



# Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) for Infants and Toddlers

## ICC Fiscal Committee Minutes

Thursday, May 18, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

### Minutes

1. Call to Order 10:02 am
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Read Public Member Notice
4. Minute Approval from March 23, 2023, meeting

Leo made a motion to approve the minutes. Jenee seconded the motion. Approved

#### 5. Discussion Items/topics

##### A. AHCCCS issues

- a. Going better, but continuing having AHCCCS issues. Lauren noticed getting paid the old AHCCCS rate any claims after October 1st 2022 getting paid AzEIP AHCCCS fee prior to Oct 1st 2022. Leo asked if it was specific to a particular health plan and she identified MercyCare. The health plan representative on the committee shared some tips and things that have helped to resolve issues from their perspective. The cross match and the AMSR are both needed to identify children as being AzEIP. Is there a way the providers can assist? Checking the AHCCCS health plan from the provider side. Jenifer states if anyone received the updated list but they do have someone assigned on any claim discrepancy. Jenifer has already notified Rise so if anyone has a contact person and will look into that and process it. Kelly stated that getting that list of data with AzEIP helped a lot knowing the child is with AzEIP because some claims were not flagged as AzEIP. Kelly stated that working with Annie helped a lot and getting those corrected. Kelly stated to Jenifer to reach out to Annie to assist with those claims Annie could help. Jenifer states that when she processes any claims discrepancy whether it is Rise or Desert Valley, Jenifer makes sure that she processes the child and the approval in place to ensure they get AzEIP rate. It was found that many numbers don't have the approval to never receive requests and so that made issues because the AzEIP rate was not paid because the child is not listed as AzEIP. AHCCCS could look into the data to help identify. Jenifer states James did say something that wasn't ringing it up so James did a program to separate the items that can identify that they are AzEIP and pay that rate. But there are issues from providers on the list that are ones that are having issues, it wasn't a system issue it was child approval services. James receives all of Jenifer specific claims that have issues and will forward James the issues with approval in place and services are being billed within the approval timeframe and any that are not paid by AzEIP rate can nothing be done. The barrier AzEIP AHCCCS

crossmatch and getting that accurate. Lisa states that always been a bit of challenge because child name is hyphen or child has two last names, process never perfect but Annie will be contact person both provider side and health plan. Lisa and Jeremiah a way for ICC meeting in assisting to move forward and Kelley can be a big asset and what AHCCCS plan can help with the trouble plans, ICC fiscal can help with a one pager. Jeremiah states route cause haven't been working on the project directly and doesn't know what the status is of a lot of data entry so it is hard to prevent the issue to find a solution. Lisa states Annie always encourages service providers to look at AHCCCS portal and compare it with ITEAMS to make sure information matches up. They will work with Annie to come up with a tips and tricks one-pager.

B. ICC Fiscal Committee Activities to Support Quality Services

- a. Remove address through D - b & c

C. AzEIP Fiscal Responsibility and Timely Reimbursement

- a. Amber stated a subcommittee that was working on generating a letter on behalf of ICC and will be sent to Ginny. Amber stated the meeting was done once or twice. The letter is still in works and hopefully by the next meeting with more information and discussion with the committee. Jeremiah requested outstanding issues related to WellSky and shared it with Jeremiah. Jeremiah is working behind the scenes with DDD to align on where we are with outstanding issues that affect timely reimbursement. It's been a bit quiet but a month ago they had one or two issues with the provider's agency and it has been addressed. Jeremiah hasn't heard anything new or updates but doesn't know if it was closed or not. Jeremiah received a report a list from DDD log and issues and what they are fixing and timeline, they have a list of ten and 9 of them have closed and the one that is open is still an issue with claim denying rendering claim providers not identified. That is a manual fix and it will turn around in 1 or 2 days with a permanent solution a plan to come in Phase 2 wellsky updates but if any issues that hasn't received any support from DDD Jeremiah wants to compare notes and tracking so they can prepare next meeting with Ginny and make sure that we are responsive and everything is being addressed. Dana states there are still a lot of authorization that are not in FOCUS, they need to be requested to be entered, they go over to DDD SC. Dana sent an email to Patrick that is over a year old because they are not able to input in ITEAMS so they missed the timeline. Dana tried DDD Support and still hasn't been resolved. Leo stated the same with ACT. As of Jan 1st the SC are supposed to enter and not Bellen and her team. But Dana still has to send a huge list to Bellen to get added but they are missed and they are not in WellSky until Aus is in there. Once it has been addressed then they are able to be put in WellSky. Jeremiah asked about the timeline in delay. Dana stated they don't use DDD ID so she has to go in a FOCUS and look it up, send the list and wait for it to be inputted. Leo stated that with authorization even though they may be proactive they don't stick and we would have to go back in to input so its giving issues. Every provider is having issues with Authorization. It just needs to bring the right combination of people to get this look. Sylvia stated maybe suggesting Bellen to chime in and get this look into. Jeremiah will share the feedback with DDD and some of the things discussed are not on the list of big issues but I know there are things done but it prioritizes issues. Lisa stated that the subcommittee was already working on a letter with the issues being discussed. Coordinate issues and make a list for Jeremiah to take back to DDD to discuss.

