

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.

COVID Wind Down

Two years ago, the COVID-19 pandemic knocked on the world's door and life as we knew it changed almost overnight. However, experts now believe we are nearing the end of the full-blown pandemic phase. Many states are loosening mask mandates and vaccine requirements, and companies are making plans to get their employees back to work; all in response to the pandemic winding down.

Looking back, the MCOs of West Virginia were challenged to meet the demands brought on by the pandemic, and they answered the call. They offered assistance to providers by waiving or extending prior authorizations, adjusted telehealth restrictions, and extended the time period allowed in SUD programs. The MCOs supported local area food banks with monetary donations to help meet the needs of food insecurities across the state. Community outreach programs were set up to provide health and hygiene items for the most vulnerable. Vaccination efforts were ramped up by sponsoring vaccine clinics, educating members, increasing their marketing outreach and providing gift card incentives to those who were fully vaccinated - resulting in over 65,000 additional vaccinations.

Even as the pandemic begins to wind down, the MCOs will continue to work closely with county health departments and state agencies. Their highest priority has always been and will continue to be the health and well-being of all members.

WV Medicaid Highlights*

Total enrollment in WV Medicaid:

615,515 members

MCO Total Enrollment:

500,666 members

SSI Enrollment:

39,731 (8%)

Expansion Enrollment:

210,574 (41%)

TANF Enrollment:

232,753 (47%)

CHIP Enrollment:

17,608 (4%)

* Data Source: DHHR report 3-1-22

Good News Stories



An Anthem Company

Andi Dearien, UniCare Nurse Case Manager and a 2021 iCARE Runner Up Winner. Watch her inspiring video by clicking the link below:

["Making Connections."](#)



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