



**Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee (MEAC)
Meeting Minutes for September 25, 2023**

Board Members Present:

✓	Neil Allen	✓	Jessa Barnard	✓	Kelly Dougherty
✓	Lisa Draper	✓	Mike Fisher	✓	Devon Green
✓	Dale Hackett		Rebecca Heintz	✓	Sharon Henault
✓	Jessica Jacobs	✓	Joan Lavoie	✓	Mary Kate Mohlman
✓	Kirsten Murphy	✓	Wendy Rogers	✓	Laurel Sanborn
	Stacy Weinberger	✓	Jason Williams		

DVHA Staff Present:

✓	Zachary Goss	✓	Andrea De La Bruere	✓	Adaline Strumolo
✓	Sandi Hoffman		Jennifer Rotblatt	✓	Max Croneberger
✓	Monica Ogelby	✓	Sven Lindholm	✓	Dani Fuoco
✓	Jennifer Mace	✓	Robin Chapman		

SOV/Other Attendees:

	Katie Smith	✓	Betty Morse		Tim Walker
✓	Tom Perkins	✓	Heather Wenzel		Stefani Hartsfield
	Susan Aranoff		Marty Baker		Brendan Beaudoin
	Michael Miller	✓	Rebecca Copans	✓	Scott Cerreta
✓	Vicki Jessup				

Topic & Presenter	Discussion	Action
Meeting Materials	Posted to https://dvha.vermont.gov/advisory-boards/medicaid-and-exchange-advisory-committee/agendas-	

	and-materials MEAC_9.25.23_Agenda.pdf MEAC_PPT_9.25.23.pdf	
1. Call to Order Mary Kate Mohlman & Sharon Henault, Co-Chairs	Meeting was convened at 10:02 AM.	
2. Roll Call Establish Quorum Approve Minutes Zack Goss, Director of Customer Communication	Motion: Approve the July 24, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Minutes approved.	
3. FY25 Budget Letter Subcommittee Mary Kate Mohlman & Sharon Henault, Co-Chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary Kate provided an overview of the intent of the FY25 budget letter, highlighting that one of MEAC's roles is to ensure federal funding to the state is being optimized. • There was a call for volunteers for the subcommittee, and members were asked to share suggestions for topics to be addressed. • Discussion included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Covid-specific funding ○ Workplace and housing support ○ Regularizing rate increases for home services ○ Improving access to the Medicare Savings Plan ○ Cost of medications that are not covered and co-pays ○ Qualifications for Medicaid for people with disabilities • Goal is for the letter to be complete by the October meeting. • The timing of the letter was discussion and it was agreed that next year's letter would be done in the Spring to allow the committee to be ahead of the budget process. 	Budget Letter Subcommittee members: Sharon, Kirsten, Dale, Mike, Jessa, Neil and Mary Kate
4. Medicaid Renewal Status Update Adaline Strumolo, Deputy Commissioner (DVHA) Dani Fuoco, Health Care Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addie stated that a one-month extension was given for those who could not respond to the renewal notice in July and August in response to the flood. The population that needed this was smaller than anticipated and the process will not be continued into September. • Discussion ensued on the flood response and it was 	Medicaid and the End of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency webpage: https://dvha.vermont.gov/unwinding

<p>Administrator (DVHA)</p>	<p>reiterated that anyone impacted by the flood can call to have their deadline moved forward. Appeals will take the flood into consideration as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes for renewals were discussed. The procedural termination rate started around 30%, which is concerning, though not unexpected DVHA has taken steps to increase automatic renewals. • Dani described the three waivers DVHA most recently obtained from CMS.. • There was some press coverage on the auto renewal process this past week. As of August, CMS has taken a firm position on certain renewal rules. The ex-parte process must take place on an individual basis rather than a household basis. • Impacted members will be re-instated and termination for individuals in these households will be paused. • This only affects MAGI (income-based) Medicaid. • The new monthly dashboards were discussed. The automatic renewal rate was much higher in August. The procedural termination rate is much lower. Termination rates are expected to go up in September due to flood extensions. • It was noted that there is a backlog, which reflects the flood extensions, requested extensions, and those still pending. • In addition to the monthly dashboards, other renewal dashboards are available on the DVHA website. • To reduce the number of people losing coverage, DVHA is reviewing notices and working on plain language post enrollment efforts. 	<p>Medicaid Renewal Dashboard https://dvha.vermont.gov/unwinding/renewal-dashboard</p>
<p>5. Commissioner’s Office Update</p> <p>Andrea De La Bruere, Commissioner Adaline Strumolo, Deputy Commissioner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dental services rates increased effective from July 1st, and 15 providers have enrolled with Vermont Medicaid since then. • There is a narrow window to finalize proposed revisions to the Health Benefits Eligibility and Enrollment Rule which include codification of the post partum extension and continuous eligibility for children. Please let us know if you intend to submit comments so that we can address them and meet the filing deadlines. 	

<p>6. Public Comment</p> <p>Mary Kate Mohlman & Sharon Henault, Co-Chairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 	
<p>7. Final Committee Discussion</p> <p>Mary Kate Mohlman & Sharon Henault, Co-Chairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 	
<p>8. Adjourn</p> <p>Mary Kate Mohlman & Sharon Henault, Co-Chairs</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.</p>	