

Contract & Financial Issues Committee, April 21, 2022, 1:00pm

Updates (up to 45 Minutes)

EDIT Update – Donna Nieman

Donna provided minutes from the January meeting, and notes from today's meeting. She stated that Kathy Haines spoke about a Miliman report with comparisons and variances. This has been sent to PIHPs for review. Eligibility concerns were discussed as well as mid-year costing reports. She stated that EQI needs to be completed by May 31, with costing. Matt Berg reported that Miliman is setting up one-on-one meetings with PIHPs on FY21 EQI. Unsure what to expect from these meetings. Donna gave updates on COB, Code Chart Changes, and tiered rate subgroup (which include pediatric and adult, and several within each of those tiers). She reported that baseline rates will be set by the Department for the 4 tiers. Bob stated that he is on the 1513 workgroup. He reported that hospitals are stunned at what the base rate will be. Donna then spoke about tiered rates for licensed residential services. They are currently interviewing the provider network. They plan to develop a pilot year with implementation the following year. Donna gave details on identifying billing providers through NPIs and Tax IDs, telemedicine updates, code chart and provider qualifications chart updates, and 90868 being discussed as an allowable service to provide transcranial magnetic stimulation. Lisa Morse asked Donna if there was anything that needs to be added to the Contract Negotiations agenda. Donna suggested template report requirements be negotiated for timeline concerns. Lisa stated this is tied to the Standard Cost Allocation. Bob Sheehan stated that it is important to negotiate as much of these details as possible. Donna stated that Miliman appears to be hearing the fact that there are great concerns over the quality of data that will come of these rushed requirements. Donna clarified that the EQI is due at the end of May, regardless of whether you use the SCA to gather the data. Dan Russell asked if the reorganization within the Department, would the dynamics or structure of the EDIT meetings change. Donna stated she did not believe so.

GF Negotiations – Lisa Morse

Lisa stated that the last meeting was on March 10, 2022. Kendra Binkley will no longer be running these meetings. We are awaiting feedback on some mediation documents. No information on how this is going. Lisa reported that CMHs have been instructed to rejoin involvement with the SCA workgroup. Bob Sheehan stated that agencies are taking a risk by not complying with the SCA request. He stated this needs to stay on the agenda, but in a less firm stance than previously. Lisa then spoke about State facility bills. She let the Department know that this would be a topic at Directors' Forum. As a result of this, a meeting is set tomorrow with the Department that the DF Chair, Sandy Lindsey, will be joining. She clarified that "service" is a mental health or substance use disorder charge, NOT a medical charge. Lisa reported that this issue has been dragged on with the Department, and she is going to bring this up at tomorrow's meeting with the Department. Lisa then spoke about the Self Determination Guideline. Lisa will continue to monitor and ensure that the guideline does not overreach the contract. Group discussed the frustration with the proposal of this tiered rate to pay the providers. Publishing rates is where the problem lies. They can use it to set capitation rates but publishing them cannot happen. Donna stated that it seems like they were trying to establish rates. Group agreed that Lisa Morse should reinforce that this is a market in Contract Negotiations.

Legislative Update – Alan Bolter (enc)

Alan gave details of the Senate budget recommendations released yesterday afternoon. He stated that the House will be reporting their recommendations next Tuesday. The Senate version included: CCBHC funding of \$101 Million for the current 13 sites, NOT for expansion sites, \$61 Million for Health Home, \$15 Million for local match draw down phase out, \$16 Million for Opioid Settlement fund, \$5 Million for CMH guardianship rates, \$5 Million for Families Against Narcotics, \$2 Million for 2-1-1, and \$28 Million for Medicaid Reimbursement for community health workers. Alan reviewed boilerplate change recommendations, and a few one-time funding initiatives. He reported that many of the new investments recommended by the Governor were not included, including \$25 Million proposed for behavioral health provider loan repayment. Alan stated that it has been relatively quiet on the Shirkey and Whiteford healthcare proposals. He stated that we will likely not see any movement on either of these packages until lame duck after elections take place. Group asked about HB 5165 which has passed the House and is now sitting in the Senate, wondering what could be done to help get this passed out of the Senate. Many agencies are waiting to be eligible to reapply for this loan forgiveness program. Alan stated that Rep. Whiteford has reached out to the Senate to urge this bill be passed out of the Senate, and he urged everyone to continue to contact their local Senators to get this pushed through. The fear is that this is not moving due to the Associations position on SBs 597 & 598.

Funding Issues – Bruce Bridges

Year to Date Funding vs. Actuary Expectations (enc)

Bruce reported that in terms of this year, we are at six months, so if you double the certification need projected by Miliman, the money is flowing less than it did last year, by about \$21 Million. Bruce reported that Miliman had projected that the population would go down and the funding would go down. He stated that TANF and DABS are going down, but funding is not coming in as higher. There is an age group higher than what Miliman anticipated, but he is unsure what age group that is. He reported that he is unsure how Miliman was so far off. Bob stated that when the moratorium ends later this year, there is a concern that Medicaid enrollees are going to drop. Bob stated that a package of guidance is being put together by the State for our members that will be sent out soon when it is completed.

Discussion of Key Issues – Bruce Bridges

No items were moved to this section.

Other

Replacement of John Obermesik as Vice Co-Chair and as a member of Contract Negotiations. Dan spoke about what would be required with involvement as a member of Contract Negotiations. He asked if anyone wanted to replace John in that role. Bryan Krogman and Michael Cupp will take a few days to consider replacing John on the Contract Negotiations team. They will reach out to Lisa Morse to let her know of their decision, in the next few days. Sara Lurie volunteered to fill the vacancy for Vice Co-Chair. Group agreed by consensus to appoint Sara to the Vice Co-Chair position.

The next meeting of the Contract & Financial Issues Committee is scheduled for Thursday, June 23, 2022, 1:00pm. This meeting will be held in-person and via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.