

**South Dakota Department of Social Services  
Medicaid Tribal Consultation Meeting  
Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. (CDT)  
AmericInn Hotel and Conference Center  
Ft. Pierre, SD**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Kirby Stone welcomed those in attendance.

**II. Prayer**

Ed Parsells offered the prayer.

**III. Review Minutes and Updates from May 30, 2013 Meeting**

Kirby Stone asked if there were any changes to or questions about the minutes from the May 30, 2013 conference call. Kirby reminded those in attendance that the last meeting was held via conference call because the original date had been cancelled due to inclement weather.

There were no changes to or questions about the minutes.

**IV. Update on Medicaid State Plan Amendments**

Ann Schwartz provided an update on State Plan Amendments (SPAs). The Department is currently proposing SPAs to implement provider reimbursement changes appropriated by the legislature for FY2014.

Penny Kelley summarized the Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) related SPAs that implement required Affordable Care Act (ACA) changes to the state plan.

The Medicaid State Plan and information about all proposed SPAs can be found on the Department's website at:

<http://dss.sd.gov/medicalservices/medicaidstateplan/index.asp>

**V. Medicaid Opportunities and Challenges Task Force update**

During Legislature 2013 the governor established the Medicaid Opportunities and Challenges Task Force. The Task Force was tasked with exploring the pros and cons of expanding Medicaid in South Dakota, not to make a recommendation about whether the state

should expand Medicaid. The group met three times across the state, with meetings in Pierre, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls. All three meetings included dedicated time for public comment and testimony.

The Task Force will meet one final time on August 20, 2013 in Pierre to adopt a final report to present to the Governor and legislature.

Marcida Eagle Bear asked if there was tribal representation on the Task Force and suggested that future meetings like this be communicated to the tribes through the tribal chairmen or the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Health Board. IHS is represented on the Task Force, and Jerilyn Church from the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Health Board attended the meeting in Sioux Falls. There has been public notice about all meetings, and the media has advertised each of the meeting dates and times. Meeting materials, including audio recordings of public testimony is available at <http://sd.gov/governor/medicaidtaskforce.aspx>.

## **VI. Delta Dental update**

Scott Jones, Connie Halverson and Zach Parsons from Delta Dental of South Dakota joined the meeting to provide an update on the Circle of Smiles program. The Circle of Smiles program is funded by a CMS Health Care Innovation Grant. The program utilizes dental hygienists and community health workers to provide preventative dental care on the reservations to help prevent more severe dental problems that would require more extensive work down the road. Services are provided in the community where people are – at schools, in community centers, etc.

The target recipients of the grant are kids ages 0-9, pregnant women and diabetic patients, but the services are open to anyone. Delta Dental bills the services to insurance, including Medicaid, when possible.

Delta summarized the successes of the grant to this point, including establishing resolutions and Memorandums of Understanding with each tribe and the hiring of twelve of the community health workers/oral health coordinators across the state. Additionally, hygienists have conducted 1,383 services at 85 clinics and provided education in several schools to this point. All services are entered and tracked in a patient management system that can be accessed by the community health coordinators and dental hygienists.

Delta Dental intends to continue the Circle of Smiles program after the grant period has ended and asked those present to inform them if they

become aware of anything that needs to be revised or handled differently.

The Delta Dental representatives also made an announcement about the upcoming Rosebud Dental Days, provided in partnership with the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, St. Francis Mission, Delta Dental and others. The event will use volunteer dentists to provide as many restorative care services as possible during the week of July 22<sup>nd</sup> and is open to everyone.

## **VII. Online application demonstration**

Penny Kelley provided a demonstration of the new online application system. The system is currently being piloted in various areas of the state and changes to the system are being made based on feedback from the pilot groups. The Division of Economic Assistance is working to implement the system statewide in the coming months.

The system can be used to apply for or renew benefits, report changes, and check eligibility requirements. Those using the system can access it in English, Spanish and Lakota.

Penney spoke about the importance of the security of the system because confidential information is being submitted. Security testing has been done to ensure private information is kept confidential.

The demonstration led to a discussion about how advocates can assist potential or current recipients with the application process. This often happens with paper applications and will continue to happen with the online system.

Additionally, kiosks are going to be placed in numerous locations around the state. The kiosks will have a built in printer and scanner and people can sit down and complete their applications.

## **VIII. Health Home Initiative Update**

Ann Schwartz provided an update on the Health Home initiative. Eligibility notices were sent to those recipients eligible in late June.

Close to 100 clinic and Community Mental Health Center sites have applied to be Health Homes and the Department is working with IHS to train the IHS locations. Urban Indian Health has been trained.

Health Home sites will receive their caseload lists in early August and will begin providing the core services then.

The Department continues to work through the State Plan Amendment process with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

**IX. Quarterly report of tribal Medicaid expenditures**

Kirby Stone reviewed the financial expenditure reports. There were no comments or questions.

There was a request for a report of behavioral health services spending.

**X. Tribal Reports (from members present)**

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe – Tammy Lovejoy reported they have a new CEO.

Rosebud Sioux Tribe – Marcida Eagle Bear expressed interest in becoming a Medicaid provider of substance abuse services.

Lower Brule Sioux Tribe – Ellen Durkin reported excitement to have a kiosk at the hospital in Lower Brule. She also reported they are undertaking a feasibility study to explore the possibility of becoming a 638 provider.

**XI. Next meeting – October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

Kirby Stone reminded the group that the next meeting will be held on October 10, 2013 and asked for suggestions from the group about improving the response and attendance for the meetings.

Suggestions included:

- Send invitations to the tribal chairmen
- Hold meetings in tribal locations
- Send a letter about the meeting and the benefits of attendance to those who are invited as a reminder
- Be aware of major events within the Native American communities

Kirby thanked the group for their suggestions.

**XII. Adjournment.**