

# **MEETING MINUTES**

June 4, 2020 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

This meeting was held via teleconference due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

#### The following CHIPAC Executive Subcommittee members were present:

Denise Daly Konrad
Michele Chesser
Chair of CHIPAC
Vice Chair of CHIPAC

#### The following CHIPAC Executive Subcommittee members sent a substitute:

• Sherry Sinkler-Crawley sent Member at Large Chartoya Aremu

#### The following CHIPAC Executive Subcommittee members were absent:

Ashley Everette Airington
 Member at Large

#### The following DMAS staff members were present:

- Rebecca Anderson, Manager, Policy Research and Analysis, Policy Planning and Innovation Division
- Hope Richardson, Senior Policy Analyst, Policy Planning and Innovation Division

#### **Minutes**

Denise Daly Konrad, Chair of CHIPAC, called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM.

#### I. CHIPAC Business

**A. Review and approval of minutes from previous Executive Subcommittee meeting.** Executive Subcommittee members reviewed the minutes from the April 27, 2020 Executive Subcommittee meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved with no changes.

**B.** Membership Update and Discussion. Daly Konrad and Richardson provided an update on Committee membership. Richardson stated that several members have renewed their terms. Shelby Gonzales of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities renewed her term as of March 2020, as did Michael Muse of Virginia League of Social Services Executives. Jennifer Wicker of Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association renewed her term as of June 2020. Dr. Karen Rheuban's term as chair of the Board of Medical Assistance Services is ending, and DMAS director Karen Kimsey will name a new BMAS representative to CHIPAC after BMAS' upcoming June meeting. Michele Chesser plans to continue as Vice Chair and CHIPAC representative of the Joint Commission on Health Care until a new JCHC Executive Director is hired (JCHC is a statutory CHIPAC member entity). Rachel Lynch's term ended in March 2020; Daly Konrad stated that she would reach out to Inova Health regarding potential nominations for new members given that Lynch has departed Inova. Sara Cariano will be the CHIPAC representative for Virginia Poverty Law Center as of March. New members will be introduced at the July meeting, including Cariano and the new representative for the Department of Education, Quyen Duong. The Committee will also vote on the candidacy of Freddy Mejia of the Commonwealth Institute. The Membership Chair position remains vacant and the Executive Subcommittee continues to seek additional members.

#### II. DMAS and VDSS Updates

Hope Richardson provided the DMAS update. She stated that total enrollment across programs is currently over 1.6 million, and enrollment has increased since the declaration of the state of emergency: more than 73,000 additional members have enrolled, of which more than 32,000 are in the expansion group and more than 25,000 are children. As of June 1, FAMIS enrollment was at 76,074 and FAMIS MOMS enrollment was at 1,642. Total expansion enrollment is 426,613 as of June 1. Richardson stated that interactive dashboards with regularly updated data on Medicaid Expansion enrollment and access are available on the DMAS website.

Richardson announced several upcoming committee and board meetings that CHIPAC members and members of the public may be interested in attending to learn more about DMAS' current work and response to COVID-19. These meetings will be held virtually, and details and instructions to join the meetings are available via the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website at townhall.virginia.gov. The Virginia Medicaid Member Advisory Committee will meet Monday, June 8 at 10:00 am. The Board of Medical Assistance Services will meet Wednesday, June 10 at 10:00 am. The Medicaid Managed Care Advisory Committee will meet Wednesday, June 17 at 1:00 pm. Richardson explained that Virginia Medicaid has been working to secure flexibilities at the state and federal level to ensure an efficient and effective response to COVID-19. Now that much of the initial groundwork is complete to secure the authorities and file appropriate documents, DMAS is working to making sure providers and members have the information they need about policy changes. DMAS is also working with CMS and across state agencies to develop plans for eventually "unwinding" emergency policies and procedures when the COVID-19 emergency period comes to an end, even though

the timeline is still uncertain. Richardson outlined some of the projects that DMAS' Policy Planning and Innovation Division has been working on recently, with a focus on children's services.

Chartoya Aremu provided the VDSS update. She explained that with the start of the COVID-19 emergency period, rules were put in place for local departments of social services not to terminate or reduce enrollees' coverage during the emergency, and that those rules remain in place. She stated that renewal processing is limited at this time. The ex parte process done through the system is planned to be started again in July. Discussions are ongoing regarding how to ease agencies back into post-COVID processes. It will be important to allow ample time for providing verifications, anticipating that there will be difficulty or delays getting information back at this time. Aremu informed the Subcommittee that there was a system update the weekend of May 23 to ensure that the additional \$600/week COVID-19 unemployment payment will not be counted, consistent with federal guidance. The system release is going smoothly so far, and this has allowed VDSS to retire a temporary business process that workers previously had to do manually. Aremu stated that a weekly call is held to discuss the changes related to COVID-19.

Daly Konrad thanked both agencies for putting emergency authorities, systems changes, new processes, and other adaptations in place quickly and smoothly and stated that she acknowledges and appreciates the hard work involved.

### III. Agenda items for the July 20, 2020 Full Committee Meeting

The Subcommittee discussed the agenda for the upcoming Full Committee meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via a web-enabled platform. DMAS leadership will attend and provide updates on COVID-19 response and other timely topics, with a focus on policies and programs that affect children and pregnant women. The Executive Subcommittee agreed that the strategic planning session originally planned for CHIPAC's summer meeting will be postponed until further notice; however, Daly Konrad stated that a document summarizing the CHIPAC strategic planning survey administered earlier this year will be circulated. The draft meeting agenda also includes an item for a brief presentation giving an overview of members' responses to the survey.

The Subcommittee agreed on the following draft agenda for the July 20 Full Committee Meeting:

- 1) Welcome and brief overview of electronic meeting format and procedures
- 2) CHIPAC Business
  - a. Review/approval of minutes from prior meeting
  - **b.** Membership update
- 3) DMAS Update
- 4) VDSS Update
- 5) Update on CHIPAC strategic planning survey results

- 6) Agenda for next CHIPAC Meeting7) Public Comment

#### IV. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 3:06 PM.