

COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES

May 11, 2016

COUNCIL

Mark Anderson
Phyllis Hansell
Alexa Heffernan
Kimberly Kudej
Guy Richardson
Kim Spading (via phone)
Sam Wallace

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Representative Joel Fry
Representative Lisa Heddens (absent)
Senator Mark Segebart
Senator Amanda Ragan (absent)

STAFF

Chuck Palmer
Sandy Knudsen
Nancy Freudenberg
Paige Thorson
Jean Slaybaugh

Mikki Stier
Amy McCoy
Wendy Rickman
Rick Shults

GUESTS

Cynthia MacDonald, Amerigroup
Kyle Carlson, Armerigroup
Sandi Hurtado-Peters, Department of Management (IDOM)
Tony Leys, Des Moines Register
Rob Boshart, Cedar Rapids Gazette
Lawrence Kudej, Older Iowans Legislature (OIL)

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Anderson, Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

All Council members were present. Ex-officio legislative members Representative Fry and Senator Segebart were present. Ex-Officio legislative members Representative Heddens and Senator Ragan were absent.

New Council member, Kimberly Kudej was introduced.

RULES/NOTICES OF INTENDED ACTION

Nancy Freudenberg, Bureau of Policy Coordination, presented the following amendments to rules as Notices of Intended Action to the Council.

R-1 Amendments to Chapter 75, Medicaid. Updates premium amounts for participants in the Medicaid for Employed Persons with Disabilities (MEPD) program due to changes in the federal poverty level.

A motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Heffernan to approve.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R-2 Amendments to Chapter 170, Child Care. Amendments update administrative rules to reflect new federal Child Care and Development Block Grant rules regarding child care assistance eligibility.

Council asked for clarification from Wendy Rickman on the “definition of eligible child” that refers to 85% of state median income for the family of the same size referenced in the letter from Rickman to the Council on May 6, 2016 and references to the 145% of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level) in the Department rules - as the DHS rules use FPL and not State median income.

A motion was made by Richardson and seconded by Wallace to approve. Motion carried with Anderson, Kudej, Richardson, Spading and Wallace voting for the motion. Hansell and Heffernan voted against the motion.

A motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Richardson that the Council send a letter to the Iowa Congressional Delegation stating that while the Council appreciates the legislation, in general, this law may create a perception that child care assistance is not a needs-based program. The specific concern is that the law states that assets of families accessing these services shall not exceed \$1,000,000, while families in need of these services would rarely have assets nearing \$1,000,000. Additionally, as required by Iowa Law and regardless of assets, applicants are required to be below the 145% of the Federal Poverty Level to be eligible for this program. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R-3 Amendments to Chapter 170, Child Care. Updates child care assistance amounts based on the federal poverty level.

A motion was made by Hansell and seconded by Wallace to approve. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Notices of Intended Action

N-1. Amendments to Chapter 119, Record Check Evaluations. Adds a definition and clarifies record check process regarding deferred judgements.

N-2. Amendments to Chapter 75, Medicaid. Increases the statewide average cost of nursing facility services. In addition, these amendments increase rates associated with Medical Assistance Income Trust (MAIT).

A motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Heffernan to approve the Noticed Rules. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Hansell to approve the minutes of April 13, 2016 and seconded by Wallace. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION (MCO) PRESENTATION: AMERIGROUP

Cynthia MacDonald, Plan President of Amerigroup, addressed the Council. She stated that she has had a long career in government programs and has extensive experience with Medicaid and Medicare, especially in the State of Minnesota.

Ms. MacDonald reviewed three handouts with the Council:

- 1) "Amerigroup" - background of the organization and current highlights of the Iowa Provider Network
- 2) "Our Culture" - stating Amerigroup's Purpose Statement and Vision
- 3) "Extras You Can Really Use" - explaining benefits that are in addition to regular IA Health Link and hawk-i benefits.

Highlights of the Amerigroup presentation:

- On April 1, Amerigroup began providing coverage to members enrolled in IA Health Link, Iowa Health and Wellness Plan, and Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (hawk-i)
- Approximately 185,000 members including 7,500 hawk-I members

- Approximately 350 Iowans have been employed across the State of Iowa
- Over 27,000 providers have been contracted statewide
- To-date, 131,000 claims have been received, and \$15.5 M in claims have been paid. After examining each claim, 6% of the claims were denied (denials are subject to further review)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Paige Thorson, Policy Advisor; Jean Slaybaugh, Chief Financial Officer; Wendy Rickman, Administrator, ACFS; Rick Shults, Administrator, MHDS; and Mikki Stier, Administrator, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise, provided legislative updates to the Council:

Slaybaugh distributed and reviewed a spreadsheet “SFY2017 Appropriations Summary.” The spreadsheet depicts the Department’s appropriation line items with the Governor’s recommendations and the final actions of the legislature with a column describing impacts/comments.

Rickman reported

- the “Human Trafficking” bill was signed by the Governor on April 6th.
- the “Standards and Certification of Children’s Residential Facilities” bill, that came about due to issues surrounding the Midwest Academy, was passed by the legislature. The bill focuses on basic health and safety and education standards. Mark Anderson noted that the media should report that most of the religious organizations that operate facilities in the State welcome standards and certification.

Shults reported:

- the Children’s Mental Health and Well-Being’s workgroup’s recommendations were adopted by the legislature. The recommendations include developing a Request for Proposal to allow two groups to develop and coordinate children’s crisis services. The plan also establishes the development of Learning Labs to explore models for building collaborative efforts. Reports on these endeavors are due to the Legislature in December.
- In regard to MHDS Redesign, Regions made presentations to the Legislature on their progress and accomplishments. The Department is to provide a report to the Legislature on the successes and challenges of the redesign.
- Legislation was passed that allows for simpler disclosure of mental health information for care givers while still adhering to HIPAA regulations
- SF 2259 provides an outline for providers to successfully work with and keep clients in the community
- Psychiatric Security Specialists (at the Civil Commitment Unit for Sexual Offenders) were granted a “protected status” in their retirement program

Stier reported:

- In the Department's appropriations bill, there is language for an oversight plan to supplement DHS current oversight by emphasizing:
 - Data
 - Consumer Protection
 - Program Integrity
- Additional changes were made to the Medicaid Assistance Advisory Council (MAAC). Language now calls for a Co-Chair, and the addition of a Long Term Care Ombudsman to the Council. Reports are to be publicly posted (the Council on Human Services will be one of the groups that will be required to review the report)

COUNCIL UPDATES

Kim Kudej noted that she would like to hear more about "Jail Diversion" at an upcoming meeting.

MANAGED CARE UPDATE

Stier reported:

- 300,000 claims have been processed since April 1st and claims processing time is averaging about 10 days
- Issues related to transportation, prior authorization and "durable goods" are being addressed and processes are running smoother
- The Department continues to issue information letters to providers and also meets with associations on a regular basis

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Director Palmer reported that he spoke to the Administrative Rules Committee at their meeting this week to clarify why \$750,000 in funds for Supported Employment were redistributed elsewhere due to unclear legislative language.

NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Council on Human Services will be Wednesday, June 8, 2016.

Council adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

*Submitted by Sandy Knudsen
Recording Secretary*