South Dakota Department of Social Services  
Medicaid Tribal Consultation Meeting  
Tuesday April 27, 2021  
1:00 – 3:00 PM CT  
Zoom

Attendees
Alex Arroba, Andi Ferguson, Bernita In The Woods, Bill Snyder, Bonnie Cromwell, Brenda Tidball-Zeltinger, Caitlin Clarey, Carrie Churchill, Cassie Long, Christine Olson, Jamie Caron, Jenn Folliard, Jerri Starr, Jonni Arpan, Kathy Bad Mocassin, Lori Langdeaux, Lynn Provost, Mary Rea, Matthew Ballard, Misty Black Bear, Nicki Bartel, Nicole Schnieder, Renae Hericks, Richard Bud, Samantha Hynes, Tiffany Wolfgang, Vickee Anderson, Victoria Grey Owl

Welcome and Introductions
Bill Snyder welcomed the group. Everyone introduced themselves.

Review Minutes and Updates from the January 2021 Meeting
Minutes for the meeting can be found on the Medicaid Tribal Consultation website.

Quarterly Report of Tribal Medicaid Expenditures
The quarterly report of Tribal Medicaid Expenditures can be found on the Medicaid Tribal Consultation webpage.

DHS Updates- HOPE Waiver Update
Misty Black Bear and Caitlin Cleary provided an update on the HOPE Waiver. Every five years Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) is required to renew the HOPE waiver with CMS. The waiver is up for renewal this year. LTSS has to have the waiver submitted to CMS in June 2021, the waiver effective date will be October 2021. A summary of the changes LTSS is making to the waiver can be found on the Medicaid Tribal Consultation webpage. LTSS has looked into adding self-directed services. Before pursuing this LTSS plans to do a survey of recipients to gauge if there is interest in adding a self-direction option to waiver services in the future.

There are approximately 2,300 people that receive services through the HOPE Waiver each year. The waiver is in place to help people stay out of institutional settings and remain in their home community. Additional information on the HOPE waiver and how to access services can be found on the DHS website or through Dakota At Home.

DOH Updates- Bright Start Home Visiting

Poll 1- Are you Familiar with the Bright Start Home Visiting Program?
Carrie Churchill from the Department of Health provided an overview of the Bright Start Home Visiting program. Bright Start Home Visiting consists of nurses that meet with at risk families throughout pregnancy until the child turns two. They provide parent support, health education, and assistance with screenings and assessments. Bright Start is part of the Department of Health and nurses providing services are state employees. Carrie’s full presentation is available on the Tribal Consultation website.

COVID-19 Updates
The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has extended the Public Health Emergency (PHE) until July 19, 2021. HHS has indicated that they intend to continue the PHE declaration through the end of calendar year 2021.

DSS continues to publish updated FAQ on COVID. The latest update was in early April and included updates regarding pharmacies billing vaccines through the point of sale. COVID-19 FAQs can be found on the DSS Provider Communication page.

State Plan Amendment Report
Matthew Ballard provided an update on Medicaid State Plan Amendments (SPA). There are two SPAs that have been approved since the last meeting. A complete list of SPAs can be found on the Tribal Consultation website.

Other DSS Updates
Lisa Lee has left her position with DSS. If there were items you were working on with Lisa please contact Gail Thomas.

Shared savings reports continue to be posted on the DSS website.
South Dakota continues to have a low error rate when it comes to recovery audits. As a result of the low error rate South Dakota has received a recovery audit contractor exemption.

**CHART Application**
Matthew Ballard updated the group on South Dakota’s intention to apply for the Community Health Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model federal grant opportunity. The grant works with states to implement an alternative payment methodology for selected rural providers. Medicaid is applying for this opportunity as a lead agency. The award is for $5 million over a 7-year period. It allows South Dakota to implement capitated payments for both Medicare and Medicaid for participating rural hospitals. In addition to the capitated payments, the model also assists states to implement a health transformation plan which will work to increase access to specialty care, assist patients to manage chronic conditions, and increase use of telemedicine. We have received interest from facilities in Brown county and in the Black Hills. Additional information can be found on the [DSS chart website](#).

Matthew also provided clarification on the difference between fee for service and capitated payments. In fee for service reimbursement is based on services rendered. The capitated payment would be a standard bi-weekly payment that is not directly tied to volume.

**NASHP Policy Academy**
Sam Hynes provided information about South Dakota’s participation in a two-year policy academy with the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP). This opportunity will assist states in developing policies to address maternal mortality. South Dakota was one of eight states selected to participate in the policy academy that will begin in May. South Dakota will be working with NASHP to research and develop policy that focus on improving the quality and accessibility of service that will address maternal mortality.

**Great Plains Area CMS Outreach and Education Event**
CMS is hosting a two-week virtual event for the Great Plains Area. The event will be held June 7-18. Topics include tribal affairs updates, coding, billing, and documentation. South Dakota Medicaid is presenting at the event on June 9. There will be CEUs available.

**Do you plan to attend the CMS outreach event?**

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Tribal Reports
Bonnie Cromwell announced there is a new director at Urban Indian Health (UIH). UIH now has a cultural health director. They are going to be doing more cultural health activities. They have been doing a significant amount of vaccine administration and COVID-19 testing. Bonnie noted they have seen an uptick in positive COVID-19 cases.

Alex Arroba reported that providers have been hosting a lot of mass vaccination events. GPTCHB has been working to get reimbursement from HRSA related to COVID-19 services for the uninsured. Billing on the CMS 1500 has been going well.

Public Input
There were no comments made by members present.

Upcoming Meetings
July 27, 2021
October 26, 2021