

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.

MCO Efforts on Substance Use Disorder

West Virginia's fatal overdose rates began to fall in 2018 and 2019, leaving medical professionals and legislators hopeful they were on the right track to making a positive change in the lives of many suffering from addiction.

However, in 2020, those same rates grew leaving many experts to believe the stresses brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic played a significant role. For example, mandatory shutdowns prohibited programs like support groups, recovery programs and medical centers from meeting face to face.

The managed care organizations in WV are introducing programs and working with providers and other agencies to help members suffering with substance use disorder (SUD). Their efforts include:

- services designed to help improve the health outcomes for pregnant or postpartum mothers, and babies impacted by SUD
- working with providers to collect Health Risk Assessments on members in their treatment programs
- promoting CHES Health, a digital recovery platform for members
- partnering with DisposeRx to properly dispose of medication to prevent relapse
- supporting new programs that would help West Virginians access SUD services across the state

WV Medicaid Highlights*

Total enrollment in WV Medicaid:

612,624 members

MCO Total Enrollment:

498,073 members

SSI Enrollment:

39,834 (8%)

Expansion Enrollment:

208,726 (41%)

TANF Enrollment:

231,924 (47%)

CHIP Enrollment:

17,589 (4%)

* Data Source: DHHR report 2-1-22

Good News Stories



Michelle Tracy, The Health Plan Nurse Navigator and the 2021 iCARE Runner Up Winner. Watch her inspiring video by clicking the link below - ["Doing What's Right"](#).



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