



**Teleconference Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2021**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS	DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Rebecca Peterson - present	Director Kelly Garcia – present
Skylar Mayberry-Mayes – present	Jean Slaybaugh – present
Kimberly Kudej – present	Faith Sandberg – present
Sam Wallace – present	Matt Highland – present
Jack Willey – present	Marissa Eyanson - present
Monika Jindal - present	Liz Matney - present
Kay Fisk - present	Janee Harvey – present
	Carrie Malone - present
	Vern Armstrong – present

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS
Representative Joel Fry – absent
Senator Mariannette Miller-Meeks – absent
Senator Amanda Ragan – absent
Representative Timi Brown-Powers – absent

Call to Order

Chair Rebecca Peterson called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. via zoom teleconference call on Tuesday, November 9, 2021.

Roll Call

All council members were present, all Ex-Officio members were absent.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Willey to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2021, meeting.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Rules

R-1. Amendments to Chapter 78, “Amount, Duration and Scope of Medical and Remedial Services,” Iowa Administrative Code. (Aligns rules with current policy for diabetic education)

The rule removes the one-time limit for diabetic education for Medicaid members. In most cases once in a lifetime in not adequate treatment for diabetic education, especially with the prevalence of diabetes. The Department has already been paying for more than one education series for some members and this will allow the rule to match the current practice. A member can receive as much education as needed to help them manage their diabetes with a provider referral for the education. The managed care organizations will also follow this rule change.

A motion was made by Kudej to approve and seconded by Wallace.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

Child Care Task Force Update

Ryan Page, Child Care Regulatory Program Manager, informed the Council about her participation in the Governor's task force on childcare from March through July of this year. The goal was to address obstacles around access to high quality and affordable child care for families. Multiple state agencies, stakeholders, advocates, and parents participated in the task force. DHS was part of the regulatory barriers and financing work group. Some of the specific recommendations that were addressed were creating a cared services model, providing more flexibility to the childcare assistance program, paying for more worker absent days, and to improve the central online hub for parents to find providers and childcare openings. More updates will be provided to the Council as implementation of the recommendations occur.

Medicaid Strategic Plan Update

Medicaid Director Liz Matney reviewed the Medicaid Strategic Plan with the Council. She reviewed the mission, vision, and key objectives for Medicaid with the Council. A copy of the plan is attached.

Director's Report

Director Garcia paid tribute to former DHS Director Charles Palmer who passed away recently. She informed the Council of our upcoming 2022 legislative session planning. HHS alignment work continues and will be large part of the upcoming session. She stated work is being done on a functional organizational chart with the goal of building a one front door concept for clients and providers. The other component is making sure we have a very strong public health policy. Director Garcia shared that workforce challenges continue. Rates and wages are a key component but not the only component. We are working on being more flexible as employers, looking for creative solutions on how to recruit and retain good employees. Much of the central office workforce works a hybrid schedule and employees are very happy with it. Director Garcia reported that the monitor's report at the Boys State Training School has been filed. The report shows the incredible ongoing commitment from our leadership team and all the other employees at the school to changing practices and imbedding a therapeutic approach at the school. We will continue to make a dedicated effort in infusing therapy and the right type of specialty care for the youth that we serve. The interview process will be starting after Thanksgiving for a new Superintendent at the BSTS.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Kudej to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mayberry-Mayes

Meeting adjourned at 12:34p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Julie McCauley

Council Secretary

jkm