

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.

The Value of Managed Care

More than 82 million Americans are covered by Medicaid and CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program), making it the largest healthcare program in the nation. Forty states have chosen to partner with managed care organizations (MCOs) to deliver healthcare services to their members. More than three quarters of those enrolled in Medicaid and nearly 80% of those within the expansion program, are covered by MCOs. Coordinating care, driving quality, and increasing the effectiveness of the Medicaid program are among the benefits MCOs bring to the table. They are essential in "ensuring better outcomes and better patient experiences", according to a [report](#) published last month by the America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP).

Using a comprehensive set of performance measures called HEDIS (healthcare effectiveness data and information set), MCOs are measured on the quality and performance of the services they provide to their members. This not only helps to ensure members are receiving the best quality of care, but also promotes innovation. MCOs will use this report to find areas in which they can improve care and patient outcomes.

For example telehealth services have been expanded, programs have been developed to reduce childhood asthma, meeting social needs and housing programs have all been created to support innovation.

WV Medicaid Highlights*

Total enrollment in WV Medicaid:

602,388 members

MCO Total Enrollment:

488,977 members

SSI Enrollment:

40,145 (8%)

Expansion Enrollment:

202,846 (41%)

TANF Enrollment:

228,184 (47%)

CHIP Enrollment:

17,802 (4%)

* Data Source: DHHR report 11-1-21

Good News Stories



UniCare of West Virginia volunteered in September at the Heart and Hand Ministry in South Charleston. The day was spent working in the outreach food pantry helping to address the food insecurity in the community.

