



OneCare Kansas

a program of KanCare, Kansas Medicaid

OneCare Kansas Newsletter

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Helping people live healthier lives by integrating and coordinating services and supports to treat the “whole-person” across the lifespan.

Community of Practice Update

In August, nearly 40 care coordinators and social workers within the contracted network gathered together for the OCK Community of Practice. Participants were asked to share what excites them the most about the OneCare Kansas program and the work that they do. OCK staff reported that they enjoy providing resources and supports that change members’ lives for the better. The group was also asked to share strategies in communicating OCKs benefits to members, to colleagues within their own organization, and potential partners in the community. One care coordinator reported that upon completion of the HAP, they felt the process helped build rapport with the member. Others reported that by offering their support to their colleagues within their organization, this ultimately created a sense of collaboration and shared benefit. The group also decided to begin sharing resources at each event to add to one another’s toolkits. Our next event will be in October.

Learning Collaborative Update

In September, the OCK Learning Collaborative will resume to allow leadership in each of the contracted providers to discuss opportunities for program and system improvement. Watch your inbox for invitations to each of these ongoing events!





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OCK Highlights

We continue to gather stories regarding the OneCare Kansas program and how it is helping Kansas Medicaid members. This month’s success story comes from Stacy at Valeo Behavioral Health Care.

“In August of 2020, Jason joined OneCare Kansas. One of our comprehensive care coordinators has since been working with Jason and his family to help assist him with his health needs; he has made it his preference to receive home assistance services. Jason has been struggling with many health issues, one of which is congestive heart failure. He is currently in palliative care and has been in and out of the hospital due to his many health issues.

In August 2021, our comprehensive care coordinator visited Jason’s home for a routine appointment when she found that his air conditioning unit had stopped working during one of the hottest weeks of the summer. In addition to the stress of being without air conditioning, Jason’s daughter had also not yet been approved to receive compensation for being his caretaker. This lack of income ultimately created additional financial strain for Jason and his family.

After hearing of the family’s struggles, our comprehensive care coordinator was able to access community resources to help address Jason’s needs within 24 hours. First, our comprehensive care coordinator was able to coordinate with another Valeo provider in order to obtain an air conditioning unit for Jason’s home. Additionally, in order to address nutritional needs created by the lack of income, our comprehensive care coordinator worked with another provider to get Jason and his family a box of food. Lastly, by working with KDADS and Life Patterns, our comprehensive care coordinator was able to accelerate the approval process in order for Jason’s daughter to receive compensation for providing personal care services to her father. Through the effort and compassion of our comprehensive care coordinator, Jason and his family were connected with the resources they needed in order to help keep Jason in the comfort of his home with the love and support of his family.”

Thank you for your submission, Stacy! This is a great example of community collaboration. Keep up the good work!

If you would like to submit an OCK success story, please email OneCareKansas@ks.gov.



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Audit Update

Thank you for your patience regarding the audit process. The state team and MCO partners have been in discussion about the best paths forward for the audit process. Our MCO partners have advocated for the audits to be completed annually, at the end of the program year, during the months of April, May, and June. If an OCKP receives an unsatisfactory audit rating, which is below fully met, the OCKP may be placed on a Corrective Action Plan at the discretion of the MCOs and/or the state.

Collaboration Success

Johnson County Health Center (JCMHC) has made many connections throughout their region, most recently they partnered with the Masonic Cancer Alliance. This organization is an outreach network of the University of Kansas Cancer Center. They focus on partnerships with cancer research, care, and support professionals to advance the quality and accessibility of cancer prevention, detection, and treatment in the Heartland.

In May, JCMHC participated in an event put on by the Masonic Cancer Alliance in which clients from JCMHC, with an SMI diagnosis, were able to receive preventative cancer screening(s). In anticipation of the event, JCMHC created “Know Before You Go” pamphlets for their participating clients. The purpose of the pamphlets was to help the clients feel more at ease about what to anticipate at the event, as well as outline the possible tests and stations they may encounter.

A few pieces of information and tips JCMHC offered to their clients included:

- Suggested that clients decide which areas of their skin they wanted the doctor to look at for skin examinations, based on what was most comfortable for them.
- Suggested, for their own comfortability, that clients wear a tank top under their blouse if they plan to get a mammogram at the event.
- Told clients that there may be questionnaires presented to them in order for their doctors to best understand their history and needs.

JCMHC’s goal for this event was to ultimately offer access to preventative care and support to the vulnerable population they serve, while also presenting information about preventative care to their clients in a positive, approachable way. The event was met with overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants/clients who were quick to ask when the next event would be; emphasizing how much they got out of the experience. This partnership between JCMHC and the Masonic Cancer Alliance is a good example of how collaboration with other providers and organizations in the state can result in positive health outcomes for members.

To learn more about the Masonic Cancer Alliance and their partnerships, please visit this link: <https://www.kucancercenter.org/outreach/community/masonic-cancer-alliance>.



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If you have questions, or would like more information about OneCare Kansas, please contact us.

Our page on the KanCare website also contains information about our work to develop the project and documents are being updated regularly.

If you would like to receive this newsletter please send us an email.

Email:

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Special Note

California's "Tell Your Story" Campaign

While the new advertising campaign "Tell Your Story" started by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) may not directly impact Kansans, it does provide helpful information to consider regarding tobacco cessation efforts for youth in our own state of Kansas.

Thus, when considering both the tobacco cessation efforts and the enrollment of youth in OCK, CDPH's research and campaign efforts regarding youth smoking and vaping provide important take-aways and considerations that may carry relevancy beyond state boundaries.

Here are a few key points from CDPH's research:

- With in-person learning returning and schools re-opening, the risk of social pressures related to smoking and/or vaping are a more present threat.
- Overall tobacco use among high school students was mainly driven by the rate of vape use.
- Vape products were the most used tobacco product among students across gender, race/ethnicity, and grade.
- Smoking and vaping harms the lungs, putting individuals who vape at greater risk of COVID-19.

The "Tell Your Story" campaign ultimately emphasizes a need for empathy and compassion when trying to help young people through the difficult journey involved with quitting smoking/vaping. While also placing an emphasis on education in order to showcase the negative health effects.

To learn more about the "Tell Your Story" campaign visit:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/OPA/Pages/NR21-245.aspx>

To learn more about the tobacco and vaping cessation efforts being made in Kansas, visit:

https://www.kdheks.gov/tobacco/vape_free_schools.htm

and

<https://www.kancare.ks.gov/providers/onecare-ks-providers/contracted-onecare-kansas/informational-materials-for-providers/tobacco-cessation-information>