



KanCare Newsletter

Medicaid for Kansas

What's Inside

KanCare Ombudsman Office
page 2

Behavioral Health and Disability Employment Support Pilot Kick-off
page 3

OneCare Kansas Update
page 3

Fall Medicaid Training
page 3

Rates Increased for KanCare Dental Services
page 3



www.kancare.ks.gov

www.kdheks.gov

www.kdads.ks.gov

KDHE assumes responsibility for eligibility processing of all Medicaid assistance related to elderly, disabled, and long-term care programs.



Beginning in early 2016, several challenges emerged related to the successful processing of Medicaid assistance related to elderly, disabled, and long-term care programs. To address these challenges, KDHE requested and was granted approval from the Governor

and the Kansas Legislature to gradually transition responsibility for these programs from the current eligibility contractor, MAXIMUS, to KDHE. On January 1, 2019, KDHE assumed training and quality oversight responsibility for all eligibility staff, both state and contractor.

With the support of the Administration and Kansas Legislature, KDHE was provided the budget to insource eligibility processing for the elderly, disabled and long-term care medical assistance programs. MAXIMUS, the current eligibility contractor, will continue to be responsible for processing the family-related Medicaid and CHIP assistance programs.

Effective January 1, 2020, KDHE will assume full responsibility for processing Medicaid eligibility for the elderly, disabled and long-term care medical assistance programs. This workload transition from MAXIMUS to KDHE will be phased in beginning September 2019 through December 2019. The following is a high-level overview of the transition, including programs and dates.

Program	Date of Transition
Nursing Facility	September through December 2019
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF)	October 2019
Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)	November 2019
Spenddowns	November 2019
Medicare Saving Programs	November 2019

Continued on page 3



KanCare Ombudsman Office

Respectful | Encouraging | Resourceful | Helpful

- The KanCare Ombudsman staff and volunteers assist Kansas Medicaid members in navigating the Medicaid system and assist in the resolution of KanCare issues they may be having with their managed care organizations, providers, state agencies, or the KanCare Clearinghouse.
- This includes Medicaid members with long term care services, such as those in nursing homes or with Home and Community Based Services (HCBS).
- The office receives calls directly from KanCare members and applicants. Community and state agencies also refer people to the KanCare Ombudsman Office.
- The staff and volunteers assist people directly, make referrals, provide resources, and work with other organizations to resolve KanCare questions and concerns.
- For direct assistance, contact our toll-free number at 1-855-643-8180 or by email at KanCare.Ombudsman@ks.gov.
- There are many resources available to members and organizations on the website: www.KanCareOmbudsman.ks.gov. We are also on Facebook!



Behavioral Health and Disability Employment Support Pilot Kick-Off



An initiative designed to help KanCare members with behavioral health conditions or disabilities included in the State's 1115 demonstration waiver is kicking off September 18 in Topeka. The initiative is an employment support pilot designed to provide services to people to assist them to get and keep employment. The pilot will eventually serve 500 KanCare members and is designed to test whether a small set of services can help people work and use fewer supports. The program will be voluntary. A group of stakeholders will convene September 18 in Topeka to begin designing the program and determine what tasks need to be completed to launch. There is no targeted implementation date yet for the program. For more information about this pilot, go to this link and check out STC #22 on page 25: [https://www.kancare.ks.gov/docs/default-source/policies-and-reports/section-1115-waiver-comments/ks-updated-stcs.](https://www.kancare.ks.gov/docs/default-source/policies-and-reports/section-1115-waiver-comments/ks-updated-stcs.pdf?sfvrsn=9fd84c1b_2)

[pdf?sfvrsn=9fd84c1b_2](https://www.kancare.ks.gov/docs/default-source/policies-and-reports/section-1115-waiver-comments/ks-updated-stcs.pdf?sfvrsn=9fd84c1b_2).

This pilot is in addition to already existing programs in KanCare that support people with disabilities to work. Working Healthy is a Medicaid buy-in program that allows people with disabilities, who work, to pay premiums and receive Medicaid through the KanCare program. Work Opportunities Reward Kansans, or WORK, allows certain eligible Working Healthy beneficiaries to receive some support services to assist them to be employed. Evaluation of Working Healthy and WORK showed that people who were employed were actually healthier and cost less in Medicaid services than similar Medicaid beneficiaries. For more information about these two existing programs check out the link here: <http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/workinghealthy/>.

OneCare Kansas Update



Though the original Health Homes program ended in 2016, the Legislature directed KDHE to bring back the

program through a legislative proviso. The intended launch is set for January 2020. This new iteration of the program has been branded OneCare Kansas (OCK). Like Health Homes, OCK is a comprehensive and intense method of care coordination for Kansas Medicaid members who qualify. Currently, KDHE is in the process of engaging stakeholders through our monthly Planning Council meeting. This Council includes representatives from the major provider associations such as the CMHCs, FQHCs, hospitals and others.

KDHE has held two forums this year to educate interested providers. KDHE will launch a provider educational tour this fall to provide additional information about how the program will work. Researchers at The University of Kansas Medical Center are analyzing hundreds of thousands of claims data to help define the specific target population while state staff and these researchers also work with contracted actuaries to develop a payment rate.

Though many components of the original program remain in place, there are key differences that providers and members need to be aware of. To read more about OneCare Kansas, please refer to our newsletters on the KanCare website: <https://www.kancare.ks.gov/providers/onecare-kansas-newsletter>.

KDHE assumes responsibility for eligibility processing of all Medicaid assistance related to elderly, disabled, and long-term care programs cont.

To ensure the transition of eligibility processing is going smoothly, KDHE and MAXIMUS will hold weekly Rapid Response calls. The purpose of the calls is to provide updates and announcements, as well as to take questions and hear concerns from stakeholders related to the transition. The calls will be held every Wednesday at 10 a.m., beginning September 11, 2019 through December 18, 2019. Both KDHE and MAXIMUS staff will be on the line. The calls will be recorded along with a transcript which will be available on the KanCare website. For more information, please go to www.KanCare.ks.gov.

Fall Medicaid Training

Be on the lookout for these upcoming fall Medicaid Trainings occurring in Topeka from September 18 through October 3:

- Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, & Treatment (EPSDT) mandate
- Eligibility
- HCBS Eligibility
- Grievance, Appeals, & State Fair Hearings
- History of KS I/DD Institutions
- History of KS Managed Care
- Introduction to Healthcare Codes & Claims
- Introduction to Medicaid Managed Care
- Medicaid & Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plans
- Medicaid Overview
- Medicaid Waivers
- Presumptive Medical Disability Team (PMDT)
- Working Healthy/Work Opportunities Reward Kansans (WORK) & Work Incentives

Please watch your email for registration information or email medicaidtraining@ks.gov to be added to our list.

Rates Increased for KanCare Dental Services

During the 2019 legislative season, a bill was passed to increase the Kancare dental benefit budget by \$3 million all funds. This allowed KDHE to increase the base rates of certain dental codes by 6%. It was decided that codes in the diagnosis and preventative categories of dental codes as well as some resin and extraction codes should be increased to make the biggest impact for dentists. The rate increase was effective August 1, 2019. For more information, visit the Bulletin page on the Kansas Medical Assistance Programs (KMAP) provider website (<https://www.kmap-state-ks.us/Public/bulletins/bulletinsearch.asp>) and look for KMAP General Bulletin 19133.