

Meeting Minutes

ND HHS Tribal Consultation

August 31, 2023

8:37-10:35am CT

Topics and Presenters	Notes
<p>Public Health Division Updates Krissie Guerard <i>Community Engagement Director</i></p>	<p>There is a North Dakota Health Equity Training series to help identify inequities in the workplace available online here. Information on how to create a free account and take the courses is on the website.</p> <p>The Tribal Health Liaison position for Spirit Lake – Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate opened up after a recent resignation. The job posting is now closed.</p>
<p>Indian Affairs Updates Brad Hawk <i>Deputy Director, Indian Affairs</i></p>	<p>The ND Indian Affairs Commission met last week on August 21st. The meeting agenda can be found here. Next meeting is November 8th.</p> <p>There are two seats on Task Forces that need to be filled with Tribal representatives*, the Community Health Worker (CHW) Task Force and the Health Care Task Force. (A representative for the CHW Task Force was selected after this meeting’s conclusion). *After the meeting Tasha Peltier was selected as the CHW Task Force representative.</p>
<p>Medical Services Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="184 1063 604 1136">• <i>Member Engagement Coordinator</i> Jen Sheppard <li data-bbox="184 1209 604 1282">• <i>New Medicaid Tribal Liaison</i> Monique Runnels 	<p>Jen Sheppard will be seeking a diverse group of former and current Medicaid members to serve on the upcoming Member Engagement Committee. Members will share their voices and experiences with Medicaid and Tribal members are going to be an important voice to engage and learn from. More to come soon! Contact Jen at medicaidmembers@nd.gov.</p> <p>Monique Runnels began working with ND Medicaid as its new Tribal Liaison on August 21st. She will be the primary point of contact for Tribal stakeholders with questions or concerns about North Dakota Medicaid. Monique can be reached at mrunnels@nd.gov or 701-328-5841.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicaid Renewals update Krista Fremming <i>Assistant Director, Medical Services</i>	The North Dakota Medicaid Renewals Dashboards are now online. The dashboards show the number of Medicaid individuals due to have their Medicaid enrollment renewed and the status of reviews. Dashboards include demographic and geographic information.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligibility Redesign/Customer Support Center Data update Bianca Bell <i>Economic Assistance Rep</i>	Overview of the economic assistance application process and Human Service Zone Economic Assistance (including Medicaid) redesign was provided. Average processing days for both applications and reviews have seen significant drops since the redesign. The Customer Support Call Center handles many calls on a daily and weekly basis, providing customer service to individuals applying for Medicaid, reporting changes to their cases, and answering questions. <div data-bbox="646 545 1178 889" style="background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: #e67e22; color: white; margin: 0;">Contact Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email: applyforhelp@nd.gov • Phone: 1.866.614.6005 or 701.328.1000; 711 (TTY) • Fax: 701.328.1006 • Mail: Customer Support Center P.O. Box 5562 Bismarck ND 58506 </div>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Medical Services Director Sarah Aker 	Sarah began working at ND in Medicaid in late July. She previously worked in various roles within the South Dakota Department of Social Services and most recently served as SD's Medicaid Director. Sarah and her family recently moved to Bismarck.
<p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a way to allow Tribes to enroll their members in Medicaid? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicaid Administrative Claiming for Tribes? Presumptive Eligibility for Tribal Clinics? Tribes operating similar to Human Service Zones that would process applications for their members? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response: This item would likely require Legislative activity initiated by and maintained by Tribal stakeholders. Funding for Navigators and training? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources Forecasted 2024 Grant Opportunity to support Navigators in Federally-facilitated Exchanges – Navigators are required to provide targeted assistance to underserved and vulnerable populations and operate year-round. Information on Certified Application Counselors (CACs) 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can Medicaid provide a 101-style training with tribal-specific data? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Follow-up: Medicaid is working on identifying what information would be most helpful and putting together some education/training. • A Presumptive Eligibility & Tribal Enrollment-specific meeting will be held between this meeting and the next Tribal Consultation meeting in November. Please contact Monique Runnels at mrunnels@nd.gov if you are interested in participating in this meeting. • Medical Services will gather historical enrollment data reflecting the number of identified Tribal (we do not have data specific to which Tribe but can gather county-level data) members going back to the year before Medicaid Expansion began – 2013 (Expansion began in 2014). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Follow-up: Data table attached to end of these minutes reflecting Tribal-county specific enrollment data for the year prior to (2013) and subsequent to (2014) Medicaid Expansion being implemented in North Dakota as well as the pre-COVID pandemic/continuous enrollment year (2019) and the year before continuous enrollment ended (2022). Caveat: Data is not a perfect representation but gives an idea of enrollment trends. • Can Tribes license their own health care professionals? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response: This is something beyond the purview of ND Medicaid’s authority. It would most likely require Legislative activity initiated and maintained by Tribal stakeholders. ○ See MN Statutes 256B.02(7) for an example of a state that allows a federally recognized Indian tribe to implement its own standards for credentialing health professionals as “vendors” of medical care. https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/256B.02
State Plan Amendment (SPA) & Waiver updates	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 1, 2023 SPAs 	The 6.15.23 Tribal Consultation Letter details state plan amendments.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming SPA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mandatory vaccine coverage for adults 	An upcoming state plan amendment is regarding mandatory vaccine coverage for adults per a State Health Officer letter from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) SHO #23-003: Mandatory Medicaid & CHIP Coverage of Adult Vaccinations under the Inflation Reduction Act.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiver Updates Katherine Barchenger, <i>Autism Services Coordinator</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Autism ○ Medically Fragile ○ Children’s Hospice 	Autism Waiver ASD Waiver Renewal Submitted to CMS and looking for approval of November 1, 2023 Changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase to age 18 • Adding 195 slots • Adding services - Tutoring/social groups/rural differential to Service Management

