

# ALABAMA MEDICAID AGENCY

## Medical Care Advisory Committee

### MINUTES September 26, 2019

#### Present

Commissioner Stephanie McGee Azar	Stan Landers
Kim Black	Stephanie Lindsay
Jean Brown	Drew Nelson
Jane Elizabeth Burdeshaw	Kelli Newman
Barry Cambron	Flake Oakley
Jim Carnes	Ozenia Patterson
Melanie Cleveland	Marsha Raulerson, MD
Christy DeGraffenried	Danny Rush, DMD
Marie Dean	Johnathan Sorter, Pharm. D
Gretel Felton	Jean Stone
Kathy Hall	Ginger Wettingfeld
Nate Horsley	David White
Beth Huckabee	Shauna Williams
Morissa Ladinsky	

#### **Call to Order/ Opening Remarks at 2:00pm:**

*Commissioner Stephanie McGee Azar* welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened with introductions. She began by sharing that the Community Engagement Waiver, that we filed several months ago with all comments, has been placed on hold by CMS pending more data from the administration. Currently we are working on the 2021 Budget and relieved to find out that the Federal matching rate for Alabama went up slightly. In conclusion, Commissioner expressed how proud she is of her staff with all of the hard work and effort that has gone into producing and launching the Alabama Coordinated Health Network (ACHN).

#### **Alabama Coordinated Health Networks (ACHNs)**

*Drew Nelson* shared that the Agency was ready and prepared to go live with ACHN on October 1<sup>st</sup>. CMS has approved our waiver, all seven ACHN regions have passed their Readiness Assessments, contracts have been signed by the Governor and new staff installed. He continued by covering the outreach activities of the Agency, including mailers sent to recipients in early September and educational videos, of which all are available on the website along with recipient education videos that can be played in Provider offices. For Providers, Medicaid has conducted seven webinars covering various aspects of the ACHN Program, Provider requirements, and payment model. All of the webinars were recorded and can be found on the website. The Agency has published a special edition of the Provider Insider that covered all

aspects of the ACHN Program. Chapter 40 of the Provider Manual, which provides all of the billing information and referral requirements for the ACHN Program, has been updated and released

### **Beneficiary Services Eligibility Update**

*Gretel Felton* provided an eligibility update on the CARES system and stated that for most of our programs, we have been able to upload the New Magnificed Adjusted Growth Income calculations (MAGI). She shared that Medicaid's new claims processing system will automatically match the new Medicaid 530# with the old Medicaid 500# and recognize them as the same person, preventing duplication of records. Pregnant women, former foster children, Special Circumstances (children in DYS), are being moved to the new system now, and will be followed by Medicare Savings Program, SSI, and finally Home and Community Based Waivers (HCBS) and Elderly and Disabled Waviers. Ms. Felton shared that Medicaid is currently looking for a new location for the Birmingham District Office.

### **Program Administration**

*Dr. Kelli Newman* announced that Alabama has been awarded the maximum \$5 million planning grant for the Alabama Provider Capacity Project. The planning grant is intended to increase the capacity of Medicaid providers to deliver Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment or recovery services through an ongoing assessment of the SUD treatment needs of the State; recruitment, training, and technical assistance for Medicaid providers that offer SUD treatment or recovery services; and improved reimbursement for and expansion of the number of treatment capacity of Medicaid providers. To apply, State Medicaid agencies were required to submit an 18 month proposal by August 9<sup>th</sup> to increase the capacity of Medicaid providers throughout the State and quickly deliver SUD treatment or recovery services within local communities. CMS reviewed all of the applications and selected 15 proposals, with awards totaling \$50,000,000. Alabama Medicaid worked very closely with Alabama Department of Mental Health, who will be administering the planning grant with Medicaid oversight.

