

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



D.C. MEDICAL CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MCAC)

Location: Virtual Meeting via WebEx

Wednesday, April 28, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

MEMBERS:

Sharra Greer, Children's Law Center
Suzanne Jackson, Health Rights Law Clinic
Mark LeVota, DC Behavioral Health Assoc.
Marie Morilus-Black, MBI Health Services
Chioma Oruh, Chi Bornfree
Justin Palmer, DC Hospital Association
Ian Paregol, Coalition of Disability Service Providers
Eric Scharf, Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance
Veronica Sharpe, DCHCA
Tamara Smith, DCPA
Joe Weissfeld, Families USA
Amy Maisterra, DCPS
Barbara Bazron, DBH
Kirk Dobson, DDS
Marsha Lillie-Blanton, DBH
Melisa Byrd, DHCF

GUESTS:

Ahna Millat
Alice Weiss, DHCF
Alonda Jones, DHCF
Alyssa Kahn
Amelia Whitman, DHCF
April Grady, DHCF
Andrew Malcolm
Belina Zhang
Bill Hanna, DHCF
Brion Elliot, DHCF
Cavella Bishop, DHCF
Christine Dagostino
Charisse Vickerie
Christine DeAngelis
Claudia Schlosberg, Castle Hill Consulting
Cleveland Woodson
Colleen Sonosky, DHCF
Craig Umstead
Cyndy Snyder
DaShawn Groves, DHCF
DeJa Love, DHCF

Deniz Soyer, DHCF
Drena Lopez Duran
Dwight Mayes
Eric Colchamiro
Erin Holve, DHCF
Elizabeth Garrison, DHCF
Eugene Simms, DHCF
Felecia Stovall, DHCF
Fernando Casto Gomez
Garlinda Bryant, DHS
George Aloth
Heather Stowe, DACL
Jennifer Joyce
Joyce Speaks
Judith Levy, DC Coalition on Long Term Care
Karen Finn
Karyn Wills
Katie Rines, DHCF
Kelly-Ann Daniels, DHCF
Kerda DeHaan, DHCF
Kerri Kerr
Lauren Jones, DHCF
Lauren Ratner, DC Health
Lawrence Williams, DHCF
Leslie Lyles Smith, MedStar
Lisa Truitt, DHCF
Lorena Ortiz, DHCF
Lucy Ohiosikha, DHCF
Lynda Kelly, DHCF
Lyndsay Niles
Maria Alva, Georgetown University
Marlaina Bowens, DHCF
Mark Fracasso
Mia Olsen
Michelle Zancan
Melanie Williamson, DHCF
Monique Willard, DHCF
Nathaniel Curry, DHCF
Nikhil Holla, CareFirst
Nina Jolani, DHCF

Onari Jackson
Pam Riley, DHCF
Patricia Quinn, DCPCA
Rachel McLaughlin
Raelynn Schafer
Rita Torkzadeh, DHCF
Rohnda Roberts
Sharon Henry
Sahar Takshi, AARP

Sherri Giorgio, Gilead
Stephanie Hafiz
Stephanie Taylor, HSCSN
Suzanne Jackson
Thomye Cave
Tina Petrus
Travis Auth

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Mr. LeVota, MCAC Chair.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Eric Scharf moved and was seconded for approval of the February 24, 2021 minutes. The minutes were approved without objection.

III. Senior Deputy Director/Medicaid Director Report

a. MCAC Staffing Update

Dr. Pamela Riley, DHCF Medical Director, presented on behalf of the Medicaid Director Melisa Byrd. Dr. Riley provided an update on MCAC staffing, highlighting that William Hanna, Special Projects Officer, was no longer with the agency, and that Eugene Simms, Special Assistant, would be serving as MCAC liaison in the interim. *(The presentation is available on DHCF's Website on the MCAC webpage. The presentation is located under the April 2021 MCAC Meeting Agenda and Materials link.)*

b. CMS Families First Coronavirus Response Act

Danielle Lewis-Wright, Associate Director, Division of Eligibility Policy, presented on planned eligibility and redetermination process changes being made in response to update federal requirements. Ms. Lewis-Wright notified members that States must redetermine Medicaid and CHIP eligibility between regular renewals when they have information about a beneficiary's change in circumstances (CIC) that affects eligibility. Ms. Lewis-Wright stated that DHCF and ESA were working on ongoing implementation planning through a "phased approach" and that DHCF would be sharing updated beneficiary eligibility notices as part of FFCRA implementation. Ms. Lewis-Wright concluded noting that DHCF did not expect FFCRA implementation to have substantial impact on coverage/cause coverage disruption except in limited circumstances. *(The presentation is available on DHCF's Website on the MCAC webpage. The presentation is located under the February 2021 MCAC Meeting Agenda and Materials link.)*