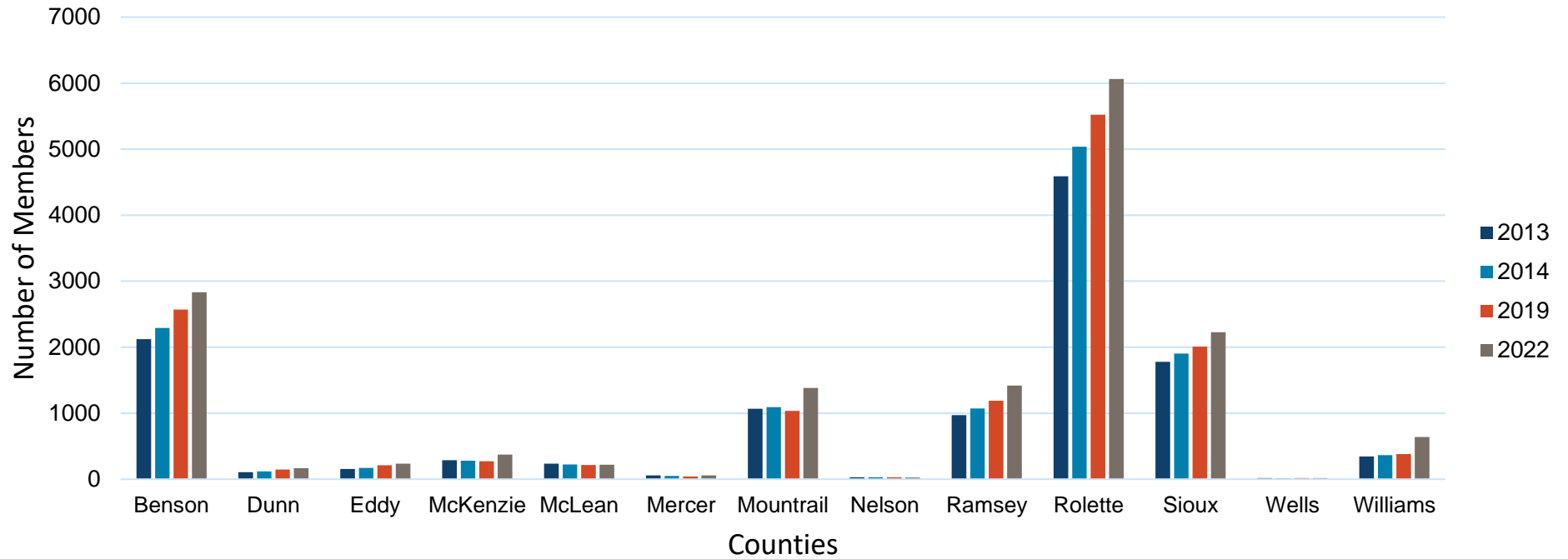
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	<p>Medically Fragile Waiver Medically Fragile Waiver Submitted to CMS and looking for approval being Oct 1, 2023 Changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional 25 slots • Increase waiver service caps to \$25,300.00 per year <p>Children’s Hospice HCBS Waiver –approved for a 5-year renewal on 7/1/23.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) <p>Sandi Erber <i>HCBS Program Administrator</i></p>	<p>The waiver amendment is to implement legislative changes and update waiver language. Changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New service of Waiver Personal Care, • Rate methodology updates for Family Personal Care to comply with the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), • Rate methodology updates for Adult Foster Care, • Retainer payments for Residential Habilitation and Community Support. <p>The amendment also will allow the use of electronic signatures and visits by virtual means for the services of Case Management and Extended Personal Care.</p> <p>View the entire draft waiver amendment at: Waivers Health and Human Services North Dakota. Waivers Health and Human Services North Dakota. Copies of the draft waiver amendment will also be provided upon request.</p> <p>The anticipated effective date of the proposed amendment is expected to be January 1, 2024.</p> <p>If you have any comments, questions or concerns about the proposed waiver amendment, please contact Sandi Erber at srerber@nd.gov or (701) 328-8915; or by contacting North Dakota’s Aging & Disability Resource Link toll-free at (855) 462-5465, 711 TTY, or email carechoice@nd.gov. Written responses may be sent to:ND DHHS Adult and Aging Services; 1237 W Divide Ave Ste 6; Bismarck ND 58501.</p> <p>Comments and public input on the proposed changes will be accepted August 28, 2023, until 5pm CST September 26th, 2023.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Traditional Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities and Developmental Disabilities (IID/DD) HCBS <p><i>Developmental Disability Section Representative Tina Bay -</i></p>	<p>The DD Waiver expires on 3/31/24. DD Section staff have been preparing the renewal and shared with stakeholders on 8/14/23 some of the proposed changes. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A limit increase from \$20,000 to \$40,000 for environmental modifications. ● Participants will have the option to have self-directed and provider managed in home supports authorized at the same time. ● Respite will be a stand-alone service. ● The waiver should be available for public comment by the middle of September. ● A presentation was given explaining this proposed waiver changes on August 14th. You can view the presentation here.
<p>Tribal Consultation</p> <p>IMD Exclusion Discussion: The federal Medicaid Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) Medicaid exclusion was discussed as ND Medicaid does not have a way to pay for members (ages 21-64) receiving services in facilities considered IMDs. This includes substance use disorder (SUD) treatment facilities with more than 16 beds. State authority to seek a State Plan Amendment expires under the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act expires September 30, 2023. States may also seek a section 1115 SUD demonstration waiver.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tribes asked what the process is to request ND Medicaid formally pursue a Section 1115 SUD demonstration waiver. The importance of a SUD waiver was discussed with new SUD treatment facilities being built and planned. <p>Response: The SFN 905 may be filled out to request coverage of IMD facilities and submitted to ND Medicaid for analysis and a decision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Legislative authority would likely be required to pursue a SUD waiver. Is there any coordination that can occur regarding legislative activities and sharing information on legislative positions re: a potential SUD waiver? <p>Response: The answer to these questions will be dependent on submission of the SFN 905 and ND Medicaid’s decision on whether to pursue coverage.</p> <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Medicaid will be more proactive in bringing anticipated changes for Tribal input/consideration earlier in the process. 	

