goyal, HFS Medical Director provided updates on the Buprenorphine PA Change for Pregnant individual with OUD.
2. Ms. Bansa provided general HFS Announcements. This complete presentation can be referenced and reviewed on the HFS MAC Website at the following link: [MAC Meeting Presentation Decks | HFS \(illinois.gov\)](#)
 - a. Ms. Bansa reminded MAC members to complete their Ethics Training.
 - b. Ms. Bansa presented additional information regarding MAC and Subcommittee additional resources.

X. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

- A. **Before Adjournment,** Cheryl Rucker-Whitaker was thanked for her service to the MAC. Kathy Chan was thanked for her service as MAC Chair.
- B. **Motion:** Kathy Chan, MAC Chair presented motion to adjourn meeting. Cheryl Whitaker, MAC Member, moved a motion to adjourn meeting. Alejandro Clavier, MAC member, seconded the motion. No oppositions. No abstentions. **Motion Carried.**
- C. Next Meeting Feb 2024.

