

Contract & Financial Issues Committee, November 18, 2021, 1:00pm

Meeting came to order at 1:02pm.

Agenda and previous minutes were approved.

Updates (up to 45 Minutes)

EDIT Update – Stacia Chick

Dan reported that Stacia has a standing conflict with the CFI meeting. Dan stated that another CMH rep should be appointed to be the EDIT Update liaison role for future CFI meeting. Bruce Bridges gave details on topics discussed during the last EDIT meeting. He reported that there continues to be an EQI workgroup devoted to encounter reporting. Templates have been created and sent out for review. He reported there was discussion on T1040 (CCBHC) code, including if this can be submitted as single day per encounter only, or otherwise. Other topics discussed were coordination of benefits process (sub workgroup has been created), transportation subgroup, code chart changes, tiered rate for inpatient psychiatric services, tiered rates for licensed residential services, code chart and provider qualifications chart updates. Discussion took place on S5116. Question was posed as to whether it could be funded with 1115 ISPA dollars. Answer given was no – you must make an amendment to the waiver to allow for non-family training/home care training for the non-HSW population. Next EDIT meeting will take place on January 20, 2022. Group discussed and appointed Donna Nieman as the EDIT liaison for CFI.

GF Negotiations – Lisa Morse

Lisa Morse reported that the last negotiations meeting took place on November 12. Topics covered were Compliance examinations, self-determined policy changes, (needs to be compared to self-determined implementation guideline). Lisa asked for volunteers wondering if John Obermesik wanted to be involved. John stated he would be willing, asking if anyone involved in the original creation of the contract language or guideline would be willing to join in this workgroup. John asked if there were interested parties, they should email Monique by December 3. Lisa then gave details on other topics discussed such as mediation documents submitted to the Department. Lisa needs to review their reply which she just received. NGRI is all set and will NOT be added back on to the grid. The Department added schedule G which Lisa will review. Lisa stated that “medical bills from state hospitals” has been on the grid, and the Department has reviewed, and is not willing to budge on this, stating that this is how it’s always been. Lisa will be discussing their position on this with Sandy Lindsey and the Association will be going on record as opposing this. Lisa stated that the National Health Service Corp (loan forgiveness topic) has seen some progress with the Department.

Lisa stated there was a second meeting regarding Standard Cost Allocation. The final outcome was basically agreeing to disagree. Joe Sedlock also spoke about this meeting, stating that we have asked the Department to work with the CMH and PIHP groups to try to reconcile and find a process to resolve the issue. There is a long way to go, but there is minor movement. At the PIHP level they are trying to get the SCA specific language approved. Dispute resolution language for the contract has been forwarded from Lisa to Bob Sheehan. Lisa urged CMHs to reach out to Bob with their position on this issue.

Legislative Update – Alan Bolter (enc)

Alan gave an update on SBs 597 & 598 and changes that have taken place on those. The number of phases would increase from 3 phases to 4. These would include children, SED, SUD, and I/DD. Implementation date would be extended to 2030, with 2 years between each phase. Language was added that allows the Department to terminate a phase if it is deemed unsuccessful. Language would also be added to the Mental Health Code that would eliminate the CMHs role as it currently is, replacing that role with the Health Plans (or SIPs) – wiping out local decision making and seeing those decisions made in corporate boardrooms around the country. Alan stated that these bills will likely NOT move this calendar year, but we will likely see a push by Senator Shirkey early next year. Alan also gave details on SB 714, which is a Mental Health Supplemental totaling \$348 Million, of which half is earmarked for hospitals. \$85 Million for implementation for Senator Shirkey’s proposal, \$50 Million is earmarked for community-based services, and about \$35 Million for miscellaneous items. Alan stated this bill will be tie-barred to SBs 597 & 598. Alan reported that the way this money is allocation does not improve care or help with workforce issues. Group wondered if the supplemental was tied to GF at all. Alan stated it was not – strictly federal funds. Group then asked if there was any clarification or guidance on the vaccine mandate. Alan stated that the National Council is trying to obtain clarification for our members. Some CMHs have reached out to legal counsel, with differing opinions. Alan reported that the Association has reached out to the Department for clarification if our CMHs are CMHCs, and we are waiting for their response. Group asked Alan to pass along any information if and when it is received.

Funding Issues – Bruce Bridges

Year to Date Funding vs. Actuary Expectations (enc)

Bruce reviewed the funding report that was issued to the group. He stated that we ended up with \$241 Million more that was anticipated for FY21. He continued with his report going into detail on DABs, TANFs, HSW, CWP & SED payments. Bruce then reviewed the FY22 comparison of actuarial funding versus actual funding advances.

Discussion of Key Issues – Bruce Bridges

Items from Update section can be moved to this section if there is need or interest for further discussion.

No items were moved to this section.

Other

Standard Cost Allocation – covered in the GF Negotiations section above.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Contract & Financial Issues Committee is scheduled for Thursday, January 20, 2022, 1:00pm. This meeting will be held in-person AND via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 2:01pm.