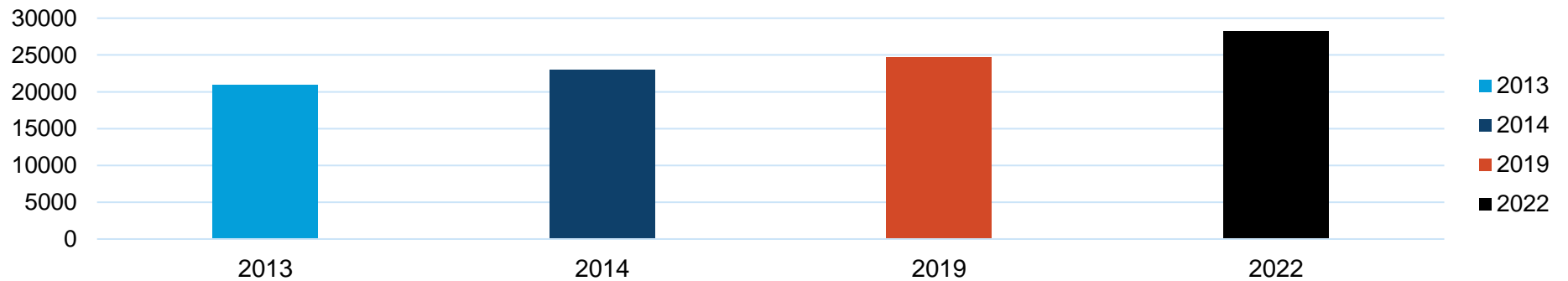
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<p>Policy Updates Mandy Dendy <i>Coverage Policy Director</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated manuals, including post-PHE updated telehealth coverage 	<p>Medicaid updates its General Information for Providers Manual and Behavioral Health Services Provider Manual quarterly. The next updates will be October 2023. Many of our other manuals were also recently updated. Links to manuals are below and they are located on the ND Medicaid Provider Webpage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Information for Providers Manual (last updated July 2023) Telehealth covered services (updated May 2023) Behavioral Health Services Provider Manual (last updated July 2023) Dental Provider Manual (last updated July 2023) Pharmacy Provider Manual (last updated January 2023) Pharmacy Medical Billing Manual (last updated July 2023) <p>Fill out the SFN 905 form to recommend ND Medicaid coverage of additional services, technologies, or providers. Submitted forms undergo an analysis by ND Medicaid and a decision on whether to add coverage.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upcoming Policy Items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preventive Services Policy - We are adding a Preventive Health Services chapter to the General Information for Providers Manual to show current coverage for youth and adult preventive health services. Suggestions/questions are welcome, please contact Mandy at mrdendy@nd.gov. School-based Medicaid Manual & guidance . There is a new School-Based Services page on our website with helpful information for schools billing ND Medicaid for special education services and services outside of special education. ND School-based Medicaid website (new) Updated IHS/638 Policy Manual chapter (October 2023) to clarify IHS/638 providers must meet ND Medicaid eligibility requirements and have a current and valid license or certification from a ND licensing board or an out-of-state licensing board. If providers have an out-of-state license they may only affiliate with an IHS/638 facility. Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) terminology changing to Medication for Opioid Use Disorders (MOUD) Primary Care Case Management Program (PCCM) sunseting December 31, 2023, so members will no longer have to choose or have assigned to them a Primary Care Provider (PCP) Streamlining communication – ND Medicaid will offer the option to subscribe to receive Tribal-related E-news and communications. Monique will go through email list and work with Tribal Health Directors and Tribes to identify who should be on the list

