

# Meeting Minutes

## ND HHS Tribal Consultation

November 30, 2023

8:30-10:30am CT

| Smudge & Welcome plus Introductions                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| Topic and Speaker                                                                                                                                         | Meeting Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Public Health Division Updates</b><br>Krissie Guerard<br><i>Community Engagement Director</i>                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Syphilis case update</li> <li>▪ Immunizations, RSV, and Covid vaccine reminders</li> <li>▪ Health alert for pertussis case increase</li> <li>▪ Health Equity Committee revamp in 2024</li> </ul>                                                    |
| <b>Medical Services Updates</b><br>Sarah Aker<br><i>Executive Director</i>                                                                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Medicaid unwinding 71,000 renewals, half done</li> <li>▪ New Cross Disability Advisory Council starting in December</li> <li>▪ Basic Care study being done</li> </ul>                                                                               |
| <i>Medicaid Tribal Liaison</i> Monique Runnels                                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ GovDelivery system rollover to send updates and Tribal news and meeting notices. Subscribe to GovDelivery for Medicaid Tribal News and Meeting Notices<br/> <a href="https://www.hhs.nd.gov/contact">https://www.hhs.nd.gov/contact</a> </li> </ul> |
| <b>Action Items:</b><br>Monique will be adding email addresses from our current Tribal Meetings and Notices listserv to the GovDelivery subscription list |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>State Plan Amendment (SPA) &amp; Waiver updates</b>                                                                                                    | The below listed consultation letters are regarding Medicaid Updates. All tribal consultation letters are listed <a href="#">here</a> .                                                                                                                                                      |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• September 27 &amp; October 27, 2023 Consultation Letters</li> </ul>                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">September 27, 2023 Tribal Consultation Letter</a></li> <li><a href="#">October 27, 2023 Tribal Consultation Letter</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                         |

• **Waiver Updates**  
Melissa Klocke-Joyce  
1915(i) Administrator

- [Medicaid 1915\(i\) State Plan Amendment](#) allows North Dakota Medicaid to pay for additional home and community-based services to support individuals with behavioral health conditions.
- Eligibility criteria 1915(i) state plan behavioral health supports and services
  - Currently enrolled in ND Medicaid or Medicaid Expansion.
  - Individual's income is at or below the Federal Poverty Level of 150%. See [Table](#).
  - The individual has a qualifying diagnosis of substance use disorder (SUD), mental illness, or brain injury. See qualifying list of [accepted diagnoses](#).
  - A WHODAS 2.0 that was completed within 90 calendar days prior to the date of application submission with a score of 25 or higher.
  - Individual lives in a community-based setting
- Services provided through 1915(i)
  - Training and Support for Unpaid Caregivers- help for your caregiver to learn ways to support you
  - Community Transition Services- money to help move into your own home after living in a group home, treatment center, or nursing home
  - Benefits Planning- help to learn about your benefits and how things change when you get a job in your community
  - Non-Medical Transportation- rides to activities in your community or to non-medical appointments to help you meet your goals
  - Respite- short term help for you while your caregiver runs errands or takes care of other needs
  - Pre-Vocational Training- help for a short time so you can learn work or volunteer skills
  - Supported Education- help so you can work on your educational goals
  - Supported Employment- help getting and keeping a job in your community
  - Housing Support- help so you can move into and/or stay in your own home
  - Family Peer Support- help for your family members by connecting them with other families who also support their loved ones
  - Peer Support- help for you from other people who also live with challenges
- State Plan amendment is pending with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid. The state is seeking to make the following changes:
  - Adding the Daily Living Activities (DL-20) as another needs assessment tool along with the WHODAS
  - The Daily Living Assessment (DLA) requiring a score of 5 or lower
    - It's estimated 730 individuals will qualify for the 1915(i) with a DLA score of 5 or lower.
  - Contains revisions to provider qualifications for peer support and family peer support to require certification within 6 months of provider enrollment approval as well as additional changes to provider qualifications for care coordination, benefits planning, housing supports, prevocational training, supported employment, and supported