*Melanie Cleveland* provided an overview of the Medicaid website changes, and demonstrated the new links under the ACHN tab. She noted the additions to the Medicaid website and discussed the text messaging service implemented in June 2019. The directions for subscribing to the text messaging are on the website. In support of the 2020 Census, Medicaid Agency employees changed their email signature logos in August. Census posters will be printed and placed in public spaces where Medicaid workers interact with recipients. Outward focus will begin in January, and the Agency will mail recipients a letter in February, stressing the importance of completing their census questionnaire. She concluded by encouraging everyone involved to do their part to promote the Census.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:24 pm.



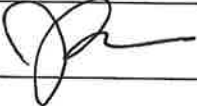
  
Stephanie McGee Azar  
Commissioner

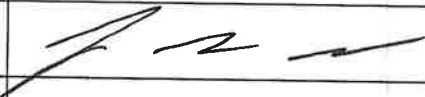
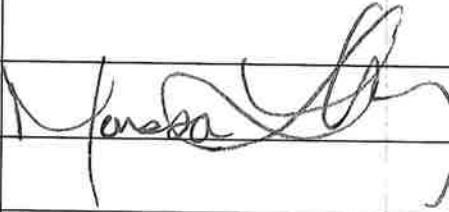
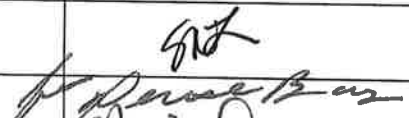
  
Kim Black  
Recording Secretary

**MEDICAL CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MCAC)**

**Commissioner's Board Room**

**September 26, 2019**

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE</u> <u>(If Member Is Absent)</u>	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>
Stephanie Azar, Commissioner		
Jeff Arrington		
Lynn Beshear		
Kim Black		
William R. Blythe, MD		
Jean Brown		
Stephanie R. Bryan		
Nancy Buckner	Stan Landa Sr. C	landas
Jane Elizabeth Burdeshaw	participated by phone	
Barry Cambron	Barry Cambron	
Jim Carnes	Jim Carnes	
Beverly Churchwell		
Melanie Cleveland	MC	
LaTonda Cunningham		
Cynthia Dobyne	GF	
Gretel Felton		

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE</u> <u>(If Member Is Absent)</u>	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>
Mary Finch		
Nina Ford, MD		
Geron Gadd		
Kathy Hall	KH	
Scott Harris, MD		
Nate Horsley		nhorsby@uasystem.edu
Danne Howard		
Beth Huckabee	Beth Huckabee	
Jerri Jackson		
Mark Jackson		
Louise Jones		
Bob Kurtts		
Linda Lackey		
Morissa Landinsky, MD		
Linda Lee		
Sylisa Lee-Jackson		
Stephanie Lindsay	SL	
Paul McWhorter	 Denise Barto Marie Dean	denise.barto@medicaid.alabama.gov MARIEDean@medicaid.gov
Katrina Magdon	Chester of fennel	Christy@anha.org

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE</u> <u>(If Member Is Absent)</u>	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>
Robert Moon, MD		
Drew Nelson	<i>Drew Nelson</i>	
Kelli Newman, Pharm.D.	<i>KN</i>	
Flake Oakley	<i>FO</i>	Commissioner Beshear will not be attending due to a scheduling conflict
Dick Owens, MD		
Sharon Parker		
Ozenia Patterson	<i>Ozenia Patterson</i>	
Marsha Raulerson, MD	<i>Marsha Raulerson</i>	
Timikel Robinson		
Danny Rush, DMD	<i>Danny Rush</i>	
Annie Smith		
Johnathan Sorter, Pharm.D.	<i>JS</i>	
Jean Stone	<i>Jean Stone</i>	
Mason Tanaka		
Hope Upshaw		
Veronica Wagner		
Ginger Wettingfeld	<i>Ginger Wettingfeld</i>	
John Ziegler		
David White		
<i>Darryl Pool</i>		
Shauna Williams	<i>Shauna Williams</i>	



# Alabama Coordinated Health Network (ACHN)

Alabama Medicaid Agency  
[www.Medicaid.Alabama.gov](http://www.Medicaid.Alabama.gov)

## ACHN Guiding Principles

- Pay for activity, not membership
- Focus on care management and health outcomes
- Redirect current expenditures to better achieve desired outcomes

