



**Medicaid Advisory Committee
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 21, 2026**

The Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) met on Thursday, May 21, 2026, from 3 to 5 p.m. CST at the Molina Healthcare One Stop Health Center in Omaha, Nebraska. The meeting was in-person and members of the public were able to join virtually. A call-in option was also available.

MAC members in attendance: Amber Corbin, Dan Pierce, Elizabeth Thelen, Frank Clepper, Jennifer Hansen, Kevin Low, Mary Phillips, Vietta Swalley

Managed Care Organization (MCO) representatives in attendance: Frank Clepper

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) employees in attendance: Akshay Nathan, Amy Booe, Bailey Reigle, Bethany Nelson, Celia Wightman, Drew Preston, Jacob Kawamoto, Jennifer Anders, Jennifer J Clark, Jason Davis, Kelsi Rodriguez-Cangas, Kendra Bishop

Members of the public in attendance: Abigail Morgan, Adriana Kohler, Amanda Boehmler, Anna, Chris Moyer, Dee, Danny Gruber, Dr. Ned Stringham, Ian Lopez, Jennifer Heimericks, Jessica Wilhelm-Stanley, John Stansel, Kaci, Viter, Kasha, Kelsey Arends (She/Her) Nebraska Appleseed, Lisa Spellman, M. Berry, Megan Lambeth, Mikayla Findlay, Nailene Gonzalez, Naomi Gaspard, Marie Woodhead (Ricketts), Marie Johnson, Philip Gray

MAC members not in attendance: Brandi Renner, Dave Miers, Jason Gieschen, Jenelle Miller, Kelly Weiler, Philip Gray (excused absence), Renae Wacker, Staci Hubert

There was one call-in number in attendance.

I. Opening and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Jennifer at 3:00 p.m. CST.

- The Open Meetings Act was made available for attendees.
- Jennifer welcomed the meeting attendees and Celia ran through the roll call.
- Celia reminded the committee of the Conflict of Interest policy. Conflict of Interest forms were available at the meeting.

II. Review and Approval of March 19, 2026, Draft Minutes

No edits were suggested to be made to the minutes. Amber motioned to approve the minutes and Mary seconded. The March meeting minutes were approved.

III. Follow-ups from the March Meeting

MLTC provided the following responses to the outstanding question from the March meeting.

- Are sheltered workshops exempt from Medicaid Work Requirements?
 - Yes. Individuals who attend sheltered workshops have a disability, so they would be exempt from work requirements because of their disability.
- Is the Congressional Fraud response public?
 - Nebraska is NOT being investigated for or accused of fraud. Congress requested information on the state's investigatory process, previous improper payments and recovery efforts, and past/present audits. DHHS is not going to post the response on their webpage, but the response can be requested in a public records request.
- Update on the Behavioral Health Regulations and Provider Manual
 - There are two regulation chapters. One is drafted and awaiting governor's approval and the other is being drafted.
 - The Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Provider Manual is getting closer to completion.

IV. Announcements

MLTC Announcements

- Thank you to Vietta, Jason, Staci, and Kelly for their roles on the committee over the last three years.
 - New members will start in July
- Nebraska State Plan Amendment (SPA) and Waiver Updates
 - NE 25-0025: Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
 - This SPA is a technical update to align the State Plan language with the current CMS PACE preprint and to clarify language in the State Plan regarding rates and payment methodologies (which will not have a fiscal impact). The SPA will not have an impact on the tribes as these are technical changes.
 - NE 26-0004: Targeted Case Management (TCM) for Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) and Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) eligibility groups.
 - Effective July 1, 2026, this SPA will specify which providers can provide TCM services to these groups by aligning it with the 1915(b)(4) waiver that was approved by CMS last year.
 - Providers allowed to provide TCM services for these groups include
 - State staff employed by DHHS
 - Entitles awarded a contract through DHHS' competitive bid process to provide TCM services
 - Entitles for whom DHHS has entered into a sole source award for the provision of TCM services
 - NE 26-0002: Community Engagement

