

# Katie Beckett Medicaid

Division of Medicaid Services

Thursday, November 10, 2022



# Katie Beckett Medicaid

- Katie Beckett, born in Iowa in 1978, contracted viral encephalitis in infancy, resulting in significant, life long medical needs.
- During the first few years of Katie's illness and recovery, Medicaid would pay for her care if hospitalized, but would not pay for her care at home, even though the technology and care existed to allow her to be home.

# Katie Beckett Medicaid

- Katie's parents worked with their representatives to create a new pathway to Medicaid that allowed children to be cared for in their home, regardless of their parents' income.
- Katie Beckett Waivers became available in 1981 and have allowed more than 500,000 children to live at home in the 24 states where Katie Beckett Waiver has been implemented.
- Katie lived until the age of 34. She, along with her mother, Julie, remained tireless advocates for the rights of individual with disabilities

# Katie Beckett Medicaid Eligibility Criteria

- Under 19 Years Old
- Disabled as defined under SSA
- Wisconsin Resident
- US citizen or qualifying immigrant
- Residing in an eligible community-based setting
- Meets Level of Care based on the Children's Long Term Functional Screen
- Child Income Requirements

Eligible children receive a Forward Health Card and Medicaid benefits (Medicaid and Children's Services Program Benefits Overview, P-02996)

# Katie Beckett Medicaid Application Process

## Intake

- Application Process Begins
- Screen Visit Held or Scheduled

## Functional Screen/ Application

- Functional Screen Interview
- Application and eligibility criteria reviewed

## Disability Determination

- Record review to determine whether the child meets “disability” criteria of the Social Security Act

# Katie Beckett Medicaid Streamlining Efforts

## Centralized Intake and Eligibility Functions:

- Became effective in June last year
- Moved access from 6 regions and 12 phone numbers to 1 central intake number
- Families typically talk to a live person on the first call if made during business hours

## Katie Beckett Medicaid Streamlining Efforts Continued

### Centralized Intake and Eligibility Functions continued:

- The Eligibility Specialist who answers the phone takes the family through the application and functional screen, reducing the number of times a family tells their story.
- Since implementation, the time from intake to completion of the functional screen and application has moved from an average of 31 days, to an average of 14 days.

# Katie Beckett Medicaid Streamlining Process (Con't)

At the same time BCS began working on Central Intake, we recognized the need to address another issue related to timeliness of the application process.

Federal Medicaid regulation [42 CFR 435.912\(c\)\(3\)\(i\)](#) requires the determination of eligibility for any individual who applies for Medicaid on the basis of disability not exceed **ninety days**.



# Katie Beckett Medicaid Disability Determination Process

Responsibility for the determination of the disability eligibility criteria was moved from the Disability Determination Bureau (DDB) to the Bureau of Clinical Policy and Pharmacy (BCPP) in August of 2022.

# Katie Beckett Medicaid Disability Determination Process

## Family Experience Improvements:

- All communication will be coordinated through the family's Eligibility Specialist who they talked to first
- BCS and BCPP will work in close collaboration
- All notifications will come from BCS
- Flexibilities have been created to accommodate family needs when additional scheduling or contact is needed.

# Katie Beckett Medicaid Disability Determination Process

- Working through the current backlog
  - ◆ Processing oldest cases first
  - ◆ Presumptive Eligibility Process
- Preparing for PHE Unwinding
  - ◆ Resuming annual recertifications
  - ◆ Returning to business as usual
- Ongoing Coordination of Disability Determinations
  - ◆ Collaboration with Counties
  - ◆ Joint SSI and Katie Beckett Medicaid Applications

# Katie Beckett Medicaid Disability Determination Process

## Katie Beckett 1<sup>st</sup> Case for BCPP/BCS

### Child diagnosed with ASD, and Speech/Language Delay

- Age: 2 ½ years old
- Intake Date: January 10, 2022
- DDB Backlog for 8 Months and 20 Days
- BCPP/BCS completed the case and approved Katie Beckett Medicaid in 11 Days

# Katie Beckett Medicaid

## Central Intake Contact

1-888-786-3246

or

[DHSKatieBeckett@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSKatieBeckett@dhs.wisconsin.gov)

Additional Information about Katie Beckett Medicaid can be found at [Katie Beckett Medicaid | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](http://www.dhs.Wisconsin.gov/kbp/index.htm)  
([www.dhs.Wisconsin.gov/kbp/index.htm](http://www.dhs.Wisconsin.gov/kbp/index.htm))