## 7 ACHN Regions

- Do not take on full financial risk
- Do not pay providers (Medicaid will pay providers directly)
- Are responsible for a care coordination system in one pre-defined region
- Are incentivized along with Primary Care Providers for better health outcomes
- Are incentivized to provide a higher volume of care coordination services
- Have clinical and administrative incentive metrics focused on ambulatory care
- Are led by key staff including an executive director, quality care manager, care coordination supervisor, pharmacists and a part-time medical director
- The ACHN can coordinate transportation needs for assigned recipients, as needed



## ACHN Governing Boards

- Has governing boards based on the following rules:
  - ◇ 50 percent of the board (regardless of size) must be primary care physicians (including at least one OB-GYN) who practice in the region and participate with the ACHN. Up to two of these primary care physicians can be employed by a hospital.
  - ◇ In-region Hospitals (2 slots)
  - ◇ Community Mental Health Center Representative (1 slot)
  - ◇ Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Representative (1 slot)
  - ◇ Consumer Representative (e.g. Recipient, Parent of Recipient or Advocacy Organization Representative) (1 slot)
  - ◇ Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Representative (1 slot)
- Consumer Advisory Committees are established for each ACHN. Governing boards are required to hear from CACs at each governing board meeting.

## Populations/Regions

- Seven pre-defined regions with one ACHN in each region.
- The ACHN serves the General Medicaid Population (formerly Patient 1st), maternity care population, and the Plan First population.
  - ◇ Included Populations: Children, Pregnant Women, Aged/Blind/Disabled and Plan First recipients
  - ◇ Excluded groups: Medicare/Medicaid (dual eligible)
  - ◇ Optional Groups: Breast and Cervical Cancer recipients; Native Americans

## Quality Improvement/Data

- Quality improvement projects focus on population priorities, such as:
  - ◆ Substance Abuse
  - ◆ Infant Mortality
  - ◆ Obesity and Obesity Prevention
- Metrics and benchmarks focus on items under control of the ACHN and primary care physicians, such as:
  - ◆ Well child visits
  - ◆ Immunization rates
  - ◆ BMI measurements
  - ◆ Substance abuse care coordination
  - ◆ Prenatal and post-partum care
  - ◆ Case management (targeted population programs, standardized specialist support, provider supports, and public health initiatives)
- The Agency generates data to guide and support care coordination activities.

## Payment/Reimbursement

- Payment to ACHNs is a combination of A, B, and C:
  - A. PMPM payment for Quality Improvement activities. this payment funds quality improvement projects.
  - B. Payment for specific care coordination services delivered (This payment is based on the complexity/level of activity provided during a month for the recipients).
  - C. Additional bonus payments are possible based on achieving certain quality metrics.
  - D. Each region has a maximum budget based on the number of Medicaid Eligibles living in the region and the volume of care coordination services provided. The budget will include financial considerations for those regions that are more rural.
- Payments to physicians are tiered and based on service.
- Starting October 1, 2019, primary care patients may see any Medicaid Primary Care Physician; some restrictions apply to maternity care recipients.
- Primary Care Physician payment methodology is based on achievements. View the presentation on ACHN participation to learn more: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lmy41YyShwE&feature=youtu.be>

## ACHN Information and Contacts

- ACHN contact information for providers is available on the Agency website (ACHN Regional Map): [https://medicaid.alabama.gov/documents/5.0\\_Managed\\_Care/5.1\\_ACHN/5.1.3\\_ACHN\\_Providers/5.1.3\\_ACHN%20\\_Regional\\_Map\\_Contacts\\_Revised\\_9-3-19.pdf](https://medicaid.alabama.gov/documents/5.0_Managed_Care/5.1_ACHN/5.1.3_ACHN_Providers/5.1.3_ACHN%20_Regional_Map_Contacts_Revised_9-3-19.pdf)
- Beginning October 1, 2019, Medicaid recipients may call the toll free number for their region listed under the **ACHN Recipients** tab: [https://medicaid.alabama.gov/documents/5.0\\_Managed\\_Care/5.1\\_ACHN/5.1.2\\_ACHN\\_Recipients/5.1.2\\_ACHN\\_Recipient\\_Contacts-8-26-19.pdf](https://medicaid.alabama.gov/documents/5.0_Managed_Care/5.1_ACHN/5.1.2_ACHN_Recipients/5.1.2_ACHN_Recipient_Contacts-8-26-19.pdf)
- Visit [www.Medicaid.Alabama.gov](http://www.Medicaid.Alabama.gov) and select the **ACHN tab**, **ACHN Providers** link to view detailed information and presentations.



