



INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC)

FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS

Fiscal Committee Agenda & Minutes

January 22, 2020

10:00 A.M.

Members

Dana Hutchings, Chair
Christopher Keck, DCS

Public Members

Amber Neubauer
Leo Huppert
Kristin Mancuso
Michele Knowlton-Thorne

Staff

Alicia Amundson
Jeremiah Hale
Lisa Casteel

1. Call to Order : 10:06 A.M.
2. Discussion Items/topics
 - a. Service Coordination Billing Approach -
Lisa : Received Dana's data request from Annie - Focus points for data are: All service coordination activities in IPP; average units per child, SC non direct activities for ongoing children, direct SC activities for ongoing. Home setting would be considered direct, Team Conferencing Billing would be considered non-direct or actually removed would be better. Team Conferencing will be separated out.
Dana: Suggested to bring in an additional AzEIP member to ensure ideas are feasible, someone from program or DTS teams. That would be a later step.
Also sending out surveys to all providers to ensure nothing was missed.
 - b. Membership for fiscal committee -
Dana: Reached out to Katie may have another individual interested.
 - c. FOCUS Authorization Issues -
Kristin: An urgent concern - Increase in allowance during COVID19 for team lead for non direct, but the increase is not recognized in FOCUS and we do have denials. How do we get these paid?
Lisa: I have a meeting next week with the AzEIP Fiscal team to start laying groundwork for fixing the system push pull. Beth Farber reached out to leadership to implement into FOCUS. I will follow up with Beth and provide an update to ICC Fiscal Committee.
Leo: Concerned with one year rule passing before these denials not being paid on time.

d. Rate Rebase needs -

Dana: Data Needed.

Leo: Yes, we need to schedule meetings with legislators but we first need data on the number of children and families residing and serving in the 22 regions to be able to present to legislators.

Kristin: I sent Annie and Alicia a request for data pulled using the zip code and contractor to quickly identify how many children are served in whole by AzEIP providers in various districts. Will follow up with them.

Michele: I'm working with senator Bowie legislative district 18 on the rate rebase needs. His questions are: How does Arizona compare to other states? Data showing how much money is being spent on each child? Any data showing how it's broken down?

Lisa: Will follow up with the AzEIP team for the data. Is child ID needed?

Dana: Adding Child ID is okay if it doesn't go against FERPA or HIPPA

Lisa: It sounds like just a count of children in each zip code is needed.

Michele: Do you have rates and numbers on turnover rates of therapists within AzEIP programs? Data on the number of open positions these agencies have and aren't able to fill due to rates so low and low pay.

Jeremiah: Yes, we conducted surveys and gathered information on turnover in September early October. I will put something together without contractor information to present.

e. COVID-19 Funding -

Jeremiah - AzEIP has been having this discussion within DES and leadership. Last week it was brought up to the governor's office. Data presented showing the impact due to COVID19 towards our providers. Once we have additional information we will share.

f. AHCCCS and new contract with Mercy Care -

Dana: I reached out to Judy, who is willing to meet with us. Will invite her to our next ICC Fiscal Committee meeting.

Leo: When there is a rate increase, how will that impact what AHCCCS is doing and all the AHCCCS programs and how will they be linked together?

Dana: Definitely can bring that up with Judy.

Kristin:

-CMDP has made some changes and is no longer requiring prior authorization which has impacted us when working with denials and I know early intervention is excluded from that which was included in the CMDP email. Hoping we can work with CMDP and our providers to get a working system with denials? Hopefully MCH is processing those requests.

- Whenever submitting a new request for authorization, Mercy Care is asking how many units do we have and why didn't we use all of them? They usually give us an authorization that doesn't match the IFSP. This is becoming more of a challenge where previously they would authorize our new request. It would be helpful if they would match our IFSP.

Dana: We can ask Judy about this information as well.

g. Family Guide to Funding -

Lisa: Still on hold.

- h. Parking Lot Items
 - i. Budget Information Request
 - ii. Fiscal Spending for Part C Funds
 - iii. Technical Assistance
 - iv. Fiscal Responsibility Monitoring

Leo: Jeremiah and Lisa, do you have any thoughts on the parking lot on anything coming out the survey and you want us to focus on?

Jeremiah: I would like to have a debrief afterwards on our gaps. We already have fiscal monitoring procedures being implemented. Part of that debrief might be on what we are already working on and incorporate that into a plan on what our priorities are for the coming year to fill in those gaps.

Lisa: Great idea to complete that process and present it to the ICC Fiscal Committee along with our priorities and areas where we can get support from this committee.

- 3. Action/follow-up -
 - a. Michele: Would like to add parking lot items: additional funding sources
 - b. Lisa: Follow-up with Beth Farber on supporting AzEIP providers with authorization issues in FOCUS
 - c. Lisa: Follow up on the status of the data request for child count by provider and zip codes.
 - d. Jeremiah: Put together a summary of Turnover data from the recent survey to share with the committee
 - e. Dana: Follow up with Judith Walker from AHCCCS and invite her to an upcoming ICC Fiscal Committee meeting.
- 4. Public Comment -
None.
- 5. Schedule Next Meeting -
Thursday, February 25th @ 1:00 P.M.
Thursday, March 25th @ 1:00 P.M.
Thursday, April 22nd @ 1:00 P.M.
- 6. Adjourn : 11:07 A.M.