c. COVID-19 Public Health Emergency/Vaccination Update

Dr. Riley, presented on the COVID-19 PHE/Vaccination Update. Dr. Riley provided an update on ongoing MCO and DHCF COVID-19 vaccination outreach efforts. Dr. Riley highlighted DHCF's updated transmittal on reimbursement availability for provider outreach, education, and counseling of beneficiaries on the COVID-19 vaccine. Dr. Riley also announced that DHCF and DC Health have entered into a data sharing agreement to support vaccine outreach efforts. Finally, Dr. Riley shared insight into the current vaccination rates for beneficiaries of programs administered by DHCF. As of April 26, 2021 twenty-one percent (21%) of DHCF beneficiaries age eighteen and over have received at least one COVID vaccination.

(The presentation is available on DHCF's Website on the MCAC webpage. The presentation is located under the April 2021 MCAC Meeting Agenda and Materials link.)

d. DCAS Update

JuJuan Nelson, Supervisory Program Analyst, DC Access System, provided an update the expected rollout of DCAS R3. Ms. Nelson stated that planned go-live was July 2, 2021, and that the launch will bring all Non-MAGI and remaining MAGI programs into the new eligibility system. Ms. Nelson also discussed additional functionality planned for the launch, including: the Citizen Portal that will be a one-stop-shop entry point for residents. Ms. Nelson receive done question, asking whether beneficiaries would be able to select a specific Medicaid managed care plan through the DCAS application, to which Ms. Nelson answered in the affirmative. *(The presentation is available on DHCF's Website on the MCAC webpage. The presentation is located under the April 2021 MCAC Meeting Agenda and Materials link.)*

e. DBH-DHCF Advisory Group Update

Amelia Whitman, Deputy Chief of Staff, provided an update on the ongoing work of the Behavioral Health Integration Stakeholder Advisory Group. Ms. Whitman stated that the Advisory Group launched March 23, 2021 with forty-five (45) public members, including consumers, providers, and managed care representatives with a focused-on input and recommendations related to the carve-in of behavioral health services. *(The presentation is available on DHCF's Website on the MCAC webpage. The presentation is located under the April 2021 MCAC Meeting Agenda and Materials link.)*

f. DHCF State Plan Amendment and Rulemaking Tracker

Alice Weiss, Director, Health Care Policy and Research, presented on the progress of State Plan amendments and corresponding rulemakings. Ms. Weiss received a question about whether or not DHCF would pursue authority to incentivize beneficiaries to get the COVID-19 vaccine via a one-hundred-dollar (\$100) payment. Dr. Riley mentioned that DHCF would follow up. *(The Medical Care Advisory Committee (MCAC) State Plan Amendment (SPA) and Rulemaking Report is available on DHCF's Website on the MCAC webpage. The presentation is located under the April 2021 MCAC Meeting Agenda and Materials link.)*

IV. Subcommittee Reports

a. Long Term Services and Supports

There was no update provided.

b. Eligibility & Enrollment

Mr. Eric Scharf provided the update. The committee met in April.

c. Access

Mr. Robert Hay provided the update. The committee met in April.

d. Health Care Re-Design

Ms. Tamara Smith provided the update. The committee met in April. Next meeting was scheduled in May.

V. New Business

a. MCAC Chair Person and Vice Chair Person Nominations

Mark LeVota opened nominations but received no successful nominations from the floor. Nominations would remain open until the June 23, 2021 meeting of the MCAC.

VI. Opportunity for Public Comment

There was a question with regard to the date managed care contracts would be awarded following the Contract Appeals Board ruling. Ms. Byrd replied that MCO contracts are effective throughout fiscal year 2021, would provide additional information once it is available with regard to the ongoing procurement effort.

Second question on the date DHCF responses to Council budget questions would be available to the public. Ms. Byrd replied that the agency would follow-up with additional information.

DRDC asked a question about DBH and DCHF's effort to monitor the effectiveness of provider outreach to beneficiaries on the COVID-19 vaccine. Ms. Byrd replied that DHCF is monitoring outreach provided by MCOs. Dr. Bazron replied that DBH is not currently monitoring the effectiveness of provider outreach but would provide an update in future.

VII. Announcements

Mr. LeVota made the following announcements:

- a.** Special Meeting: DHCF Budget Presentation – June 2, 2021

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. LeVota adjourned the meeting at 6:34 pm.