



AGENDA+NOTES

Kansas Community Health Worker Advocacy & Sustainability Committee

Goal:

Meeting Date: 08.15.23
Meeting Time: 1:30 pm
Location: Virtual Meeting

Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs:
 Julissa Soto, Ricardo Ortiz

Sustainability Committee Co-Chairs: Dr. Mariah Chrans and Brenda Medina

Attendees Present: Mariah Chrans, Guadalupe Treadway, Manny Guzman, Jackie Catron, Sarahy Soriano, Kaitlin Woods, Ricardo Ortiz, Birgit Lemke, Kelsey Lipkea, Kelly Nightengale, Alma Lopez, Julissa Soto, Diana Hernandez, Susana Hernandez, Treva Smith,

WSU CEI Support: Alissa Rankin, **Diana Lady** (Facilitator)

	Topic	Discussion
1.	Welcome	Checking in
2.	Old Business	<p>Business Case update: Dr. Mariah Chrans – No updates provided.</p> <p>Advocacy Subcommittee – exploring video ideas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to make short, fun videos on what a CHW is, what they do, what a deductible is, what co-insurance is, etc. • Identified software to use to create the videos. • Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ https://ksassist.org/how-health-insurance-works ◦ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tfK89Yuyas <p>The team brainstormed ideas for new videos:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHW certification • How an employer will benefit from having a CHW • How patients will benefit from having a CHW • What do you do with SDOH screening information? How does a CHW address these? <p>What kind of organizations hire CHWs? (It is not only healthcare that CHWs are able to help with</p>

3.	New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome new chair members and thank former members of both committees. Julissa and Brenda introduced themselves, and members of the committee welcomed them and asked them questions to get to know them more. • Welcome Erika Saleski: She will guide us with an important conversation regarding Medicaid State Plan Amendment that allows CHWs to be reimbursed for providing services to Kancare enrollees. We hope to create awareness and also increase knowledge among CHWs. Issue 16 - 04-20-2023 Kansas Department of Health and Environment - Division of Health Care Finance Notice of Amendment to the Kansas Medicaid State Plan - 51062 (ks.gov) <p>State Amendment for CHWs in Kansas: Overview discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, Kansas Medicaid submitted an amendment request to CMS to add coverage and reimbursement for community health worker services in Kansas. Two pieces of this document are essential for understanding this change to Kansas Medicaid. One is the State Plan Amendment, which was submitted to CMS and approved on July 1, 2023. The other outlines the scope of work for CHW qualifications. CHWs under this amendment need to be supervised by these professionals: Physicians, dentists, advanced practice, registered nurses, licensed mental health professionals, and physician assistants. The services must be billed according to the providers or the provider group's national Provider identifier number. This amendment expressly excluded rural health clinics, federally qualified health centers, or Indian health centers. These organizations cannot provide community health services; they are excluded from billing. The billing provider has to maintain documentation on file of the certification of the CHWs, and they have to complete background checks as well. The time rates are in 30 min increments. They're separated by serving just an individual patient, 2 to 4 patients in a group setting, or 5 to 8 patients in a group setting; the rates are \$9.70 cents for 30 min for an individual patient. \$4.60 cents per patient when serving 2 to 4, and then \$3.43 cents per patient when doing 5 to 8 at one time. <p>Questions from some of the committee members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How would this work with events? For example, if we work with 300 families on operation backpacks for kids or any distribution for families in the community. Is this amendment excluding this type of activity? • Answer/ For the moment, unless it's part of the clinical provider's scope of work. I don't. I don't see those being billable through Medicaid; because the people have to be Medicaid eligible, and they have to be certified, Medicaid eligible, and a clinical provider needs to bill for the service they provided. This is a good follow-up question that we can keep in mind. • Do you know if they are working on hopefully allowing fairly qualified health centers to billing Medicaid? <p>Answer/We do not know. We are. We would like to have meetings with the leadership and at KDHE to understand more of their thinking behind that exclusion. Hopefully, we will work through some adjustments; for the moment is limited to clinical providers.</p> <p>As a committee, we would appreciate any recommendations or next steps you may have for us. Please let us know how we can improve and move forward.</p> <p>Answer: Erika Saleski has done crosswalks of State Plan amendments nationally, including payment rates, and she is willing to share those with us to see how we can find a way to integrate federally quality health centers.</p> <p>A member of the coalition added to this discussion the importance of making the distinction between the KDHE division of healthcare finance and the Section of CHW also from</p>
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		<p>KDHE; these are two different departments at the same state agency KDHE but there are not connected. One key aspect to get us moving forward is to demonstrate with data the community groundwork we discussed today in this specific group at KDHE of division of healthcare finance so they can see the relevant work of the CHWs. This discussion will be continued.</p> <p>1) NACHW Unity Conference general update: We have a CHW awareness week: https://nachw.org/nchwaw/ From August 28 to September 1, 2023.</p> <p>2)"We are born, not made" CHW Anthem. This was created by a group of CHWs from different states: Here is the link https://youtu.be/rUIILmOCizQ</p> <p>3) A CHWAW toolkit link see here: https://nachw.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/CHW-Awareness-Week-Toolkit-NACHW.pdf</p>
4.	Tasks	Diana will send the notes and the slides to everyone.
5.	KDHE Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kansas City Regional CHW Collaborative – Spanish webinar on Maternal Health on 8/17/23. • The 2023 Heartland Conference on Health Equity and Patient-Centered Care will be held at Children's Mercy Park on September 13 - 15, 2023. Children's Mercy Park is home to Sporting KC and the Kansas City Legends Outlets. (Venue & Hotel) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Apply for Scholarship Here: https://www.kcheartlandconference.com/heartland-scholarship-information.html <p>Submit a proposal to the Call for Proposals here: https://www.kcheartlandconference.com/call-for-proposals.html.</p>
5.	Other Community Updates/Announcements	

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	Adjourn	

Next Meeting Date, Place, and Time:

The Advocacy & Sustainability Committees meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 1:30p-2:30p (Virtual Meeting)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 19, 2023,

Current Meeting Agreements

Who	Will do what	By when?

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WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY | *Community Engagement Institute* | 1845 Fairmount Street | Wichita, Kansas
67260-0201 Tele: (316) 978-3843 | toll-free: 1-800-445-0116 | fax: (316) 978-3593 | web:
www.communityengagementinstitute.org