

# DRAFT

## NC Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC)

Meeting Minutes  
December 2, 2025  
Virtual Meeting

MAC Members present:

Nicole Galbreath, Brandon Wilson, Laura Veach, Sarai Serrano, Vickie Bradley, Jenny Hobbs, Joy Tilley, Jean Andersen, Richard Edwards, Sonia Melvin Barnett, Ivan Belov, Kadee Primus, Sarah McIntyre, Stephanie Tyson, Anne Riverbank, Gabriela Plasencia.

NC Medicaid staff present:

Jay Ludlam, Melanie Bush, Kathy Batton, LaQuana Palmer, Sarah Gregosky and a host of other staff members attended via Teams.

Kathy Batton, Communications Manager, NC Medicaid Communications and Engagement, welcomed MAC members to the MAC meeting and reviewed the agenda, roll call was taken by Jennifer Platts and quorum was established with a majority of members present.

Jenny Hobbs, NC Medicaid Beneficiary Advisory Council representative, provided an update on the recent BAC meeting. During the meeting, members reviewed and approved the proposed bylaws.

In addition, members held elections for leadership positions. Jenny Hobbs was elected as BAC Chair, and Ada Elizabeth Gil Jimenez was elected Co-chair.

Jay Ludlam, Deputy Secretary of NC Medicaid, provided both federal and state-level updates. He explained that the federal government shutdown in April had different impacts on the Medicaid program compared to a typical October shutdown. While Medicaid programs are not generally affected by most shutdowns, this shutdown created challenges, especially for the SNAP program and had it continued into January, the situation would have moved into uncharted territory for Medicaid.

Jay reported that the department is currently navigating several lawsuits related to rate reductions. In addition to the 5% reduction to the Medicaid program, NC Medicaid experienced operational and administrative budget cuts, resulting in the loss of numerous contractors and other staff who support program functions.

Despite these challenges, the department successfully prioritized and launched the Children and Families Specialty Health Plan (CFSP), a critical component of the department's child welfare modernization and reform efforts. The CFSP, serving approximately 35,000–38,000 members, officially launched December 1, 2025.

Jay highlighted that December 1 marked the two-year anniversary of Medicaid expansion, which concluded the month with approximately 700,000 people enrolled. He reiterated that Medicaid expansion does not require state funding, as 90% of costs are covered by the federal government and the remaining 10% is funded through a hospital assessment.

Jay concluded his update by offering MAC members the opportunity to ask questions.

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Sarah Gregosky, Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on H.R.1, beginning with an overview of the legislation and key changes that will impact Medicaid members. She explained upcoming eligibility changes for certain immigrant populations, modifications to retroactive coverage, and the anticipated effects of new work and community engagement requirements scheduled to begin January 2027.

Sarah outlined which members would be exempt from the community engagement requirements and described the forthcoming shift to six-month Medicaid eligibility redeterminations for specific member groups. Beginning December 31, 2026, low-income adults without disabilities will have their eligibility reviewed every six months instead of the current 12-month schedule.

Sarah concluded her update by offering MAC members the opportunity to ask questions.

LaQuana Palmer reviewed the proposed changes to the MAC bylaws and provided members with the opportunity to vote. MAC members voted to approve the bylaws.

The committee then moved to elections for MAC leadership positions:

### **Co-chair Election:**

Brandon Wilson nominated Kadee Primus for Co-chair. Kadee accepted the nomination, and MAC members voted to appoint her as Co-chair.

### **Chair Election:**

LaQuana opened the floor for nominations for MAC Chair, noting that self-nominations were also welcomed. Jean Andersen and others nominated Brandon Wilson for Chair. Brandon accepted the nomination, and MAC members voted to appoint him as MAC Chair.

Following the elections, Kathy Batton opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were offered.

LaQuana then invited the newly appointed Chair and Co-chair to provide closing remarks. Both expressed their gratitude for the opportunity and shared their enthusiasm for serving in these leadership roles.

Meeting adjourned.