ECONOMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE AGENDA

September 9, 2020 from 12:00pm-2:00pm

Co-Chairs- Trish Baker, Davidson County

Catherine Lytch, Brunswick County

Angie Karchmer, Gaston County

Will Wakefield, Caldwell County

**Please register for September 9, 2020 ECONOMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Link will open at 11:45am**

[**https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6238485349205573903**](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6238485349205573903)

**Attendee Access Code: 788-127-925**

**Dial-in Number: 631-992-3221**

Welcome and introduction

**Food and Nutrition** David Locklear 20 mins

* Energy Program and telephonic signature

LIEAP overview – one-time payment. State will issue auto payment for household for LIEAP payment last year and currently receiving FNS as well as looking at individuals who are disabled, received LIEAP last year and currently receiving FNS. Sent notice out to these households asking to updated county on anything changes such as primary heating source or account number. The notices will be sent out around November 16th. State will issue payment for this group of individuals. This will decrease lines at counties. Counties will still have to process payment as counties did it last year for the one-time payment.

* NCACDSS leadership will discuss if counties should/will have to take/accept applications in December for the priority group for individuals who did not receive automatic payment.
* How will/can counties serve this population without people making application in person? Counties will need to develop a plan if not taking in person applications at the office.
* Counties do have the option conduct telephone interviews and telephonic signatures.
* Automatic payment is not an additional payment. It will be one-time payment.

Telephonic Signature for Energy programs will be ongoing (USDA only approved telephonic signature for FNS through December 2020). Energy and FNS programs are administered by different federal partners. USDA requires for recording of telephonic signature authorization but have currently made an exception due to COVID. Please review admin letter that was recently sent to counties.

DSNAP – state received approval for mass replacements of benefits for households in 11 counties impacted by Hurricane Isiais. The benefits will be placed on beneficiary FNS cards tonight. DCDL issued 9-8-2020 with information.

State still working with 5 counties on DSNAP online application. More information will be shared at these months 100 County Call.

USDA approved supplements up to maximum allotment for the month of September. Will also request for October as well.

**Medicaid Fraud- County Protocols** 45 mins

* Rutherford County- Rebecca Kennedy

2 workers in PI, developed excel workbooks with policy and links to policy and OST responses, keying op payment period in with correct PDC is crucial, Medicaid budgets in the workbook, as well as overpayment calculations. Has shared folders for PI which includes old income limits and time standards from past yrs., and demand letter templates using mail merge and data warehouse rpt.

Needs: how to take cases to court, training for DA and LE, more state training by the state, legal advice and guidance to counties from the state, demand letters – generated by the state

* Buncombe County- Philip Hardin and Chris Heaton –

4 PI and IMCI and Sup – all cases in one note,

Need: LE and DA willing to pursue, local fair hearing policy – not enough info, Medicaid PI forms and info not as available,

* Gaston County – Kim Davis

Need: More State training

**Medicaid Fraud- DHB** Betty Dumas-Beasley, Angela Saddler, June Lockett 35 mins

Program Integrity Requirements and important steps to think about

* PowerPoint presentation
* OCPI – Office of Compliance and Program Integrity –
* Recipient on review – Pondera report – identifies potential issues. Counties should be working this. Claims are held 20 days, awaiting county response to the Pondera rpt.
* Every county should have a fraud plan. Each fraud plan should have a mission statement, how complaints will be addressed, process time and address prepayment, ADH and prosecution.
* Intentional Program Violation
  + ADH vs Prosecution
  + Suggested conditions for court action: criteria for prosecution, number of false statements, value of overpayment to be prosecuted & procedure to follow to refer for prosecution
  + Approval for Prosecution Recombination – who approves this in your county?
* Best Practices:
  + Timely assignment of referrals
  + Time Management – if staff not assigned to PI activities full time, set time/day aside each week to work PI cases
  + Processing Time Frames: work referrals in a reasonable time frame (e.g., six month, 12 months), do you have an existing backlog – develop a plan to vet cases and a plan to work a minimal number of cases from back log each month
  + Training – eligibility for PI staff, periodic fraud training to educate eligibility staff, quarterly regional fraud network meetings, state training & PI supervisors/managers have quarterly meetings with eligibility staff.
* NC Medicaid OCPI Contact
  + County Operations Quality Assurance Manager:
    - Betty Dumas Beasley 919-527-7739 [betty.j.beasley@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:betty.j.beasley@dhhs.nc.gov)
  + Program Integrity Beneficiary Fraud Consultants:
    - Angels Saddler 919-527-7741 Regions I and II angela.saddler@dhhs.nc.gov
    - June Locklett 919-527-7742 Regions III and IV June.lockett@dhhs.nc.gov