

**South Dakota Department of Social Services
Medicaid Tribal Consultation Meeting
Thursday, July 9, 2015
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (MDT)
Holiday Inn
Spearfish, SD**

I. Welcome and Introductions

Ann Schwartz, Deputy Director, Division of Medical Services welcomed those in attendance. Introductions were made.

II. Prayer

Ellen Durkin led the prayer.

III. Review Minutes and Updates from April 9, 2015 Meeting

The minutes from the April 9, 2015 meeting are posted on the DSS Medicaid Tribal Consultation website at

<http://dss.sd.gov/medicaid/generalinfo/tribalconsultation.aspx>.

Agendas, minutes and handouts from previous meetings are also posted there.

IV. Medicaid State Plan Amendment Update

Ann Schwartz provided an update on current Medicaid State Plan Amendments. State Plan Amendments are submitted to CMS each time the state makes a change in eligibility or coverage that requires an update to the Medicaid State Plan. The Medicaid State Plan and information about proposed and pending amendments is posted on the DSS website at <http://dss.sd.gov/medicaid/medicaidstateplan.aspx>.

V. Medicaid Expansion Update

Ann Schwartz provided a brief update on Medicaid Expansion. The state is awaiting feedback from CMS regarding the possibility of expanding the services eligible for 100% federal reimbursement for Native Americans that are provided outside of I.H.S. and tribal programs.

It was asked if there is a website where people can follow the conversation regarding Medicaid expansion. While there is not a

specific website, additional information can be found by searching for the topic at <http://sd.gov/>.

It was reported that that a speaker from the state of Kentucky came to Rapid City and provided a presentation on that state's approach to Medicaid Expansion. Kentucky added a 1% increase on premiums for the state marketplace and they are utilizing the resulting income to subsidize expansion.

VI. Medicaid Eligibility 101

Jolene Brakke, DSS Medicaid Eligibility Administrator, provided a presentation on South Dakota Medicaid eligibility.

Laptop style kiosks are being installed at additional locations. Laptops have direct links to important websites, including the DSS online application, the federally-facilitated marketplace, the Department of Labor, and Department of Tribal Relations. While the number of applications received through the kiosks has not been high, it has been reported that people are utilizing the kiosks for other beneficial purposes, including job search.

There was discussion about the child support reporting requirement as part of application process. Participants expressed that this requirement is preventing pregnant women from applying for coverage. Jolene explained that it is not a requirement of application for the limited pregnancy coverage group. It was recommended that a brochure or flyer regarding pregnancy coverage be created that clarifies this to encourage more pregnant women to apply.

VII. Follow-up: Services by Community Health Representatives (CHRs)

Ann Schwartz provided an update on this agenda item from the April 9, 2015 meeting. Ann shared a draft template of a tool the Department had created when discussing reimbursement of CHR services with a Tribe a few years ago. The tool will collect comprehensive information about services being provided by the tribes that are not currently reimbursed by Medicaid. Ann asked for suggestions for revisions to the template. One suggestion was provided. The Department will revise and finalize the template and distribute it to Tribes, asking that each tribe submit a completed form. Collection of this information and next steps will be on the agenda for the October Medicaid Tribal Consultation meeting.

VIII. Quarterly Report of Tribal Medicaid Expenditures
The quarterly reports of I.H.S., NEMT and tribal Medicaid expenditures were reviewed. .

IX. Tribal Reports (from members present)

I.H.S. – the PHN billing has experienced a lot of problems with the third-party billing process. They have engaged headquarters and now have programmers working to resolve the issue and they are eagerly anticipating the resolution.

Oglala Sioux Tribe – posed a question about ability for tribe to be reimbursed for transportation of tribal members to medical appointments. Ann offered to connect the representative with the NEMT office.

Lower Brule – As of June, they are excited to have a DSS Benefits Specialists coming on-site once per month. GPTCHB indicated they have a navigator in that area who could also come and help with ACA applications.

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe – Interested in ongoing conversation regarding CHR and transportation billing. The representative wondered if it is possible for benefits specialists to make day trips to more rural communities. Jolene will work with Jenny Jeffries to connect her with the EA Supervisor in that area.

GPTCHB – they are interested in attending any events tribes are having and providing support of ACA and Medicaid enrollment services. They are also interested in ongoing CHR conversations for services provided by Healthy Start. GPTCHB just finished a video on ACA enrollment efforts that premiered during the Summit. The video will be posted on the GPTCB website. The online navigator training site is currently down for upgrades.

X. Next Meeting – October 8, 2015

The next meeting will be held Thursday, October 8, 2015 in Pierre, SD.

XI. Adjournment.