- Effective May 1, 2026, Nebraska Medicaid will begin enforcing work requirements for new applicants and existing Medicaid members under the Medicaid adult expansion group.
 - NE 26-0005: Certified Lactation Consultants – Prenatal Plus Program
 - Effective July 1, 2026, certified lactation consultants (CLCs) will be added as an approved provider type for breastfeeding instruction sessions under the Prenatal Plus Program.
 - Nebraska Medicaid proposed to submit a Nebraska Sustainable Coverage Waiver that would limit retroactive eligibility to the first day of the month in which someone applies for Medicaid. Nebraska will **not** proceed with the submission of the Section 1115 waiver.
- [Upcoming H.R. 1/OBBBA Changes](#)
 - Section 71119: Work/Community Engagement Requirements
 - Effective in Nebraska: May 1, 2026
 - Effective Nation-wide: December 31, 2026
 - Section 71109: Eligibility Changes for Immigrants
 - Effective October 1, 2026
 - Introduce: July 2026
 - In depth presentation: September 2026
 - Section 77107: Six Month Redeterminations
 - Effective December 31, 2026
 - Introduce: September 2026
 - In-depth presentation: November 2026
 - Section 71112: Retroactive Coverage Limits
 - Effective January 1, 2027
 - Introduce: September 2026
 - In-depth presentation: November 2026
 - Section 71115: Provider Tax Provisions
 - Effective October 1, 2027
 - Quick overview: September 2027
 - Section 71116: State Directed Payments
 - Effective January 1, 2028
 - Quick overview: November 2027
 - Section 71121: HCBS Waiver Option
 - Effective: July 1, 2028
 - This is an optional provision. MLTC will engage the MAC/BAC on it if they choose to pursue it
 - Section 71120: Cost-Sharing for Expansion Adults
 - Effective October 1, 2028
 - Introduce: July 2028
 - In-depth presentation: September 2028
- MAC/BAC Annual Report

- 1 edit needs to be made to the report – the word miles needs to be added after 150 on page 6
- The committee voted to approved the report knowing that MLTC will fix the section mentioned above.
 - Kevin motioned and Mary seconded
- MLTC will post the annual report on the MAC and BAC webpages

MAC Member Announcements

- It was announced that the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) has been renamed the Division of Disability and Aging (DDA)

V. Beneficiary Advisory (BAC) Update

Mary gave the BAC Update. She shared that the group discussed communications regarding Medicaid Work Requirements, and had a brief discussion about the InterRAI.

VI. State Legislative Update

Jacob ran through a list of legislative bills (LB) that were passed and have an impact to Medicaid. The bills are listed below.

- LB365: Require coverage of self-measure blood pressure monitoring services under the Medical Assistance Act
- LB958: Provide for implementation of a HCBS waiver, retroactive coverage of certain benefits, and reimbursement of doula services and change reporting requirements under the Medical Assistance Act, change provisions relating to the Nebraska Prenatal Program, and provide limits for crisis assistance payments under the low-income home energy assistance program
 - Doula services to be covered for Medicaid beneficiaries by January 1, 2029
 - Requires DHHS to not limit retroactive coverage further than federal guidelines allow
 - Eliminate the sunset date for the Prenatal Plus Program
- LB1071: Provide, change, and eliminate provisions related to appropriations for the expenses of Nebraska State Government for the biennium ending June 30, 2027
- LB1072: Provide for and change transfers from the Cash Reserve Fund and provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to fees, funds, fund transfers, agency powers and duties, and various statutory programs
- LB1091: Provide requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services for long-term care clients with special needs under the medical assistance program

VII. Medicaid Work Requirements (MWR)

MLTC staff gave an update on the Medicaid Work Requirements. The slides for this presentation can be found on the [MAC webpage](#).

Questions during this topic

- Question: Is the household income looked at to determine if someone meets Medicaid Work Requirements? If just one person works but the family's income is over the income threshold, do both adults meet the requirements?
 - Answer: It depends on the tax household. If the couple is married and filing jointly, the household income will be looked at.
- Question: Is there an online resource that shows which counties have high employment rates?
 - Answer: Check out the [Department of Labor website](#).
- Question: Does answering the screener questions shorten the application process?
 - Answer: Not providing information could delay the process.
- Question: How does the state know when the person receives their mail to start the 30-day timeframe?
 - Answer: MLTC has a 5-day waiting period to allow for mail time. The notice will state what date the applicant/member needs to provide the information by.
- Question: Will members still have the 90-day reconsideration period?
 - Answer: If a member/applicant is closed due to failure to provide, they will get the 90-day reconsideration period. If a member/applicant is closed for failure to meet, their application has been denied, they do not get the 90-day reconsideration period, and they will have to reapply.
- Question: Can the number of disenrolled members due to MWR be shared with the MAC?
 - Answer: Nebraska Medicaid will publish MWR data in their Medicaid Annual Report. If the MAC would like specific data reported to them, please draft a report with the requested information and MLTC leadership will review and decide if data can be shared before the annual report is released.

VIII. Open Discussion / Public Comment

- Frank thanked the MAC for attending the meeting at the Molina Resource Center and shared the history of the building.
- Liz mentioned that she is having issues getting patients switched from acute care to skilled care.
 - MLTC will follow up on this issue

IX. Confirm the Next Meeting Time and Location

MLTC confirmed that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, July 16 2026, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Lincoln, Nebraska with the exact location to be

announced. There **will not** be a virtual option for this meeting for MAC members. Members of the public will be able to join virtually.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Committee.

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