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NC Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC)

Meeting Minutes
September 23, 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, Anne Riverbank.

NC Medicaid staff present:

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

Kathy Batton, Communications Manager, NC Medicaid Communications and Engagement, welcomed MAC members to the inaugural MAC meeting and reviewed the agenda, roll call was taken by Jennifer Platts.

Jenny Hobbs, BAC representative, reported on a motion that was passed by the BAC members to write a letter to the NC General Assembly in support of funding Medicaid and shared the letter with the MAC members.

Motion: Jenny Hobbs made a motion for the MAC to co-author the letter to the NC General Assembly in support of Medicaid funding.

Vote: All MAC members present voted “yes” to co-author the letter by raising their hands on Microsoft Teams.

Result: The motion to co-author passed unanimously. The letter will be sent to all BAC and MAC members to review and provide feedback.

Jay Ludlam, Deputy Secretary of NC Medicaid, provided an overview of State Funding that was appropriated for NC Medicaid and explained the current state funding. Ludlam explained that the amount requested, an additional \$819 million, is needed to operate the program and to provide all of the services that were provided the previous year, \$115 million was requested to run and operate the program and \$13 million for technology initiatives Medicaid is required to have by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and stated the amount was not granted. The NC General Assembly appropriated \$600 million, leaving a \$319 million shortfall.

Ludlam shared the funding challenges for NC Medicaid and explained the NC Medicaid Reductions that will take effect October 1, 2025, which include provider rate reductions and explained next steps.

MAC members had an opportunity to ask questions.

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Katie Horneffer, Associate Director for NC Medicaid Strategy and Planning, provided a summary and update on the federal bill, H.R.1 (also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill). Katie stated the goal of the presentation was to show the extent of the changes and provide a timeline. Katie shared key changes from now until 2029. Katie explained the work or community engagement requirements and provided detailed information on work requirements. MAC members had an opportunity to ask questions.

Kathy Batton adjourned the meeting with a reminder of the next orientation to finalize bylaws and to complete the member survey with ideas for SMART Goals. Kathy encouraged members to send any ideas or recommendations for the proposed bylaws.