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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Revisions to eligibility requirements to serve more Medicaid members, removal of remote and annual service limits, allowance of retroactive service authorizations, and modifications to the conflict-of-interest exceptions.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Nancy Nikolas Maier<br><i>HCBS Program Administrator</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Home &amp; Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver- <a href="#">Draft Amendment</a> pending <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New service of Waiver Personal Care added.</li> <li>▪ Allowing electronic signatures and virtual visits for case management and extended personal care services. These flexibilities are going to becoming permanent following the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <i>Developmental Disability Section Representative Tina Bay -</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Developmental Disability Traditional Waiver- <a href="#">Draft renewal</a> pending with April 1, 2024, effective date <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Limit on environmental modifications increased from \$20,000 to \$40,000. Partner feedback resulted in adding additional settings for environmental modifications</li> <li>▪ Participants can have both self-directed and provider-managed in-home supports authorized at the same time</li> <li>▪ Respite will be a stand-alone service</li> <li>▪ Feedback from interested partners resulted in asking for the increased equipment and supply annual amount to be increased from \$4,000-\$5,000.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                             |
| Katherine Barchenger, <i>Autism Services Coordinator</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Autism waiver update- <a href="#">Amendment</a> currently under review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased number of people able to be served (slots) – 195 new slots</li> <li>▪ Age limit increased through age 17</li> <li>▪ Additional services added: Community Connector for helping to integrate and prevent isolation, rural differential to Service Management, GPS remote locator for elopement risk</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Amendments to Medically Fragile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased slots to 50 (25 new)</li> <li>▪ Increased waiver cap from \$18,966 to \$25,300 per fiscal year.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Children’s Hospice Waiver-no pending updates</li> </ul> |
| Tribal Consultation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Action Item:</b> Meeting for more information on 1915(i) at next consultation meeting in Bismarck. Monique to follow up on Qualified Service Provider (QSP) issues brought up. ND QSP hub link <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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| <p><b>Policy Updates</b><br/>Mandy Dendy<br/><i>Coverage Policy Director</i></p> <p>Jane Stokke<br/><i>PCCM Administrator</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use the <a href="#">SFN-905</a> to request Medicaid add coverage for services, technology, or procedures</li> <li>▪ If providers are interested in serving on a provider ad hoc committee, please contact <a href="#">Mandy ND Medicaid Provider Guidelines, Manuals, and Policies</a> website (new October manual updates, including UPDATED IHS and Tribally Operated 638 Facilities chapter in <a href="#">General Information for Providers Manual</a>, October 2023, p. 80-81)</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) Program webpage</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PCCM sunset on December 31, 2023.</li> <li>▪ There will be changes for providers and members. Members will no longer need to choose a Medicaid Primary Care Provider (PCP) and participating PCCM providers will no longer receive the per member PCCM payments.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <p>Starting December 1, 2023 - Noridian provider enrollment specialists are available to answer questions between the hours of 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. CT Monday through Friday. You can reach them at (701) 277-6999. You will still have the option to leave a voicemail outside of those core hours.<br/>Provider enrollment specialists can assist with questions about enrollment, revalidations, maintenance items and more.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p><b>Member Engagement</b><br/>Jen Sheppard<br/><i>Member Engagement Coordinator</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Member engagement Coordinator-leads Medicaid Member Engagement Committee, makes easy to understand materials, helps improve ND Medicaid based on member suggestions.</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Medicaid Member Engagement Committee</a> (MMEC)- <a href="#">Apply Now</a> to be on the MMEC! Join our brave space where Medicaid members share their experiences, ideas, and opinions with ND Medicaid. The MMEC is accepting applications through December 15, 2023.</li> <li>▪ Plain language <a href="#">resources</a>, Coursera course "<a href="#">Foundational Skills for Communicating about Health</a>"</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Medicaid Member Engagement webpage</a> (handbook, e-news, and more)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p><b>Tribal Care Coordination Update</b><br/>Mandy Dendy<br/><i>Coverage Policy Director</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Progress includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ May 2023 webinar on Care Coordination, slides can be found <a href="#">here</a></li> <li>▪ Development of the Tribal Care Coordination Fund Annual Report form - <a href="#">SFN 1115</a></li> <li>▪ Development of <a href="#">Tribal Care Coordination Guidance</a> and <a href="#">FAQ</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <a href="#">ND Tribal Care Coordination Resources</a></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

**Tribal Care Coordination and Funding Agreement Tracking Chart**

• Last updated 7/13/23

|                                                                                                  | Great Plains IHS              | Standing Rock                                                                  | Turtle Mountain                                                                | Three Affiliated (MHA) | Spirit Lake |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Signed Care Coordination Agreements (Non-Tribal care provider & Tribal health care organization) | Sanford 2/2/18<br>CHI 2/14/18 |                                                                                |                                                                                | Sanford 5/13/21        |             |
| Resolution of Agreement with IHS-signed non-Tribal Care Coordination Agreement(s)                |                               | **see below                                                                    | Resolution (major health care facility to which referrals are made)<br>9/13/22 |                        |             |
| Signed Fund Agreements (Tribe & HHS)                                                             |                               | (sent in September 2022)<br>**Agreement includes consent to IHS CC agreement.) | 12/23/22                                                                       |                        |             |
| Billing CC Claims                                                                                |                               | Sanford                                                                        |                                                                                | Sanford                |             |

- Contact [Monique Runnels](#) if you would like to discuss Care Coordination or arrange for a presentation or meeting to discuss it further.