Dana suggested another pass at looking at the push / pull. Jeremiah asked about the feeding code. Dana said that there is a code in there which can be used for over three. They would need to add auths for that because it comes over from ITEAMS as OT or SLP.)

D. 2023 Plans & Goals - AzEIP Support Needs

- a. Fiscal Committee Membership

- i. Amber has not been working on this. Some parents are not sure if they want to participate. If anyone has ideas please send them to Amber.

b. New Funding Sources

- i. Subcommittee for that. They met and were working on a few things but have not been able to meet again. Kelly is working on gathering some information.

c. Professional Development Opportunities

- i. Excited for the opportunity to have ARPA funds to reimburse for the cost of OAE screening training, a communication came out with details. ACT and A to Z reached out to DHS and schedule something and haven't heard anything back. Jeremiah mentioned that they may be limited in capacity in the short term and that is why we have the online option (although in-person is preferred to have actual trainers) to account for limited timeline with use of ARPA funds. Jenae: Is there any support needed for the ARPA project with U of A? Jeremiah: Not at this time. We are working through some things with UofA to ensure success of the project, potentially bringing in other DES resources and will adjust the plan if necessary.

E. Parking Lot Items

a. Legislative/Funding Issue

- i. The budget decision occurred. Shift this topic from legislative funding issues to the rate rebase study. There needs to be a discussion on how best to handle ACT in this process. This has been delayed but should be completed by the end of the year. Late for budget requests for this round but this will still be taken into account by leadership. Individual programs have their own submissions to DES in Aug and Sept and those are combined and prioritized by DES leadership to create one overall budget request. Not likely to have preliminary data for this year. It is helpful to the legislative advocacy to be a distinct program separate from DDD. We can look to the 2019 rebase to request 100% of that benchmark. Jeremiah explained how the budget process works. Jeremiah says that the rates are stable and the recent funding can potentially allow some adjustment closer to the 100%. The teletherapy rates will decrease overall cost so some of those costs would likely be shifted to increase the natural environment rate (all pending DES leadership approval and availability of funds). Dana reminded the committee that we need to continue to be sure that the AzEIP rate stays above the DDD over 3 rate because of the additional requirements and associated costs. AzEIP fiscal has advocated for that and understanding among leadership and stakeholders has increased. The rate rebase survey data is key. Providers need to share the administrative structure and how those things are billed and the overall costs. They will have that information if the providers share it in the rebase forums. Jeremiah expects the rebase study vendor to sign contract soon to begin the rebase; in the next week or so they should send out the information about setting up meetings and getting support and rally up the troops. Only four agencies participated and we were limited and we didn't get as much information as we wanted so this time we want to make sure all needed AzEIP considerations are included. Last time we invited the ACT agencies to each to participate separately so we would have more participants (14 or 15) but ended up with 5 so we would talk about a plan. Leo would like some more ideas of what AzEIP would need to do and the change in the dynamics between all agencies and size wise with all agencies. Good conversation in the first forum to take this into account to draft in the survey. Rebase is happening this summer and we should be receiving an email soon. Amber states maybe make a push and try and get rebase going send an email to encourage and talk about the importance of participating.

b. AzEIP Eligibility Changes Subcommittee

- i. Amber states still on hold for now. Will revisit until the new Part C coordinator is hired.

6. Action/follow up

- A. Send any additional WellSky challenges to Jeremiah.

- B. ICC fiscal committee will determine how to encourage participation in the rate rebase.
- C. Subcommittees will continue to work on their projects (timely reimbursement and funding resources).

7. Public Comment: N/A

8. Confirm next meeting date/time: August 17, 2023 at 10:00 am

9. Adjourn 11:13 am