# WHAT IS ALABAMA COUNTS!

The Alabama Counts! 2020 Census Committee is an advisory group composed of public and private statewide organizations committed to working together to ensure each Alabamian is counted in the 2020 Census.

Alabama Counts! builds trust in communities and promotes the 2020 Census. Through these efforts, we are striving for maximum participation in every community across the state.

## TIMELINE

**March 2020** – U.S. Census Bureau will send every household an invitation to respond to the 2020 Census.

### ***Respond in one of three ways:***

- Online using a computer, smart phone or tablet
- Call a toll-free number and give response over the phone
- Call and request a traditional paper form

**April 1, 2020** – Census Day

**Late April 2020** – Reminder postcard

**May 2020** – U.S. Census Bureau will follow up with households who haven't responded.



## YOUR VOICE MATTERS

We all have a say in the outcome of the 2020 Census, and it can help Alabama secure a fair share of funding and maintain fair representation in Congress.

All you have to do is complete and return your 2020 census form. It is a simple civic duty with tremendous impact.



adeca.alabama.gov  
(334) 242-5525  
icount@census.alabama.gov



# ALABAMA COUNTS!

2020 CENSUS



#alabamacounts  
census.alabama.gov

# ALABAMA COUNTS!

In 2020, we as Alabamians have a tremendous opportunity to positively affect our state's future for the next 10 years and beyond. How? By taking less than 10 minutes to complete a 2020 Census form.

Not only that. Saying "I Count" by completing your census form also helps secure a brighter future for yourself, your family and your community.

Your opportunity to say "I Count" is coming in the spring of 2020. The mission of Alabama Counts! is to ensure you understand what is at stake for Alabama in 2020 and to ensure you are prepared to complete and return your census form.

***The census will ask basic questions about all people living or staying at your address, such as names, ages, birth dates, race, sex, whether you own or rent, etc. This count will include all children, even non-relatives staying with you.***

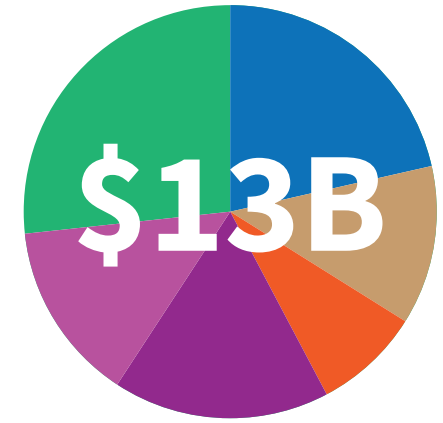


Funding to Alabama for many important programs that affect health care, education, housing assistance, infrastructure development and more is tied in some form to census data.

An accurate count will ensure that the state receives its fair share of funding for these important programs.

A recent study by George Washington University indicates that the U.S. government returned almost **\$1,600** to the state in 2015 for every Alabamian counted in the census.

***The census is safe and secure. All the information you provide to the U.S. Census Bureau is confidential and cannot be used against you by any government agency or court.***



More than **\$13 billion** was allocated to Alabama in 2016 from **55 programs** that are guided in some part by data derived from the census.

## **JUST A FEW OF THOSE PROGRAMS INCLUDE:**

- Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)
- Medicare Part B (Supplemental Medical Insurance)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Head Start
- Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies
- Pell Grants and Student Loans
- Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments and Housing Choice Vouchers
- Highway Planning and Construction
- Community Development Block Grants