Jen and Monique to meet with tribal partners to further discuss member engagement. Monique to follow up with Tribal Health Directors to assess where each tribe is with Care Coordination agreements and who needs information on the Care Coordination process.

**Community Health Worker Task Force Update**

Mandy Dendy  
Coverage Policy Director

- The Task Force is meeting monthly – most meetings are the third Monday of the month from 1-2:30pm CT
- There is a special meeting on 12.11.23 to discuss the Community Health Worker (CHW) scope of work
- [CHW Task Force website](#) (includes meeting notices, minutes, and a list of Task Force Members)
- [ND Public Meeting Notices website](#)

Monique to follow up on CHW work done on Standing Rock and Spirit Lake. Monique will send out meeting notices for CHW taskforce.

**Tribal Consultation Changes?**

- Is this format and process working currently? Yes.
- In-person vs. Virtual- continue in person for large group consultation and host tribe, virtual for individual nonhost tribes
- Subscribe to receive ND Medicaid Tribal News and Meetings emails-go to the [website](#) and enter your email address towards the bottom of the page.
- CMS requested for discussion on tribal ND Medicaid issues.

[2012 Tribal Consultation State Plan Amendment](#)

Tribal Consultation – Will continue to hold ND Medicaid Tribal Consultation in coordination with Tribal Health Directors Meetings. Sarah to reach out to CMS to set up meeting with tribal partners. Monique will send out meeting notices via GovDelivery for CHW taskforce, MMEC, Medicaid Medical Advisory Committee (MMAC) meetings.

**Presumptive Eligibility**

Action Items Identified from Follow Up Meeting held 10/26/23

- Medicaid 101 Presentation (in progress)
  - Asking for volunteers to be a part of a focus group
  - Will explore developing short Medicaid videos that can be viewed by Tribal employees
  - CMS offers free Tribal Medicaid & Health coverage flyers and resources -all are free to order [online here.](#)
- Getting Assistance with Medicaid Applications-ND Navigators (in progress)
  - Navigators can assist members with application and enrollment in health coverage for both Marketplace insurance and Medicaid.
  - The [Marketplace](#) is always open to tribal members and often at a lower cost.
  - ND Navigators currently have three tribal liaisons.
  - Patti Harrison covers Standing Rock and can be reached at (701)805-1360 or [Patti.Harrison@NDSU.edu](mailto:Patti.Harrison@NDSU.edu).
  - Zachery King covers Turtle Mountain and can be reached at (701)858-3601 or [Zachey.King@MinotStateU.edu](mailto:Zachey.King@MinotStateU.edu).
  - Shawn Lisa Charging covers MHA and can be reached at (701)858-3602 or [Shawn.Charging@MinotStateU.edu](mailto:Shawn.Charging@MinotStateU.edu)
  - ND Navigators are seeking a fourth tribal liaison to cover Spirit Lake.
- Share list of hospitals doing Presumptive Eligibility
  - Sent to meeting participants 11/6/2023
- Gather and share additional data on Medicaid enrollment of tribal members
  - Enrollment of tribal members is increasing
  - Application processing times are getting shorter.
  - A large majority of tribal members are on Medicaid in ND
  - Unable to see how many applications are not approved through the presented data, this is something we can explore
  - Unable to assess who is eligible for Medicaid and not applying or why they are not applying.

Monique and Mandy will set up meeting with eligibility for tribal partners to ask questions. Monique to connect with Navigators to discuss tribal outreach and future meetings with tribal partners.

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| <b>IMD Waiver</b>                                                                                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IMD waiver for SUD: Medicaid will not pursue section 1115 IMD demonstration at this time.</li> <li>▪ ND Medicaid Funding is prioritized for home and community-based treatment.</li> <li>▪ The Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Voucher Program now supports voucher payments for all licensed substance treatment programs with 16 beds or more (as of July 1, 2023) Up to 45% of voucher funding may be used for SUD services administered by licensed substance treatment programs considered IMDs (16+ beds)<br/>The Voucher program has funding available.</li> <li>▪ For more information on the SUD Voucher visit the <a href="#">this website</a>. The website also includes how to find provider and what services are provided.</li> </ul> |
| <p>Action Items: Monique to set up meetings with Behavioral Health to further discuss SUD Voucher &amp; tribal specific concerns.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

Date Posted: December 15, 2023  
Date Revised: