



A Brief History of *Regional Enrollment Networks* in Wisconsin

Bill Hanna

Director, Area Administration

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Wisconsin's Vision and Commitment

- Ensure that every resident has access to health insurance, create a Medicaid program that is sustainable, reduce reliance upon government health insurance, and maintain the health care safety net for those who need it most.
- Reduce the number of uninsured non-elderly adults in our state and encourage consumers to be active participants in their healthcare.
- Simplify the Medicaid program by providing a standard set of comprehensive benefits that will lead to improved healthcare outcomes.



Why Regional Enrollment Networks (REN)?

- Ensure that trusted messengers help consumers learn about available coverage
- To coordinate handoffs between various organizations and various levels of enrollment staff
- Leverage all available resources to meet goal
- Limited federal funding & support
 - ~\$2.7 million in federal funding for enrollment assistance programs



What is a Regional Enrollment Networks (REN)?

- a **voluntary** group of stakeholders organized to improve consumer outreach and education, strengthen enrollment support resources, and assist residents in securing adequate and affordable public or private health insurance.



Compare WI Medicaid to Federally Facilitated Marketplace

WI Medicaid

- System functionality: CARES
- Determination: Verification by IM Staff
- Training: new worker training, CCW Training Environment
- Communication via: WI DHS

Federally Facilitated Marketplace

- System functionality: HealthCare.gov
- Determination: Data Services Hub
- Training: 4 hours CMS web based training; 16 hour OCI training
- Communication via: DHHS, CMS, CCIIO, WI DHS, WI OCI



AmeriCorps Members

- Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association (WPHCA) grant from Corporation for National & Community Service
- Grant requires Members to be placed at host sites.
- Typically host sites hire and train the Member
- Grant typically requires host sites to provide matching funds for the member.
- DHS agreed to pay the match for Members
- DHS did not manage, direct or supervise the host site or the AmeriCorps Members. DHS did not have a contract with host sites or AmeriCorps Members.
- DHS did have a contractual agreement with WPHCA for the match.



Future REN Support

- Enrollment Assistor Support
 - Regular communication
 - Annual assistor conference
 - Ongoing statewide training
 - Dedicated REN Director
 - Updated enrollment directory
 - Case escalation/technical assistance system



Future REN Support cont'd

- Consumer Outreach Support
 - Media strategy
 - Consumer material toolkit
 - Learning collaborative
- REN Staffing



DHS Role

- DHCAA
- Area Administration
 - Liaison to County IM Agencies
 - Liaison to RENs
- Member of REN strategic planning



Upcoming Challenges

- Marketplace Re-enrollment/ Auto enrollments
- BadgerCare Plus Childless Adult Renewals
- Tax Credit miscalculations
- Open Enrollment
- Discontinuation of Cognosate and SRA contracts in Wisconsin



What are we missing?

- What do IM Consortia need from DHS?
- What do IM Consortia need from RENs?
- How can DHS help IM Consortia help RENs?