

## Council on Human Services Meeting Minutes

MAY 11, 2023

<b>COUNCIL MEMBERS</b>	<b>HHS STAFF</b>
Rebecca Peterson	Director Kelly Garcia
Skylar Mayberry-Mayes	Matt Highland
Kimberly Kudej	Amela Alibasic
Sam Wallace	Marissa Eyanson
Jack Willey	Cory Turner
Monika Jindal	Kurt Behrens
Kay Fisk	Elizabeth Matney

<b>EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS</b>
Senator Jeff Edler
Senator Sarah Trone Garriott
Representative Ann Meyer

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rebecca Peterson called the Council meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. via zoom teleconference.

### ROLL CALL

All Council members were present, all other Ex-Officio members were absent.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Willey to approve the April 13, 2023, meeting minutes. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED

## **PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY UNWIND**

Amela Alibasic, Community Access Eligibility Director, reviewed the Medicaid plan for the unwind process. Amela explained that our team has been in the planning stages of the unwind for the past two years. Several steps have been taken to assure a successful unwind including creating a dashboard and web page to provide information, provided training to our field staff, and we have communicated with our stakeholders on the process. We initiated just over 50,000 Medicaid renewals in the first month and continue to work on redetermining members.

## **HHS SYSTEM DELIVERY ASSESSMENT**

Matt Highland, Chief of Strategic Operations, stated that even after our alignment with public health to become HHS, we still saw a lot of silos in how services were delivered. This can create duplicative or gaps in service and programs and providers having difficulty in communicating. Due to this, Matt stated that this summer we will be assessing our local service delivery system. This assessment will look at the purpose, rational, and historical context of why the service delivery systems have been geographically laid out. Also, to understand the scope of providers and how they are funded. The goal is to get a list of recommendations on how we better align those service systems with better outcomes. Our goal is to have this assessment completed by fall of this year.

## **NEW MEDICAID MCO ONBOARDING**

Medicaid Director Liz Matney shared that Molina is going live July 1, 2023. She shared that our contractor was onsite conducting a readiness review and claims testing process and there were a few areas that needed improvement, which we expected. Our teams are following up on those gaps to become better prepared for the go live date. She stated that all and all everything looks good, so we are anticipating a successful launch.

## **MCO QUARTERLY REPORT – SFY 2023 QUARTER 2**

Kurt Behrens, Medicaid Analyst, provided an overview of our latest MCO quarterly report. He stated we had a 1.54% increase in members which brings our MCO members to 819,852. Amerigroup serves 55.3% of members and Iowa Total Care serves 44.7%. Pharmacy claims stayed stable from last quarter, and Kurt shared the dashboard with the Council.

## **DOJ MONITOR AT GLENWOOD**

Cory Turner, Division Director of State Operated Facilities, shared that the Glenwood census is currently at 84 residents, down from 152 at the time of the closure announcement.

Woodward is currently at 126 residents. As part of the consent decree, the monitor was onsite from March 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>. No big concerns were found, just small areas of improvement that were suggested, which the team at Glenwood had already been working on. Cory stated that the lead attorney was very happy with the monitor visits.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Kelly Garcia shared some highlights and success stories from the 2023 Legislative session. This included our HHS alignment bill being signed by the Governor. Director Garcia stated she will be sharing our new organizational chart soon. Much of the successes included promoting healthy families and communities in the state. She shared that HF 471 – HHS Prefile designated the state mental health institute (MHI) in Independence for specialized treatment of behaviorally complex youth and the MHI in Cherokee for specialized treatment and security of adults who are court ordered into state custody. In our Family Protection and Well-Being division the attorney fee for adoption from foster care was increased to \$1000 and foster parent rights were enhanced. Other highlights include an investment in childcare by raising the federal poverty level for families eligible for CCA assistance to 160% up from 145% and investing in increased salaries for social workers who protect Iowa's children. Director Garcia shared that in our Medicaid division, we have increased Medicaid funding for mental health and substance use disorder provider reimbursement rates by \$13 million.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Kudej to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mayberry-Mayes. Meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Julie McCauley

Council Secretary