

**KanCare Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
Memorial Hall Auditorium, Topeka, KS  
Minutes of December 11, 2019**

**Council Members Present:**

Larry Martin, Chairman  
Ed Nicholas  
Lora Key  
Beth Simpson  
Susan Concannon  
Michael Kennedy  
Allen Schmidt

**Council Members Absent:**

Senator Mary Pilcher-Cook  
Jerry Henry  
Jamie Price  
Njeri Shomari  
Walt Hill

**Council Members Attending Via Phone:**

Mark Hinde  
James Bart

**Council Member Candidates Present:**

Dr. Rebecca Reddy

**Council Member Candidates Absent:**

Jay Rowh

**Other Participants:**

Adam Proffitt, Medicaid Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Chris Swartz, Director of Operations/COO, Deputy Medicaid Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Laura Howard, Secretary, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services  
Janis DeBoer, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services  
Kerrie Bacon, Ombudsman, KanCare Ombudsman Office  
David Livingston, Aetna Better Health of Kansas  
Jeff Stafford, United Healthcare Community Plan  
Miranda Steele, Sunflower State Health Plan

## **Welcome – Chairman Larry Martin**

### **Review and Approval of Minutes from Council meeting, August 5, 2019**

Chairman Larry Martin asked if the Advisory Council had any changes to the proposed agenda and there were none. Chairman Larry Martin asked if there was any discussion on the previous meeting's minutes. Dr Kennedy moved the August 6, 2019 minutes be approved as written. Ed Nicholas seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by the Council.

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

### **Update on expected time for credentialing by each MCO for individual providers – Walt Hill**

**Aetna Better Health of Kansas - David Livingston:** Credentialing is more than 90 days to complete. The paperwork for credentialing delayed, providers denied as non-contracted in error, data is discrepant, cannot determine accuracy of the report nor network adequacy.

**Sunflower State Health Plan - Miranda Steele:** Credentialing turn-around time is 45 days.

**United Healthcare Community Plan - Jeff Stafford:** Credentialing is right at 30 days.

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

Ed Nicholas inquired if the legislature approves the funding; is the State prepared for post days. Topic will remain on old business for an update.

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

### **Current and projected shortage of direct care workers (Direct Support Professionals) in Kansas – Allen Schmidt**

Chairman Larry Martin provided a brief update. Significant numbers in short fall on health care workers, particularly those involved in long term care. No plan of action for the community survey. A letter was sent to the Governor to propose an action comity to address nursing shortages. At this time, no feedback given on the proposed plan. Topic will remain on old business for an update.

### **Remedial actions against Aetna Better Health and how this has improved – Lora Key**

Adam Proffitt emphasized Aetna placed on noncompliance and working through the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) approved September 1, 2019. Aetna has closed numerous action items on the CAP and 5-7 meetings occur each week between Operational and Leadership Team.

David Livingston provided an update. In late August Aetna brought in Senior Leadership replacing the others. Adding 33% additional individuals in the provider area. Significant progress has been accomplished on the CAP.

### **Update on State's assessment of Aetna Better Health performance – Larry Martin**

Discussion on agenda topic listed above.

### **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**

Discussion was held. Ed Nicholas expressed concern in shortage of nursing for MTI and TA. Topic will remain on old business for an update.

**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**

Ed Nicholas expressed concern for families with the changes made in 2016 on the capable person policy. Secretary Howard from KDADS will follow up on this discussion and provide an update at the next meeting. Topic will remain on old business.

**KDHE Update – Adam Proffitt, Medicaid Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Chris Swartz, Director of Operations/COO, Deputy Medicaid Director, Kansas Department of Health and Environment**

Adam emphasized on Bethell Oversight Committee. The State presents to the committee from a power point presentation and reviews the Executive Summary providing an update on the Medicaid program. The State has provided testimony on Medicaid Expansion in front of the legislature. A final evaluation of the KanCare demonstration was approved with CMS and posted to the KanCare website.

**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**

Increased protected income level to \$1,177 a month. Children will be added to the Brain Injury waiver very soon. Individuals who have had strokes will also be added to the waiver.

**Update from KanCare Ombudsman – Kerrie Bacon, KanCare Ombudsman Office (Written only)**

**Updates on KanCare with Q&A**

***Aetna Better Health of Kansas – David Livingston***

David Livingston provided a brief update on Aetna Better Health of Kansas. Handout provided.

***Sunflower State Health Plan – Miranda Steele***

Miranda Steele provided a brief update on Sunflower State Health. Handout provided.

***United Healthcare Community Plan – Jeff Stafford***

Jeff Stafford provided a brief update on United Healthcare.

Larry Martin asked for a motion to adjourn. Lora Key made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Allen Schmidt seconded. Larry Martin thanked everyone for attending the meeting and adjourned.

**Next Meeting: KanCare Advisory Council – March 3, 2020, Curtis State Office Building, Room 530, 2:00-4:00 p.m.**