

**COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES**

**MINUTES**

**August 10, 2016**

**COUNCIL**

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

**EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS**

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

**STAFF**

Chuck Palmer  
Sandy Knudsen  
Nancy Freudenberg  
Jean Slaybaugh  
Janee Harvey  
Ryan Page

Mikki Stier  
Liz Matney  
Amy McCoy  
Joe Havig  
Matt Highland

**GUESTS**

Lawrence Kudej, Older Iowans Legislature (OIL)  
Ashley McGuire, UHC  
Kent Ohms, Legislative Services Agency  
Kris Bell, Senate Democratic Caucus  
Sandi Hurtado-Peters, Department of Management  
Jodi Tomlonovic, Family Planning Council of Iowa  
Tom Fey, Iowa Podiatric Medical Society  
Leslie Stonehocker, Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral

**CALL TO ORDER**

Phyllis Hansell, Vice- Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

All Council members were present with the exception of Anderson. All Ex-officio legislative members were absent with the exception of Representative Fry.

## **NOTICES OF INTENDED ACTION**

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

N-1. Amendments to Chapters 105, 113, 114, and 202, regarding Child Abuse, Child Welfare, and Foster Care. These amendments implement the federal law, "Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act." The amendments also update language regarding liability of foster parents and add new requirements about annual fire inspections and building codes. Finally, these amendments change the requirement for provision of transition plan documents to any child leaving foster care at the age of 18 or older.

N-2. Amendments to Chapter 175, regarding Child Abuse. These amendments implement the federal law, "Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act (P.L. 114-22)," which requires state child protective agencies to consider a child to be a victim of "child abuse and neglect" and of "sexual abuse" if the child is identified as being a victim of sex trafficking or a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons. These amendments also require individuals who patronize or solicit persons for a commercial sex act to be equally culpable for sex trafficking offenses.

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

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Kudej to approve the minutes of July 13, 2016 and seconded by Richardson. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **CHILD CARE REAUTHORIZATION IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE**

Ryan Page, DHS Division of Adult, Children and Family Services, and Leslie Stonehocker, Iowa Child Care Resource and Referral, addressed the Council regarding the "Reauthorization of the Child Care and Development Block Grant."

Highlights of presentation:

- Child Care Assistance Program (implementation July 1, 2016)
  - Moving from 6-month to 12-month eligibility
  - Allowance for temporary changes in work, training or education activities
  - Allowance for job search activities
  - Program exit eligibility

- Reimbursement rates to child care providers
- Health and Safety of Children
  - Pre-inspection for providers wanting to become a Child Development Home
  - Health and Safety Training on 10 specific training topics
  - Annual, unannounced provider monitoring visits, including visits to non-registered Child Care Assistance (CCA)-paid providers
  - Emergency preparedness plans
- Provide consumer education resources.
- Enhance communication with providers.

Ms. Page reported that the second phase of implementation would be regarding 'background checks' and DHS is waiting for additional guidance in that area.

Director Palmer suggested that the 'DHS background check process' be an agenda item for a future Council meeting.

## **OVERSIGHT OF MANAGED CARE**

Mikki Stier, Director, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise, and Liz Matney, Bureau Chief, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise, addressed the Council. They noted that the Iowa Medicaid program has undergone fundamental changes as it moved to managed care. They also noted that Iowa is one of 11 States that received the State Innovation Model (SIM) grant from the Centers for Medicaid Services. SIM is a statewide effort to improve outcomes and service delivery as well as lowering costs.

- The move to managed care has been a major transition for Iowa as 500,000 Iowans were moved to managed care. Ms. Stier stated she is confident people are getting the services they depend on.
- The majority of providers are being paid appropriately. There have been some billing problems and the Department wants to be informed of any problems so that the issues can be resolved as quickly as possible. The Department is aware that some providers are experiencing cash flow concerns. The Department has attended "listening sessions" across the state and regularly meets with organizations to identify and resolve issues related to managed care.
- Matney reviewed the bid process used to award the managed care contracts. She reported that the request for proposal (RFP) included key state initiatives, outcomes, accountability with sustainability. Staff talked with a number of other states when developing the RFP. 11 bids were

received and went through a detailed evaluation with guidance from the Attorney General's Office. Once awarded, all the requirements in the RFP were folded into the contracts. The primary objective was the safety of members, that members receive better services, that providers receive timely payments and that the program is well-managed.

- There are a variety of mechanisms for oversight. Data monitoring is conducted on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis. The 'Managed Care Oversight and Supports Bureau' reviews and analyzes the data. The 'Medical Services Unit' also looks at the data that supports and measures data like 'denial rates.' Also, 'systems' staff look at claims processing data and makes comparisons to the department's fee for service experience. There are a wide range of options for the Department regarding remedies for non-compliance and the Department coordinates with the Attorney General's Office on those progressive remedies.
- The Iowa Medicaid Enterprise 'iahealthlink' Managed Care Reports for April 2016 and May 2016 were distributed and reviewed. Palmer reported that the quarterly report will contain more thorough data.

Palmer noted that the Council is a key oversight entity and the Department is committed to providing the best information it can to build the Council's understanding of its role. The Council was encouraged to ask questions and provide comments in this arena for the next few months.

Matney told the Council there is 'no wrong door' on how the issues are relayed to the Department.

## **COUNCIL UPDATES**

Spading reported that she has had conversations with the CEO of the Iowa Pharmacy Association, Kate Gainer regarding managed care. Monthly calls with Mikki Stier and DHS Pharmacist Susan Parker are continuing. In response to a question regarding capitation rates and savings, Jean Slaybaugh reported that there are a number of variables that affect capitation rates, and savings may or may not go to the managed care organizations.

Spading noted her concern about what appears to be a lack of beds for mental health patients that do not require acute care - but rather more intermediate care beds may be needed.

Hansell reported that she has received email comments on reimbursement problems (from Iowa Psychologist Association list serve). She said it was interesting to hear about the issues and will pass along the comments/concerns to the Department.

## **DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Director Palmer reported:

- There are several variables concerning the availability of psychiatric beds. The chart "Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital Bed Availability" was distributed. The chart depicts the numbers of beds available in March, July and August of 2016. On average, the state has 100 beds available every day. The most difficult population to manage are adult males with combinations of mental illness and substance abuse problems as well as those with a dual diagnosis of mental illness and intellectual disabilities. Nursing facilities are under increased scrutiny especially in the use of psychotropic drugs and many are reluctant to accept the difficult to serve clients due to risk management. Answers are not simple and the MCOs are working on this.
- Palmer discussed the 'carve out' population as it relates to Medicaid in response to a question from Kimberly Kudej.
- The Department is tracking billing problems related to managed care. Palmer stated that no problem that has been identified is unable to be fixed and that communication is a significant part of the equation.
- Jean Slaybaugh spoke to the Council regarding next month's meeting on the budget. This year's budget will cover two fiscal years (State Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019). Council will receive the full budget narrative, an explanation of the programs, who they serve, key budget drivers, changes in regulations, funding/match rates and funding sources.

Council proposed an in-depth informational session prior to next month's budget meeting. Council suggested the session begin just prior to the September 13 meeting's start time for approximately 1 1/2 hours.

## **NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting of the Council on Human Services will be the annual budget meeting: Tuesday, September 13 and Wednesday, September 14, 2016.

Council adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

*Submitted by Sandy Knudsen  
Recording Secretary*