

Commission on Health Care in the near future but that she will continue in the role at least until the first of July or for the duration of the COVID-19 “stay at home” time period. Since the JCHC is a member organization per the *Code of Virginia*, a new representative to CHIPAC will need to be identified when Chesser is no longer able to serve.

Hope Richardson, DMAS, stated that in the absence of a Membership Chair at this time, she reached out to members who were up for renewal and confirmed that Sara Cariano will serve as representative for Virginia Poverty Law Center for the organization’s renewed term and that Michael Muse of the Virginia League of Social Services Executives will renew for another term.

II. DMAS and DSS COVID-19 updates; Organizational updates from committee members

Hope Richardson provided a DMAS update. She stated that DMAS has been working to secure the appropriate federal and state authorities to provide flexibility on a number of policies and procedures to ensure an efficient and effective response to COVID-19. Changes include new telehealth flexibilities, flexibilities regarding the site of care, flexibilities related to prior authorization and prescription refills, and new temporary eligibility and enrollment provisions. Richardson explained that member cost-sharing has been suspended for the duration of the emergency period. Additional information and ongoing updates are available through DMAS’ website and provider portal. Richardson stated that DMAS has released COVID-19 fact sheets and outreach materials, some general and some targeted to specific populations such as pregnant women.

Richardson gave an update on state budget developments that affect DMAS and its programs. She stated that in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Governor introduced amendments to unallot new discretionary spending in the Budget that was approved by the General Assembly (over \$200 million during the biennium). If approved in the final budget, this change will freeze the items until further action. Unallotted items include:

- Expansion of dental benefits to all Medicaid adult populations
- Behavioral health enhancement provisions
- Numerous rate increases that had been approved
- Addition of 250 slots in the Developmental Disability Waiver program (FY 2022)
- Home visiting benefit
- FAMIS MOMS extension of coverage to 12 months postpartum
- Coverage of stays in IMDs (institutions for mental disease) for FAMIS MOMS with substance use disorder
- Elimination of the 40 quarter work requirement for legal permanent residents

The Governor’s proposed amendments also delay some report deadlines and implementation dates, increase appropriations for COVID-19 response, and include

language to temporarily provide flexibility to DMAS and shorten the timeline for submission to the federal government when modifying State Plans, waivers, and MCO contracts in response to the emergency, with Governor's prior approval.

VDSS representatives were unable to attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict.

III. Discuss meeting date, format, and agenda for next full committee meeting

The Subcommittee discussed plans for the upcoming Full Committee meeting. Richardson stated that the June meeting would need to be rescheduled to a later date, likely in July, and that the meeting would be held electronically due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. The Subcommittee discussed the need to alter the originally planned content of the meeting, which was to be a strategic planning session, due to the limitations of a teleconference format. The Subcommittee made tentative plans to use the timeslot of the June full committee meeting to hold an additional meeting of the Executive Subcommittee to conduct planning for the postponed full committee meeting. Richardson and Anderson stated that they would consult DMAS leadership regarding alternate dates for the Full Committee meeting.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.