



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN

Medical Care Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

Microsoft Teams Meeting

2 Peachtree Street

Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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- Greetings and welcome: Greetings and Welcome was conducted by Co-Chairperson Dr. Seema Csukas.
 - Agenda adoption: The Agenda was adopted for the meeting.
 - Meeting Minutes approval: The May 2021 MCAC meeting minutes were approved.
 - Executive Director, Lynnette Rhodes, Medical Assistance Plan Report
 - **GA Waiver Updates:**
 - 1115 Pathway to Coverage Waiver: This waiver is currently in a pending status. The implementation is delayed until the end of the calendar year. A notice was sent to CMS on July 27, 2021, to engage into a mutually agreeable path forward.
 - 1115 Postpartum Waiver: This waiver was slated to be implemented on July 1, 2021. Because of the Public Health Emergency (PHE), no current members have been terminated from the program since March 2020, with some limited exceptions. Pregnant women as well as those that have delivered continue to be enrolled and are continuing to receive services under pregnancy Medicaid. As new pregnant members are enrolled in pregnancy Medicaid, after the first 60 days, they will shift over to the 1115 Waiver and continue to receive services. Thru the waiver, postpartum services are extended for an additional four (4) months. DCH is continuing to work with CMS on the deliverables. The CMOs are currently providing the extended services up to six (6) months.
 - CMO Procurement Update: DCH is limited to what is shared regarding the procurement; however, questions and answers are available offline. DCH is onboarding a consultant to help with this work. A consultant has been identified; associate agreements and other documents are being finalized currently. Once all is done, DCH can start sharing data with them with moving down the path of RFP development. The first step is to have the consultant do a comprehensive statewide and national environmental analysis to identify best practices, innovation, and designs that should be

considered for inclusion. The next step is stakeholder engagement. DCH will be reaching out to their stakeholders, sister agencies, their provider associations, MCAC and CMO for feedback. Thereafter move into the stage of RFP development and contract development then ultimately putting this forward to competitive bidding. DCH is working on a timeline for this process.

- **Public Health Emergency (PHE) Update –**

- The Federal/National Public Health Emergency has been extended thru mid-October. The Department of Health and Human Services sent a letter to all of the Nation’s Governors indicating that the PHE was going to run until the end of the calendar year most likely.
 - Covid-19 vaccine 3rd dose – DCH is preparing to update their systems to enable reimbursement to providers for the booster dose for Covid-19. The reimbursement rate will be the same as the first two (2) doses which is \$40. Banner messages are slated to be sent out today informing providers of this information.
 - DCH is assisting Georgia hospitals with staffing. A number of hospitals were identified to receive assistance from physicians, nurse practitioners, respiratory therapist, and other needed staff.
 - Recent guidance from CMS on August 13th pertaining to resuming normal operations was specific to addressing changes regarding all of the annual redeterminations that have been placed on hold as well as all of the eligibility and enrollment actions. CMS is now giving states up to 12 months after the month in which the PHE ends to complete all of those pending eligibility and enrollment actions. Discussions have been had with DFACS regarding how to approach resuming processing of applications.
- **CMO Merger (PSHP/WellCare)** - The merger took place on May 1st. Because of the two (2) large CMOs merging, they currently have the largest number of members out the 1.8 million members – yielding approximately 944, 976 members.
- **HCBS Initial Spending Plan** – Section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provided states additional funding to enhance, expand, and strengthen home and community-based services (HCBS) under the Medicaid program. This plan was submitted on July 12, 2021 and is pending CMS approval. The plan was designed to develop a case management technology platform for Medicaid HCBS, enhance the Critical Incident Management Process with Comprehensive Reporting and Dashboarding, expand HCBS services to include Behavior Aides for

children diagnosed with autism just to name a few.

- **Control Glucose Monitoring (CGM) Value Analysis Update** – DCH has begun work the undertaking of a value analysis expanding utilizing the CGM for our beneficiaries as previously discussed during the May MCAC meeting. A slide providing the Completed Task as well as the next steps was provided for the attendees to view.

- **Announcements/Information**
 - **Quality Strategy** – The 2020 Quality Strategy dashboard is live on the DCH website for public review and comment. Invitation was extended for others to afford further comments and feedback.
 - The P4HB Public Forum was open for public comment during the recent reporting period of 7/2020 -12/2020 to CMO. DCH did not receive any questions or comments during the forum.
 - Next MCAC meeting will be held on December 8, 2021 from 12p - 12:30p via Microsoft Teams
 - Next regularly scheduled quarterly meeting will be held on February 16, 2022 (Location TBD)

Adjournment at 11:49a