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	<p>and we can then get subscription set up in system and help share how to do that plus provide frequent reminders about this.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back to School Health Tracks well-child checks & sports physicals. <p>Tara Berg, <i>Health Tracks Member Outreach</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Tracks is a preventive health care benefit for youth through age 20. (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT)). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As children are getting their sports physicals, it's helpful to promote the opportunity to combine a well-child check with a sports physical and Medicaid now pays for sports physicals for qualifying youth.
<p>Tribal Care Coordination Update Mandy Dendy <i>Coverage Policy Director</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources on website Willing to meet and discuss this further, provide education/training etc Standing agenda item. 	<p>An online presentation on Care Coordination was given in May 2023 and the slide deck is posted online - Tribal Care Coordination Presentation.</p> <p>There are new resources on our website regarding Care Coordination, including Guidance, a FAQ, and an annual reporting form which will only be due after a Tribe's first fund distribution.</p> <p>IHS/Tribal Care Coordination resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tribal Care Coordination Guidance Tribal Care Coordination FAQ (new) SFN 1115 Tribal Care Coordination Fund Annual Report (new) <p>Please contact Mandy or Monique with any questions regarding Care Coordination. We are happy to provide education, training, and just discuss/answer questions. This item will be a standing item for Consultation meetings.</p>
<p>Community Health Worker Task Force Update Mandy Dendy <i>Coverage Policy Director</i></p>	<p>HB 1028</p> <p>The eight legislatively designated Community Health Worker Task Force members are currently being seated by their respective agencies and organizations. It is expected the first meeting will be at the end of September or beginning of October. HHS has contracted with APT Solutions to facilitate the Task Force.</p> <p>Meetings will be open to the public and will have opportunities for public participation and input. They will be noticed on the Secretary of State's website as well as the HHS website.</p>
<p>Tribal Consultation Changes?</p>	<p>This item will be discussed at the next Consultation meeting.</p> <p>2012 Tribal Consultation State Plan Amendment</p>
<p>Tribal Consultation – Did not occur at this meeting. Item was moved to next agenda.</p>	

Historical ND Medicaid Enrollment Data 2013-2022, Tribal Counties *includes Expansion



Total ND Medicaid-Enrolled Statewide Tribal Members (includes Expansion)



Date Sent: 9/13/23
Date Revised: 9/14/23