



# Health Home Happenings

*Helpful information and tips for success regarding Iowa's Health Homes*

June 2015



## **New Medicaid Director – Mikki Stier**

Mikki K. Stier has been appointed director of the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME). In her new role, Ms. Stier oversees the \$4.2 billion program which serves about 560,000 Iowans each year. She serves as the primary architect for establishing the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise's goals for optimal health outcomes for low-income Iowans, and for financial performance of the state-run insurance program. Ms. Stier started as director of the IME on May 27, 2015. [Read more about her appointment.](#)

## **Medicaid Modernization**



Iowa Governor Terry Branstad's Iowa High Quality Health Initiative also known as the Medicaid Modernization initiative aims to improve coordination and quality of care to members while providing predictability and sustainability for Iowa taxpayers in Medicaid spending. The initiative moves the state toward a risk-based managed care approach for Iowa's Medicaid program.

DHS has released a Medicaid Modernization Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. New questions can be identified by the blue, asterisk, bold, italic and underlined font with the word "New Question". [Medicaid Modernization FAQ](#)

## **Medicaid Health Home Shows Success**



The University of Iowa Public Policy Center evaluated the first 18 months of the Medicaid Health Home program. Evaluation of the claims and member experience indicated that Emergency Department (ED) rates remained steady, or decreased in the Medicaid health home members while either remaining steady or increasing in the Medicaid control group. The research found that the total amount spent on care for the intervention group over the 18 month period was approximately \$49 million and marked a nearly 20 percent reduction in costs. In addition, costs analyses indicated that there was a \$12.30 reduction in expenditures for ED visits per member per month (PMPM) in the program. Twenty-nine providers participated in the program in the 18 months and just over 5,800 members enrolled. [Learn more.](#)



### **Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) Develops Health Home Toolkit**

The IME has created a toolkit to assist health homes with implementation of the Health Home program and to support the Medicaid population for improved outcomes. This toolkit includes information for health homes to complete orientation as well as best practices for staff and patient engagement. The toolkit also contains the following:

- Health Home Tools and Resources
- Working with Case Managers for Members on a Waiver
- Working with an Integrated Health Home (IHH)

This toolkit can assist in transforming your practice and allows for greater success in becoming patient centered in your practice. [Health Home Toolkit](#)



### **State Innovation Model**

Iowa was one of 11 recipients to receive the Round Two State Innovation Model (SIM) Testing Grant which was initially announced by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on December 16, 2014. The intent expressed by Iowa was to use the SIM Testing Grant to implement and evaluate a sustainable health care delivery and payment system that will improve population health and patient care along with efforts to reduce health care costs. Iowa has already engaged in significant practice transformation activities around Health Home (primary care based) and Integrated Health Home (focused on seriously mentally ill adults and children) models of care. The state views the Health Home and Integrated Health Home programs as core building blocks for successful value based purchasing models, driving transformation at the primary care level. [Learn more.](#)



### **New Provider Spotlight**

The numbers of health homes have been increasing around the state. The newest additions are:

- Covenant Clinic - Suite 210
- Community Health Centers of Southern Iowa – Lamoni, Leon

[Health Home Map](#)

June 2015

***Featured Upcoming Events!***

**Health Home Learning Collaborative Network:**

Providing health homes with updates to the Health Home program and various topics to assist in providing services

The Practice Team  
Thursday, June 25, 2015  
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Population Health Management  
Thursday, July 30, 2015  
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

How to Identify Members for the Health Home Program  
Thursday, August 27, 2015  
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

**Register now!**

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/5272910684056163330>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

[View System Requirements](#)

For more information, contact Pamela Lester at [PLester@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:PLester@dhs.state.ia.us)

**Health Home Billing Questions?** Contact Kaela Morgan at [KMorgan1@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:KMorgan1@dhs.state.ia.us)

**Other Questions?** Contact Provider Services at 800-338-7909 or 515-256-4609 (locally)

*Health Home Happenings is a monthly provider newsletter published by the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise.*