

MINUTES
February 21, 2008
Income Maintenance Advisory Committee
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
Department of Health and Family Services

Participants

Barb Honsa, DHFS	Amy Mendel-Clemens, DHFS
Jackie Bennett, Racine	Tad Mengesha, DWD
Lynn Brenner, Calumet	Susan Moeser, Milwaukee
Rhonda Brown-Anderson, Pierce	Mary Moyer, DHFS
Kate Chambers, Lafayette	Claire O'Brien, Milwaukee
Gail Chapman, DHFS	Kristine Parkanski, Marinette
Sheila Drays, Dodge	Jan Place, Polk
Sara Edmonds, DHFS	Sandy Potter, Washington
Sandy Potter, Washington	John Rathman, Outagamie
Barb Hernesman, Crawford	Scott Riedasch, DHFS
Tim Gessler, Winnebago	Jodi Ross, DHFS
Liz Green, Dane	Carrie Schneck, DHFS
Linda Halvorson, Dunn	Marianne Schock, Clark
Jane Huebsch, Marathon	Sue Schweikert, Washburn
Kara Jenkins, Jackson	Barb Spaude, Outagamie
Vicki Jessup, DHFS	Cindy Sutton, Rock
Ed Kamin, Kenosha	Nancy Thompson, Vernon
Doreen Lang, Wood	Sue Torgeson,
Chris Machamer, Waupaca	Jayne Wanless, DHFS
Kathy Madsen, Douglas	Jamie Christianson-Fawcett, Barron
Liz Mahloch, Sheboygan	Cece Fishnick, Grant
Cori McFarlane, DHFS	Melissa Wilson, DHFS

Administrative Items

- Minutes from last month's meeting were not yet available

Update on GAMP Non-Medical Childless Adults Issue -Vicki Jessup

- Counties participating in the general relief block grant program are statutorily required to provide health care services if they wish to use general relief block grant funds to provide cash assistance and other non-medical benefits.
- When BadgerCare Plus for Childless Adults begins, the state will assume the role of providing medical benefits to most, if not all, recipients of general relief assistance.
- If current statutory language is not modified, counties may be unwilling or unable to continue to provide non-medical cash assistance without the possibility of reimbursement from the state or federal government. This is an unintended consequence of the BadgerCare Plus Childless Adults program.
- A modification of current statutes to allow counties to apply for general relief funds for cash assistance provided to dependent persons absent the provision of health care services would resolve this unintended consequence. About 40 counties operate a general relief program.

Vicki informed the group that while there is departmental support for the statutory change, it may not be considered until the January 2009 session. Ed Kamin stated that waiting until January 2009 could impact county budgets since Badger Care Plus for Childless Adults is slated to begin at the same time. A decision paper is still being routed at DHFS. In the meantime county reps may try to find a sponsor to bring this change to the legislature before January 2009.

FSET Update – Jayne Wanless

- FNS approved the State's amended FSET state plan in early February
- Operations memo will be released very soon
- Volunteer program effective 3/1/08
- No new sanctions entered as of that date
- Letters have been developed with information about the program change will be sent to individuals who are currently sanctioned or participating in FSET.. Individuals who are currently sanctioned must re-request FS benefits to be added back into the group

BadgerCare Plus Update

Feedback from Counties – Ed Kamin and John Rathman

John Rathman compiled a list of issues that IMAC wants to bring to the attention of DHFS based on agency feedback and ES PAC discussions. The document is attached. A few highlights:

- The increase in applications (on-site and through ACCESS) has exceeded agency expectations
- Customers are reading their new improved notices, and at least initially are calling agencies with more questions
- Employers are contacting local agencies with insurance questions
- ES staff are going to have to train others in their agency on BC+ basics

DHFS staff will review the agency list of issues and be prepared to discuss next steps at the next meeting

Member Services update – Amy Mendel-Clemens

Member Services was initially deluged with calls after 2/1. Their normally excellent call response rate (over 90%) dipped to around 50% as a result. Between another call center taking some calls and DHFS staff assisted in taking calls, MS is back to their regular response rate at this point.

BC+ Conversion numbers – Vicki Jessup

Vicki shared a handout (attached) that summarizes initial analysis of BC+ numbers. IMAC requested a breakdown by county, which has been put on the IMAC website.

Systems Status – Melissa Henderson

Melissa shared a handout (attached) that outlines BC+ post-implementation work in the coming months.

EM CAPO Update – Sara Edmonds

The EM CAPO was operational February 1st and has started taking applications from two FQHC locations in Milwaukee. As of 2/21 they have received almost fifty applications. Three additional FQHCs are being trained and will begin to submit applications to CAPO as of 2/29.

Family Care Rollout – Scott Riedasch

Scott provided a handout (attached) and an update on Family Care rollout for the balance of 2008. He informed the committee that training materials for ADRCs and MCOs are available on the Family Care website.

Future IMAC Subcommittee Assignments

The committee was given a handout in preparation for discussion next month regarding what subcommittee assignments IMAC should consider moving forward. Existing committee chairs were asked to evaluate their existing charter and membership and to be prepared to make recommendations for continuing, changing or even ending some subcommittees.

Next Meeting: March 27, 2008 at Fen Oak