

Medical Care Advisory Committee

Minutes of October 19, 2023

Participants

Committee Members (in person)

Michael Hales (Chair), Rachel Craig, Stephanie Burdick, and Kim Dansie.

Committee Members (via phone)

Jennifer Marchant, Joey Hanna, Carlos Flores, Emily Zheutlin, Muris Prses for Dale Ownby, Brian Monsen, Lisa Heaton, Calleen Kenney, Dr. Jennifer Brinton, Cassidy Matthew, and Davis Moore.

Committee Members Absent

Dr. Robert Baird, Gina Tuttle, Alan Ormsby, and Michael Jensen

DHHS Staff (in person)

Jennifer Strohecker, Brian Roach, Michelle Smith, and Sharon Steigerwalt.

DHHS Staff (via phone)

Nate Checketts, Melissa Aitken, Josip Ambrenac, Laura Belgique, Mary Cavanaugh, Jorge Fuentes, Yoon Kim-Butterfield, Jennifer Meyer-Smart, Samantha Moore, Seyha Ros, Trevor Smith, Jamie Sorenson, James Stamos. Greg Trollan, Jennifer Wiser, Kolbi Young, and Dorrie Reese.

Guest (via phone)

Justin Allen, Allison Allred (DPH), Ciriac Alvarez, Alexis Athens (GOPB), Emma Chacon, Jill Chang, Nate Crippes, Thaiss Del Rio, Kaitlynn Drollinger, Jeannie Edens, Sarah Elliott, Julie Ewing, Tile Fagatele, Jacob Glenn, Erica Gradwell, Allison Heffernan, Jeremy Hirschi, Michelle Jenson, Kristeen Jones, Marsha Judkins, Joyce Kim, Rosemary Lesser, Jesse Liddell, Rebecca Martinez, Thomas Merrill, Noah Miterko, Elise Napper (DGO), Joni Nebeker, Andrea Nielsen, Anita Ouedraogo, Stuart Pappas, Jen Radcliffe, Andrew Riggle, Steffanie Robison, Destiny Rockwood, Leigha Rodak, Jessica Sanders, Caitlin Schneider, Dan Schuring (DWS), Randal Serr, Daniel Sloan, Matthew Slonaker, Stacey Swilling (State Dental Director), Payton Thomas, Bill Tibbitts, Mo Vance, Alexis Ward, Mark Ward, Christopher Williams, Audry Wood, Tood Wood, and Sheila Young-Molina.

Approval of Minutes:

Rachel Craig made the motion to approve the August 17, 2023, and September 21, 2023, MCAC minutes. Kim Dansie seconded that motion. The group unanimously agreed.

Medicaid Eligibility & Enrollment Updates:

Michelle Smith gave an update on Unwinding Continuous Medicaid Eligibility

The document which was presented is embedded in this document.

https://medicaid.utah.gov/MCAC_Unwinding_Report

Questions:

Michael Hales asked out of the 193,000 disenrolled then you take the April 536,00 and the 424,000 it looks like we had a lot more people. So, I guess not only the 81,000 who have disenrolled of the 193,000 who have been terminated month to month, the figures you just went through would total about 45,000 out of the 193,000 being restored to eligibility. So, does that mean the 36,000 are newly applied individuals?

Brian Roach stated that your assessment is correct.

Michael Hales asked of the 36,000 that are newly enrolled. How long do they have to be off the program to be considered a new applicant? And not someone who has been disenrolled since April. How do we look at that?

Michelle Smith stated right now their reconsideration period is three months, so if someone just enrolls for completing their review, or turning in their information. They can come in anytime during that three-month period, they are not considered a new member. They would be put back onto the program and we could even retro back to the time that they lost their coverage. Anyone past that 90-day reconsideration would be considered a new member at that point.

Lisa Heaton asked if originally there was a plan to do the unwinding a little shorter, and then something happened that made it to where we were under a stricter deadline.

Jennifer Strohecker stated that we had agreed with CMS from the start that we would take 12 months to complete our unwinding activities. We submitted our paperwork to CMS, they reviewed all of it and they signed off on our planning that we had. Which we have shared. There have been some discussions with legislators who have engaged the department in discussions about moving that timeline forward and quickening our activities through those discussions. It was determined that we would not change our overall agreement with CMS and the original timeline that was established from the start.

Stephanie Burdick asked several people who have been disenrolled who were successfully completing renewals during the public health emergency. My question is, if we can dig into the data around closures and see who among them, we're successfully competing renewals during the PHE to identify trends or if there is some other technical glitch that separates the activity, whereas they were successfully completing the renewal before, but getting closed now.

Muris Prses stated we have continued to mail out renewals during the enrollment period, we were not closing any cases. We have a report that shows anybody who has lost coverage during that period of time, we ended up manually reopening those cases. There have been instances in which we have found that individuals have lost coverage, but we have quickly reinstated those benefits to those individuals either for systemic reasons or otherwise we believe we have captured most of those.

Director's Report:

Jennifer Strohecker gave an update.

- Media Campaign
- New initiatives
- Legislative Discussions
- State CHIP

The documents which were presented are embedded in this document.

https://medicaid.utah.gov/MCAC_Directors_Update.pdf

<https://medicaid.utah.gov/unwinding/>

DWS member resources:

Quick customer self help video helps have been developed to better support individuals in the self-service environment.

- DIY - Completing Reviews - Paper Reviews
https://youtu.be/Zpq_XRuLUYs
- DIY - Completing Reviews - MyCase Reviews
https://youtu.be/xZY_M2ei6s0

Medicaid Expansion Fund Report:

Eric Grant gave an update on Unwinding Continuous Medicaid Eligibility

The documents which were presented are embedded in this document.

<https://youtu.be/9K2evLm1iHY>

<https://medicaid.utah.gov/Expansion Fund Report for the MCAC.pdf>

Questions:

Rachel Craig asked what factors went into each of the three scenarios?

Michael Hales stated for 2023, prior to the adult expansion being implemented. The state had engaged in a number of Medicaid programs or all state funding for certain coverages that didn't get the higher 90/10 match after the state went into expansion.

\$56.6 million dollar general fund 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Rachel Craig asked what the sales tax can be used be for?

Jennifer Strohecker stated that there is ongoing discussion around this.

Michael Hales asked if the hundred and eleven-million-dollar figure while it is more than 2022 was an accurate reflection of the full expenditure for State Fiscal year 2023 recognizing there have been some problems with PRISM, claims, etc how would you account for that?

Jamie Sorenson mentioned that there probably will be some higher expenditure as we catch up on some of those next year and get them processed through the system.

Committee Member Updates:

Michael Hales asked what everyone's general sense of an in-person option with a hybrid broadcast. We know you've had those of you online have had a few challenges hearing people any comments about your experience being able to participate.

Stephanie Burdick would like to show gratitude to Michelle and Marcel for helping a client.

Jennifer Strohecker gave a consumer listening program for approximately 500 members. The next meeting is scheduled for November 8th for the next one, we are working to send out a notice to members. I wanted to let you know since this meeting will happen before the next MCAC meeting,

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm. The next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2023, at 2:00-4:00 p.m.