



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
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Public Education Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 21, 2024, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 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

Luvia Quinones, Designee for Edith Avila Olea, ICIRR

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

Sherie Arriazola Martinez

Sue Vega, Alivio Medical Center

Brittany Ward, Lurie Children's Hospital

Pub Ed Members Absent:

Chantel Bowen, SIU School of Medicine

Connie Schiele, HSTP

State Staff Members Present:

Dr. Arvind Goyal

Kristin Hartsaw

Margaret Dunne

Melishia Bansa

Tracey Withrow

Jenna King

Dana Weiner

Laura Phelan

Veronica Archundia

Aileen Kim

Emma Watters Reardon

Sergio Obregon

John Hoffman

Kate Yager

Dani Mendez

Jamie Munks

Dr. La Tania Peoples-Love

Susie Brown

Teresa Flesch



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Public Education Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order:** Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, called the meeting to order on Thursday, November 21st, 2024, at 1:00 p.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, 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 HFS staff members.
- V. Review and Approval of April 24th, 2024, Meeting Minutes**
 - A.** Motion: Nadeen Israel, Madam Chair, moved approval of the meeting minutes. Subcommittee member Sherie Arriazola Martinez gave the first motion. Subcommittee member Kathy Chan seconded the motion. No oppositions. No abstentions. **Motion carried.**
- VI. Annual Public Forum- Continuity of Care & Administrative Simplification Demonstration:** Jenna King, Medicaid Analyst with BMESP, provided a brief overview of the purpose of the Public Forum. Laura Phelan, Deputy Director of New Initiatives, elaborated on the purpose of the demonstration, provided historical background, and shared data relevant to the demonstration. Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, facilitated the Public Forum by opening the floor for public comments.
- VII. 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: Tony Kolbeck, Bureau Chief, Provider Enrollment, introduced this segment.**
 - I. Beacon Initiatives**



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1. Dana Weiner Ph.D. Chief Officer for Children's Behavioral Health provided a briefing on the Beacon Initiative—an effort to improve children's behavioral health in Illinois.

B. Eligibility Updates: Sergio Obregón, Bureau Chief, BMESP, introduced this segment:

I. Redetermination Data

This section includes data regarding race, ethnicity, and language spoken. Details of the data can be found in the [Illinois Report Center at Report Center](#)

C. Language Access: Margaret Dunne, Division of Eligibility Program Analyst introduced this segment:

Margaret Dunne, Program Analyst in the Division of Eligibility, provided details about new language options for notices coming in 2025. To help reduce language barriers, the new translations will include Polish, Ukrainian, and Mandarin.

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

This section provides data current family planning enrollment figures.

E. 643 Voter Registration: Sergio Obregón, Bureau Chief, BMESP, introduced this segment:

Sergio Obregón, Bureau Chief of BMESP, reviewed the recent change made to the IES 643 voter registration language, which now explicitly states that you must be a U.S. citizen to vote in the United States.

F. Policy Updates: Sergio Obregón, Bureau Chief, BMESP, introduced this segment:

Sergio Obregón, Bureau Chief of BMESP, reviewed the new policies and modifications implemented between April 2024-October 2024.



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G. Program Enrollment: Sergio Obregón, Bureau Chief, BMESP, introduced this segment:

This section provides data on program enrollment, including overall enrollment numbers, the number of new applications, and redeterminations.

H. State-Based Marketplace: Laura Phelan Deputy Director of New Initiatives, introduced this segment:

Laura Phelan Deputy Director of New Initiatives reviewed the opening of Marketplace enrollment, which began on November 1st. She also announced that HFS and DOI awarded \$6.5 million to Navigator grantees. Additionally, she highlighted that Navigators offer assistance in multiple languages to better serve diverse communities.

I. Okta Transition Updates: Margaret Dunne, Division of Eligibility Program Analyst introduced this segment:

Margaret Dunne, Division of Eligibility Program Analyst provided details on HFS's transition to multi-factor authentication for the ABE and Provider portals. She explained that the purpose of this change is to implement ILogin for customers.

J. New Icons on the HFS Website: Margaret Dunne, Division of Eligibility Program Analyst introduced this segment:

Margaret Dunne, Program Analyst in the Division of Eligibility, provided details on the new Family Planning, HFS Application Agents, and ILogin icons for ABE, all listed on the HFS website.

K. Provider Revalidation: Susie Brown, Bureau of Hospital and Provider Services introduced this segment:

Susie Brown, Bureau of Hospital and Provider Services provided a briefing on the provider enrollment revalidation.



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

A. No public comments were provided.

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

A. Items for Future Discussion:

Nadeen Israel, Madam Chair, suggested that for upcoming meetings, we leave some room on the agenda to discuss the impact of the Trump Administration on the Medicaid program and subcommittee members can help.

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

1. Pub Ed Resources:

Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach, provided updates on Pub Ed subcommittee resources.

2. Updates to the 2024 Meeting Schedule:

Melishia Bansa provided an update regarding the 2025 Quarterly Tentative Meeting Dates.

C. Announcement: Sergio Obregón, Bureau Chief, BMESP, introduced this segment:

Melishia Bansa, Deputy Director of Community Outreach reminded the subcommittee members to complete their ethics training.

X. Concluding Directives and Wrap-Up:

XI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

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