



South Dakota
Department of
Social Services

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES

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**South Dakota Medicaid
Monday, September 22, 2025
Medicaid Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

Attendees

Alan Solano, Vice President of Government Affairs, Monument Health, **Darren Crowe**, Vice President of Community and Behavioral Health Services and Quality, Oyate Health, Great Plains Tribal Leaders Health Board, **Dr. David Basel**, Population Health Officer, Avera Health, **Dr. Jennifer Hagggar**, Pediatrician, Sanford Health, **Jacob Parsons**, Director of Advocacy and Reimbursement, South Dakota Association of Healthcare of Organizations, **Dr. Scott Kennedy**, Optometrist, Lifetime Eyecare, **Erik Nelson**, Government Relations, AARP of South Dakota, **Shelly Ten Napel**, CEO, Community Healthcare Association of the Dakotas (CHAD), **Matthew Ballard**, Deputy Director, South Dakota Medicaid, **Dr. Clarissa Barnes**, Chief Medical Officer, South Dakota Medicaid, **Ben May**, MAC Coordinator, North Star Solutions, **Ashley Lauing**, Policy Strategy Manager, South Dakota Medicaid, **Heather Petermann**, Director, South Dakota Medicaid.

Welcome and Overview

Ashley Lauing kicked off the meeting with introductions. Members and attendees introduced themselves.

Heather Petermann made opening remarks thanking individuals for agreeing to serve on the MAC.

Medicaid Overview

Ashley Lauing shared a Medicaid Overview presentation. Slides can be found on the [Medicaid Advisory Committee website](#).

Discussion and Questions

- Erik Nelson asked if the MAC would be an appropriate group to review and respond to State Plan Amendments (SPAs)
 - Ashley Lauing shared that the MAC would be a sounding board for SPAs and policy changes.
 - Matthew Ballard shared that historically the MAC only met every six months previously, so with this group moving to quarterly there would be an opportunity for enhanced feedback and could also be shared when sent to the BAC and for Tribal Consultation.

- Heather Petermann shared that this is an opportunity for the MAC to lend more information and feedback to these notices.
 - Matthew Ballard also shared that many SPAs are simply complying with CMS requirements and do not represent substantive changes to the program. There are about 12-20 per year and the majority are along the lines of meeting federal requirements versus a substantive change to the program.
- Erik Nelson asked if the group that is on this call minus the two BAC members is the makeup of the MAC?
 - Ashley Lauing shared that there is one provider who was unable to join today. Dr. Karli Williams as she was out sick today. Other than her and the two BAC members, this is the entire MAC.
- Erik Nelson asked if the BAC members would be listed on the website.
 - Ashley Lauing shared that BAC members can be asked to be excluded from the BAC meeting minutes and website. The federal regulations outline this requirement to allow for BAC members to be excluded from having their information as public knowledge.
- Shelly Ten Napel asked if there was data on disenrollment (especially during the COVID-19 unwinding) and if that data is still collected.
 - Heather Petermann shared that the online data includes a percentage of applications that include disenrollment.

Overview of MAC Bylaws

Ashley Lauing provided a brief overview of the [MAC bylaws](#) as drafted.

Discussion and Questions

- Jennifer Haggard asked how long until we will know locations for the upcoming meetings so that we can arrange for travel?
 - Meetings will be scheduled on a quarterly and recurring basis, the 4th Thursday in January, April, July, and October will be reserved for the meetings.
 - MAC members tentatively suggested the following location cadence to be approved by the BAC.
 - October - Pierre
 - January – Pierre (due to legislative session)
 - April – Rapid City
 - July – Sioux Falls (due to increased costs in the hills associated with Sturgis Rally)
- A request for motion to approve bylaws was made.
 - Alan Solano made a motion to approve the bylaws, Darren Crowe seconded the motion to approve the bylaws. The motion was passed through approval by the MAC members.
- Nominations for Chair
 - The bylaws indicate the Medicaid Director will serve as the chair. If the committee would like to amend the bylaws to choose a member that can be taken under consideration.

Travel Discussion

If you are traveling and seeking reimbursement, you will need to bring a completed W-9. Copies of the travel reimbursement form will also be available at the October meeting. A calendar invite has been sent out and the locations will be updated.

Closing Remarks

Ashley Lauing shared that if anyone has any topics that they would like brought forward to the MAC meeting, please share them with her or email to Ben May.

Discussion and Questions

- Erik Nelson asked what topics might be for discussion during the October meeting.
 - HR1 and the Rural Health Transformation Program, FQHC and RHC rate study, and hospital reimbursement changes are currently being considered for future topics.
- Erik Nelson shared that one topic he would like to see covered is the legislative session and what the process is internally regarding weighing in on legislative issues during session.
- David Basel asked that vaccine coverage be included if Medicaid is contemplating any vaccine coverage changes.
 - Dr. Barnes stated that the Medicaid does not intend to make changes to vaccine coverages at this time. If that changes, MAC members will be notified.
- Jennifer Haggard asked when agendas will become available prior to meetings.
 - Meeting agendas will be made available as soon as possible in advance of meetings. They will be emailed and attached to upcoming meetings.
- Shelly Ten Napel indicated the governor's budget is an area of interest and would like it considered for an agenda.

Closing Remarks

Heather Petermann shared appreciation for taking the time to have the introductory meeting. She is excited to see this group be less presentations and more discussion and dialogue as far as where the program is going and where changes are needed to support people well. She thanked everyone for providing feedback and participating.

Future Meetings:

- 10/23/2025 – Pierre, SD
- 01/22/2026 – Virtual
- 04/23/2026 – Rapid City, SD
- 07/23/2026 – Sioux Falls, SD
- 10/22/2026 – Pierre, SD