



Hawki Board Meeting December 16, 2019

Hawki Board Members	Department of Human Services
Angela Burke Boston – present	Mike Randol, Medicaid Director
Dr. Jonathan Crosbie – present	Marissa Eyanson, IME Bureau Chief
Jim Donoghue – present	Kevin Kirkpatrick
Eric Kohlsdorf, Chair – present	
Dr. Bob Russell – present	
Dr. Kaaren Vargas – present	Guests
Ronda Eick -	Jean Johnson, IA Department of Public Health
Senator Nate Boulton – call in	Lindsay Paulson, MAXIMUS
Senator Dennis Guth -	
Representative John Forbes – present	
Representative Shannon Lundgren -	

Call to Order and Roll Call

Board Chair Eric Kohlsdorf called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM. A roll call was conducted and attendance is as reflected above. A quorum was present.

Approval of the Hawki Board Meeting Minutes

Kohlsdorf called for the Board to review the minutes from the October 21, 2019 meeting. Kohlsdorf called for a motion to approve the minutes, the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Hawki Annual Report

Marissa Eyanson, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) Bureau Chief, reviewed the annual report. Marissa highlighted annual Hawki membership statistics, the rebranding of the Hawki program, the budget for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019, Hawki population breakdowns, projected populations for SFY 2020, care quality metrics, provider network adequacy, the Hawki Outreach Program, presumptive eligibility, the Hawki Dental Plan, and membership of the board. Angela Burke Boston asked if print resources are translated into other languages aside from Spanish. Marissa stated that print resources are available only in Spanish and English, but translation services are available to members via telephone. Eric called for a motion to approve the report, the motion carried and the report was approved.

Director's Report

Medicaid Director Mike Randol reviewed Hawki enrollment and financials. Mike stated that in SFY 20 Hawki would request \$19.3 million in state funding. The federal share for the Hawki program will be about \$171 million. Starting in 2020 the IME will begin offering quarterly provider trainings, as opposed to annual provider trainings. The first quarterly provider training will be held on January 13 in Dubuque. Quarterly provider training sessions will be regionally focused, and focused on topics requested by providers. The IME is developing a Uniform Prior Authorization form to be used by both Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) and the IME. Marissa and her team are developing this and hope to implement in early 2020. Dr. Jonathan Crosbie asked for more information regarding the Uniform Prior Authorization form. Mike stated that the form was mandated by the legislature in the 2019 session, and that it will be a standard form for prior authorizations between the MCOs and Fee-for-Service, all services requiring a prior authorization within the Medicaid program will use the same form.

Rep. John Forbes raised an issue that his constituents had recently contacted him about, regarding a letter they received from Amerigroup noting that rates for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) would be reduced. Rep. Forbes stated that these rates were at or below cost for the products, and that these products included things like diapers and glucose strips. John Hedgecoth of Amerigroup Iowa, Inc. (Amerigroup) stated that he had some information, but would not be able to respond in full at this meeting.

Updates from the MCOs

Hedgecoth presented an update to the Board. Hedgecoth noted that currently Amerigroup has roughly 380,000 Iowa Medicaid members. Since the transition in July Amerigroup has brought on 206 new employees, 130 of which are new community based case managers. Amerigroup is still looking to fill more case manager positions. Amerigroup continues to focus on assessments and follow-ups for members, especially long term service and supports (LTSS) members. Amerigroup continues to monitor its community-based placement vs its institutional placement of members, continuing their mandate to move members from institutional placements to community-based placements.

Rep. Forbes noted that his constituents forwarded him a letter they received from Amerigroup announcing a reduction in rates for DME. Rep. Forbes noted his constituents received this letter on December 13, 2019, announcing the rate reduction would go into effect on December 15, 2019. Mike asked Hedgecoth to provide him with a report on this rate reduction. Hedgecoth stated he would follow up with Mike regarding this issue.

Kim Flores, of Iowa Total Care (ITC), presented an update. ITC went live in the Medicaid program on July 1, 2019, spending their first several months in the market overcoming the operational challenges involved in standing up a health plan. ITC is now focusing on increasing outreach to their members and providing value-added benefits. One such benefit is the My Health Pays program, an incentive given to members when they complete a healthy activity. The My Health Pays program rewards members with a pre-paid, reloadable, Visa gift card. Additionally, these gift cards can be used to pay for utilities, transportation, childcare, rent, telecommunications, and education as long as the vendors are coded appropriately; the cards cannot be used to purchase alcohol, tobacco, or firearms.

Gretchen Hageman, of Delta Dental Iowa (DDIA), gave a brief update: DDIA has about 60,000 members in the Hawki program. Hageman stated that 40% of Hawki DDIA members have had a preventative service in SFY 2020. DDIA has a network of 1,300 dentists available to serve Hawki members. DDIA's outreach program is continuing targeting children ages one to three, trying to increase visits for this population.

Communications Update

Kevin Kirkpatrick gave an update on the Hawki online payment system. Since implementation on October 21, 2019, 2,600 users have signed up for the service. The system has gone through one payment cycle. The new system will require members to reaffirm their online payment every 12 months; this will eliminate any legacy-automated payments that members may have forgotten to cancel.

Outreach

Jean Johnson gave an update on Hawki outreach and shared some local outreach success stories.

Public Comment

There were no comments.

New Business

Rep. Forbes discussed the electronic prescription mandate recently passed by the Iowa Legislature. As of January 1, 2020, pharmacies will continue to fill prescriptions received in a non-electronic format. Pharmacies will then notify the Iowa Board of Pharmacy when they receive non-electronic prescriptions. The Iowa Board of Pharmacy will then notify the board that governs the prescriber, and this board will discipline the prescriber.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be February 17, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 PM.

Submitted by,

Michael Kitzman
Recording Secretary
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