

# MEDICAID MINUTE

from the West Virginia Association of Health Plans

Welcome to Medicaid Minute from the West Virginia Association of Health Plans. Every month you can expect our newsletter to provide you with the most up to date information about the work Managed Care Organizations are doing within the Medicaid Program and for our state. We want to serve as a resource for your Medicaid questions.

## Progress: Opioid Overdose Rates are Declining

West Virginia is beginning to see the opioid overdose rates trend in the right direction. Data from the Office of Drug Control Policy shows an 8% decline in opioid overdose rates from February 2022 through February 2023. This is the most significant decrease since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The WV Medicaid program has 1,570 treatment beds available throughout the state to reach as many members as possible in their recovery process. The top five counties with the most treatment beds can be found in - Wood 281, Cabell 186, Kanawha 173, Mingo 144, and Monongalia 115. As part of their continuum of care, the Medicaid program also offers Peer Recovery Support Specialists (PRSS) to help keep members engaged during their treatment.

Health professionals understand that substance use disorder (SUD) is still an ongoing problem. However, the shift in data is encouraging and the work to reach as many as possible in their fight against addiction will continue.

## WV Medicaid Highlights\*

Total enrollment in WV Medicaid:  
647,022 members  
MCO Total Enrollment:  
508,445 members  
SSI Enrollment:  
37,611 (7%)  
Expansion Enrollment:  
223,043 (44%)  
TANF Enrollment:  
232,015 (46%)  
CHIP Enrollment:  
15,776 (3%)

\* Data Source: DHHR report 6-1-23

## Good News Stories



UniCare Health Plan of WV was busy in June hosting several community events including Sun Safey, Webster Co community Baby Shower, offered training courses for basketball officials, and participated at the Camden Family Health fairs in Nicholas and Webster counties.



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