

MCAC Meeting 8/22/22

- Welcome and intros – **Jessica**
 - Open Meetings Act read and introductions made
 - Committee members present in person: Karma Boll, Jeanne Burke, Jay Fleecs, Jessica Meeske, Amy Nordness, Vietta Swalley
 - Committee members present via WebEx: Jason Gieschen, Frank Herzog, Staci Hubert, Felicia Martin, Susan Misselt, Sharon Price, Shawn Shanahan
 - DHHS staff present in person: Kevin Bagley, Nate Watson
 - DHHS staff present via WebEx: Elsie Verbik
- Review and approve minutes – **Jessica**
 - Moved by Jay, seconded by Karma. Motion passes unanimously.
- Medicaid business updates – **MLTC Staff**
 - Enrollment updates
 - **Nate:** Presents information on different methods of getting Medicaid, including total number of individuals in each category at different points in time
 - **Jessica:** With a total number of 70,144 adults in the expansion population, what might the total get to? A: Ideally 90,000, but since that's everyone getting on Medicaid who is eligible, that number will likely not be reached.
 - **Kevin:** Over the last several months, haven't seen much growth, but will see more churn after end of PHE. But going from 0 to 70k in 18 months has been a great accomplishment.
 - **Jessica:** What percentage has a private primary insurance plan? A: Doesn't know, but those who are parents or caretakers are more likely to be employed and have a primary insurance.
 - **Jay:** Seeing less and less people coming in without insurance; now they come prepared with Medicaid.
 - **Karma:** She's seen that even those with chronic health issues use less services, including behavioral health.
 - **Kevin:** Looking at research, behavioral health is underutilized both inside and outside Medicaid, but recipients are more likely to seek these services than others.
 - Public health emergency
 - **Kevin:** There are now two federal PHEs: COVID-19 and monkeypox
 - The monkeypox PHE does not impact Medicaid elements and the ability to disenroll individuals.

The federal government can authorize a PHE for up to 90 days at a time, with 60 days advance notice given. The COVID PHE was slated to end in mid-October, but the 60-day period has passed with no indication. A plan on how to respond to the PHE ending is being developed and will be soon released, although there is a reluctance to publish it early to avoid panic. Nebraska will use the 12-month period that federal partners have allotted for the unwind process of disenrolling ineligible members.

discipline) and make recommendations that take into consideration Medicaid participation when determining loan repayment awards.”

- **Kevin:** DHHS has had conversations with partners in Office of Public Health to understand their process and opportunities to provide additional data to them, as well as Rural Health.
- **Jessica:** One route would be to analyze how many people are Medicaid eligible in a community.
 - The goal is to incentivize providers to come to/stay in Nebraska with current funding streams without taking away eligible providers.
- **Jessica:** The second route would be for new providers considered for loan repayment who are willing to cover a disproportionate share of the Medicaid population
- **Karma:** There are often “Medicaid deserts” where no one can be served
- **Jeanne:** Wait times can be bad, even in urban areas.
- **Kevin:** During meetings, we’ll see what we have the authority to do in case an issue would need to be addressed by the Legislature. After discussion, committee will be updated via email.
- **Jessica:** Can begin drafting language this fall if legislative action is needed and communicate with other states to see if they have similar issues.
- **Kevin:** Wanted to have Office of Public Health come and talk with the committee. Questions could be given ahead of time and even answered prior to the meeting.
- **Confirm next meeting time and location – Jessica**
 - Oct. 20 at 3 p.m. in Lincoln
 - Jessica suggested hosting the Dec. 5 meeting in Hastings at 3 p.m., possibly at the school district building.
- **Drawing straws to determine committee rotation – Nate**
 - **Nate:** Current members on the committee need to be randomly assigned one-, two-, or three-year term limits to avoid everyone leaving at once. Members can also decide to run again for a three-year term.
Members randomly picked a number between one and 17, with six randomly assigned to a one-year term, six to a two-year term, and five to a three-year term.
 - **Kevin:** Bylaws state that the current vice chair becomes chair the following year, so Karma needs at least a two-year term.
 - Jessica picked 1 (2-year term); Karma picked 2 (3-year term); Frank picked 3 (2-year term); Jason G. picked 4 (1-year term); Vietta picked 5 (3-year term); Staci picked 6 (1-year term); Sharon picked 7 (2-year term); Jeanne picked 8 (3-year term); Amy N. picked 9 (2-year term); Shawn picked 10 (3-year term); Felicia picked 12 (3-year term); Jay picked 13 (2-year term); and Susan picked 17 (1-year term)
 - Members who were not present were assigned the remaining numbers in alphabetical order of their names: Amy F. to 11 (1-year term); Jason P. to 14 (1-year term); Kenny to 15 (3-year term); and Melanie to 16 (2-year term)
- **Open discussion – Committee members**
 - **Jay:** Expressed a hope for a strong push to improve the credentialing process in the next RFP

