

10-12-22 Medicaid Matters meeting with Kelly Garcia, IHHS Director and Liz Matney, Medicaid Director

Iowa Medicaid rates of reimbursement are much lower than surrounding states.

At the present time, legislators are in charge of re-setting rates.

IHHS prepares packets of information for legislators to show what needs to be addressed.

- IHHS would like to have authority to change rates themselves.
- In Feb-March 2023 they will roll out proposals for change to legislators
- A Medicaid reference guide is developed for new legislators
- They will be emphasizing the need for outcomes
- They are developing sophisticated financial analysis

Maternal care – how do we get Medicaid postpartum treatment extended from 3 months to 1 year?

- This is a budget situation (Liz could send CMS the change to allow coverage)
- They want to lower the rate of caesarean sections (primarily done on Medicaid patients)
- Iowa has the first maternal health strategic plan
- Iowa has a black doula program
- Need community health workers to expand home visiting programs
- Maternal care is not only a women's issue, it also has an impact on the child's well-being and an impact on the child welfare system

ACES Kids Act – passed in 2019-2020 during the pandemic

- Where are we at? We have
 - Integrated health homes
 - Chronic condition health homes, CCBHC's and are trying to map things out
- Will have workgroups to determine changes needed.
- There will be state planning grants to help
- But with the many projects on their plate – the state planning grant process hasn't risen to the top of the pile yet.

MCO contracts – they are in training from now through Thanksgiving (130 hours)

- Then 4 months configuration and 4 months of testing for Molina
- IHHS is still figuring out the redistribution of clients among the 3 MCO's. It will be done in April
- July 1 is potential date to go live.

Year of evaluation – Mathematica analyzed \$8.5 million claims records and interviewed participants

- Their recommendations are:
 - Develop streamlined assessment tools
 - Maximize access to HCBS and case management standards – have easier ways for people to navigate the system. Need a lot more coordination.
 - Establish a smaller # of HCBS waivers and structure services better.