



**Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee (MEAC)
Meeting Minutes for October 28, 2024**

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	✓	Simone Rueschemeyer
	Laurel Sanborn	✓	Stacy Weinberger		

DVHA Staff Present:

✓	Zachary Goss	✓	DaShawn Groves	✓	Adaline Strumolo
✓	Alex McCracken	✓	Jennifer Rotblatt	✓	Sandi Hoffman
	Sven Lindholm		Stephanie Barrett		Dan Fay
	Alicia Cooper	✓	Conor O'Dea		

SOV/Other Attendees:

✓	Monica Ogelby		Megan Tierney-Ward	✓	Ashley Berliner
	Brendan Krause	✓	Kelsey Naro	✓	Conor O'Dea
✓	Lori Vadakin	✓	Tim Walker	✓	Kathy Walker
✓	Sharon Sterns		Rebecca Copans	✓	Scott Cerreta
✓	Michael Miller	✓	Erika Wolffing	✓	Spenser Weppler

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

	exchange-advisory-committee/agendas-and-materials 10.28.24-MEAC-Agenda.pdf MEAC-PPT-10.28.24.pdf	
1. Call to Order Sharon Henault & Mary-Kate Mohlman, Co-Chairs	Meeting was convened at 10:03 AM.	
2. Roll Call Establish Quorum Approve Minutes Zack Goss, Director of Customer Communication	Motion: Approve the September 23, 2024 meeting minutes as presented.	Motion: Mike Fisher Second: Dale Hackett Abstain: Neil Allen, Rebecca Heintz, Kirsten Murphy Minutes Approved
3. Chair Position Sharon Henault & Mary-Kate Mohlman, Co-Chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharon reminded members that there is an open chair position which Mary-Kate is filling in temporarily. Discussion ensued and the idea was raised that an appointment could be made for a shorter term. Kirsten Murphy said that she would be willing to step in through June. 	Motion to appoint Kirsten Murphy as chair from now through June 2025. Motion: Mary-Kate Mohlman Second: Dale Hackett Approved
4. Draft MEAC Bylaws Zack Goss, Director of Customer Communication (DVHA) Jennifer Rotblatt, Administrative Services Coordinator (DVHA) Conor O'Dea, Health Care Assistant Administrator (AHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zack gave the background on the CMS rules that establish the Beneficiary Advisory Committee (BAC) and Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) Member asked to define beneficiary for purposes of the committee, and it was explained that it includes current Medicaid members, caregivers of Medicaid members, and past Medicaid members. It was clarified that an exchange beneficiary who has not previously been on Medicaid would not be eligible to serve on the BAC, but could serve on MEAC. Zack explained that there will be two sets of bylaws established, one for MEAC and one for BAC. They will be very similar, but each committee has autonomy. He focused on three sections of the bylaws: 	

- term requirements,
- ex-officio members, and
- chair appointments.
- The balance between the committees was brought up. Conor noted that CMS anticipated this and specified that the BAC must meet before the MEAC in order to have a chance to identify topics that will also be brought to MEAC.
- Zack presented the composition of the committee and the membership terms. He explained that one big change is that members are no longer able to serve consecutive terms. This change would not affect ex-officio members.
- Sharon Henault noted that the ex-officio members will help ensure important perspectives are not lost when terms end.
- Zack noted that ex-officio members are non-voting members who can serve as chairs.
- Discussion ensued.
- Member asked if there is language around the diversity of experience of the BAC members on the MEAC. This has been discussed while drafting the bylaws and thinking about recruitment, but not specified in the bylaws.
- Question was raised about ex-officio members and whether or not they can vote. The understanding is that they could not, but further research will be completed to confirm.
- Discussion on the meetings and the barriers that BAC members may have to attending multiple meetings.
- Member brought up the need to plan for accessibility for all members such as using plain language.
- Discussion ensued on ex-officio members and voting. It's important to have the input from these groups and it can be hard for small organizations to have enough staff to cycle through membership as terms expire to ensure the representation is there. Having a voice through voting is also important to members.

<p>5. Commissioner's Office Update</p> <p>DaShawn Groves, Commissioner (DVHA) Adaline Strumolo, Deputy Commissioner (DVHA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Report of Medicaid Enrollment has been posted, around 170,000. • Data showed that less than 2% of those affected by the unwind were children. • Open enrollment begins 11/1 and a lot of outreach has been shared on plan mapping and silver loading, as discussed in prior meetings. • DVHA is hard at work on marketplace affordability study as required by legislature in the last session. An outline of this report will be shared at the next MEAC meeting. • Mike shared that the HCA is actively outreaching about this open enrollment period and communicating about the differences this year. 	
<p>6. Medicaid Director Update</p> <p>Monica Ogelby, Medicaid Director Ashley Berliner, Healthcare Policy Director</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashley explained that they are in the middle of 1115 waiver amendment. Currently negotiating a request VT made in April to pay room and board for medically necessary residential treatment facilities. • She asked that members write letters of support to send to CMS for this request this week. • Monica shared about Act 119, passed in May 2024. This Act requires AHS to engage with stakeholders about the current structure of AHS and make recommendations to reenvision or restructure. • She asked members to give feedback on approaching and engaging stakeholders. Discussion ensued. 	<p>Next meeting agenda: Vote will be called to endorse the 1115 waiver amendment request to cover room and board for medically necessary residential treatment facilities.</p> <p>Further presentation and discussion on Act 119 requirements.</p>
<p>7. Public Comment</p> <p>Sharon Henault & Mary-Kate Mohlman, Co-Chairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharon Sterns shared her personal experience in shared guardianship for an adult autistic family member and asked for guidance. • Members responded and helped connect her with resources after the meeting. 	
<p>8. Final Committee Discussion</p> <p>Sharon Henault & Mary-Kate Mohlman, Co-Chairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neil brought up voting versus consensus for ex-officio members in regard to the draft bylaws. 	<p>MEAC member application: Advisory Committee Members Department of Vermont Health Access</p>

<p>9.Adjourn</p> <p>Sharon Henault & Mary-Kate Mohlman, Co-Chairs</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 12:14 PM.</p> <p>Next meeting December 2, 2024.</p>	<p>Motion to Adjourn: Neil Allen</p> <p>Second: Mary-Kate Mohlman</p> <p>Approved</p>
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