

**KanCare Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
of September 29, 2020**

**Council Members Attending Via Zoom:**

Susan ConCannon  
Walt Hill  
Mark Hinde  
Dr. Michael Kennedy  
Lora Key  
Edward Nicholas  
Beth Simpson

**Council Members Absent:**

Jerry Henry  
Larry Martin, Chairman  
Mary Pilcher-Cook  
Allen Schmidt  
Njeri Shomari

**Council Member Candidates Attending Via Zoom:**

Dr. Rebecca Reddy

**Council Member Candidates Absent:**

James Bart  
Jay Rowh

**Other Participants:**

Dr. Lee Norman, Secretary, Kansas Department of Health and Environment.  
Sarah Fertig, Medicaid Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment.  
Chris Swartz, Director of Operations/COO, Deputy Medicaid Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Janis DeBoer, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services  
Amy Penrod, Commissioner, Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services  
Kerrie Bacon, Ombudsman, KanCare Ombudsman Office  
Lisa Baird, Aetna Better Health of Kansas  
Kevin Sparks, United Healthcare Community Plan  
Stephanie Rasmussen, Sunflower State Health Plan

### **Welcome – Sarah Fertig Review and Approval of Minutes from Council meeting June 9, 2020**

Sarah Fertig asked if the Advisory Council had any changes to the proposed agenda and there were none. Sarah Fertig asked if there was any discussion on the previous meeting's minutes. Michael Kennedy moved the June 9, 2020 minutes be approved as written. Mark Hinde seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by the Council.

### **Old Business – KanCare Advisory Council**

#### **Define the capable person policy in regard to the care of our disabled kids and adults in need of care per their personal care plans – Ed Nicholas**

Amy Penrod will provide resources on the requirements for the capable person policy at the next meeting. Topic will remain on old business.

#### **Update on staffing issues for those in need of Long-Term Care – Ed Nicholas**

Ed Nicholas and Amy Penrod had a discussion during the meeting. This topic will be removed from old business.

#### **Update on progress of the steps being done on the different agencies that can help waiver consumers obtain the hours of care that have been allotted via their personal centered care plans for Nursing and or Personal Care Attendants (Self-directed or agency directed) – Ed Nicholas**

Sarah Fertig stated this issue is being studied and addressed on the TA waiver side. This topic will be removed from old business.

#### **Aetna Better Health still not paying anything that requires a CLIA# - Dr. Rebecca Reddy**

Dr Rebecca Reddy stated this issue has been resolved. This topic will be removed from old business.

#### **HEDIS reports not fair on vaccine refusal/hesitancy (requested by Sue Ann Jantz, Cottonwood Pediatrics) – Chris Swartz**

Chris Swartz stated KDHE doesn't have a say on what is counted or not counted for the measures. This report is completed by the federal government. This topic will be removed from old business.

### **New Business – KanCare Advisory Council**

#### **Concerns with delays in credentialing of providers for KanCare – Walt Hill**

Dr Rebecca Reddy questioned MCO's what their expectations are for credentialing in midst of the pandemic. The MCO's have 90 days to complete the credentialing and receive a signed contract from the provider. Sunflower stated providers and clinics are having a hard time with board certification for new residency graduates, which is delaying the credentialing by more than a month.

Chris Swartz advised a work group is being formed to identify issues and have solutions in place by October.

**Can the MCO's share with us an estimate of their cost paid out in patient care services (outpatient and inpatient or other) to date since the start of the pandemic, compared to the same time period last year? – Dr. Rebecca Reddy**

Sarah Fertig stated two documents were emailed prior to the meeting with this information. Documents reviewed during meeting.

**Can the MCO's give us information about their pediatric patient enrollment broken down by age? Age 0-3yrs, 4-6yrs, 7-12, and 13-17yrs? And does the state have information about the number of applications for KanCare that are being processed in the last 3-4 months compared to last year? – Dr. Rebecca Reddy**

Sarah Fertig stated one document was emailed prior to the meeting with this information. Document reviewed during meeting.

**What have our MCO's done to be ready for the change in E and M service changes for outpatient services which will be in effect on January 1, 2021 <https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2019-06/cpt-office-prolonged-svs-code-changes.pdf> - Dr Rebecca Reddy**

Lisa Baird - Aetna Better Health, Carrie Kimes - United Health Care, and Stephanie Rasmussen – Sunflower Health Care stated staff is receiving training on the new rules and processes.

**Regarding new CPT codes related to outpatient care for COVID related concerns, will the new codes 99072 (charge for PPE and additional time/resources spent related to COVID patients) and 87426 (outpatient rapid COVID antigen test including the SOPHIA and BD code 87426 being recognized to the KMAP system and assigned payment of #38.45, which does not cover the cost of these tests.**

**<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/covid-19-coding-and-guidance> - Dr Rebecca Reddy**

Dr Norman and Sarah Fertig will address this concern with the DHCF clinical team. Topic will remain on old business.

**HCBS staffing for people and COVID PPE and testing. Some of the feedback I have received is that clients are afraid to have help in their home unless people are tested but they can't be tested unless they are symptomatic, and the tests aren't affordable. Also, the agencies aren't providing PPE – Njeri Shomari**

Janis Deboer stated KDADS has requested \$12 million dollars funding for community-based providers. At this time, Janis is unsure how many providers will accept the funding. Topic to remain on old business.

**KDHE Update – Sarah Fertig, Medicaid Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Chris Swartz, Director of Operations/COO, Deputy Medicaid Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Dr Lee Norman, Secretary, Kansas Department Health and Environment**

Sarah Fertig provided an update of the KDHE presentation from the Bob Bethell Joint Committee meeting. Sarah reviewed the KanCare Executive Summary. She also spoke of the agency's participation in the Special Committee on Mental Health Modernization and Reform. Chris Swartz serves as a subject matter expert for the Programming System and Processes and Sarah serves on the committee for Finance and Sustainability. Sarah spoke on Telehealth and stated no changes have been made to the newly open codes. KDHE is currently down 3,000 applications per month due to Kansas not being an expansion state. We are currently delaying KanCare annual renewals and termination of eligibility during COVID.

Chris Swartz stated she is very happy to have Sarah on board and has caught up quickly with the complexity of the program. Chris provided an update on the current renewal processes for KanCare members. KDHE currently has only a handful of applications over 45 days. The Clearing House RFP bid awarded on August 5, 2020 to Conduit will begin work January 2021. Conduit will process family medical applications.

**KDADS Update – Janis DeBoer, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services and Amy Penrod, Commissioner, Community Services and Programs Commission, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services**

Janis Deboer stated how much they enjoy having Sarah on board and the help she has provided on current issues. She reviewed the KDADS presentation from the Bob Bethell Joint Committee meeting. Janis elaborated on the funding for adult care homes. Document emailed prior to meeting.

**Update from KanCare Ombudsman – Kerrie Bacon, KanCare Ombudsman Office**

Kerrie Bacon provided a brief update. Document emailed prior to meeting.

**Updates on KanCare with Q&A**

***Aetna Better Health of Kansas – Lisa Baird***

Lisa Baird provided a brief update. Document emailed prior to meeting.

***Sunflower State Health Plan – Stephanie Rasmussen***

Stephanie Rasmussen provided a brief update. Document emailed prior to meeting.

***United Healthcare Community Plan – Kevin Sparks***

Kevin Sparks provided a brief update. Document emailed prior to meeting.

**Next Meeting: KanCare Advisory Council and Annual KanCare Public Forum – December 8, 2020, Zoom meeting, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**