



INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL (ICC)

FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS

Fiscal Committee Agenda & Minutes

August 26, 2021

1:00 P.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 1:03 pm
2. Approve Minutes from June 24, 2021 Meeting
 - a. Motion made and seconded to approve minutes from the June meeting; unanimously carried
 - b. Introductions of all those present
3. Discussion Items/topics
 - a. Service Coordination Billing Approach
 - i. Dana will request an update. Annie has been analyzing the data and working on a list of questions. AZEIP will have a response for the next Fiscal Committee meeting.
 - b. Membership for Fiscal Committee
 - i. Senator Gabaldon has joined this committee and Stacy from CCA is interested.
 - c. FOCUS Authorization Issues
 - i. The September billing results should show a significant improvement in billing denials. Background and history were shared for new members and attendees.
 - d. Rate Rebase needs
 - i. A temporary increase for providers is being implemented with one-time funding provided by America Rescue Plan Act funds. Options were discussed to encourage the legislature to add the increase to the permanent budget. Approximately half of this funding is being used for the temporary rates; the other half earmarked for Child Find, training, and technology modernization. While ICC Fiscal Committee members can lobby the legislature, AZEIP staff cannot be directly involved. Senator Gabaldon is interested in learning more and discussing the possibility of introducing legislation. The next fiscal budget is due to the governor's office in September. AZEIP is actively involved in the process

via DES. Our rates are published in the billing manual. This document is being updated to reflect the temporary increase. There will be a further update prior to October 1, 2021.

- e. AHCCCS issues including new contract with Mercy Care
 - i. Issues identified at the June meeting have been shared with Judith Walker and Dr. Tack from AHCCCS. A meeting is being planned to further discuss the issues. A survey will be developed by a workgroup consisting of Dana, Kristen, Leo and Amber for providers to capture the issues. AzEIP will support by sharing links or other avenues of reaching the survey. Rise has had some progress with their recently shared AHCCCS issues, but challenges are continuing to occur.
- f. Family Guide to Funding
 - i. The AzEIP Office is editing the document and will provide a draft to the Fiscal Committee prior to publication.
- g. Fiscal Monitoring
 - i. Fiscal Monitoring is making progress and will be finalizing shortly. The committee will continue to provide feedback on the indicators or the process. The process has been simple and much less cumbersome than originally thought.
- h. Parking Lot Items
 - i. Budget Information Request
 - ii. Fiscal Spending for Part C Funds
 - iii. Technical Assistance from national TA centers
 - iv. Additional Funding Sources
 - v. COVID-19 Funding – will be removed

4. Action/follow-up

- a. AzEIP will provide feedback on the preliminary SC billing proposal prior to the next meeting.
- b. Possible Legislation and funding solution for next year added to upcoming agenda.
- c. Senator Gabaldon requested a meeting be arranged with her office to answer any questions.
- d. Alicia will forward the provider communication regarding the temporary increase to the committee.
- e. The AzEIP Office will continue refining the Family Guide to Funding brochure. The final draft will be provided to the Fiscal Committee prior to publication.

5. Public Comment

- a. None

6. Schedule Next Meeting

- a. Committee members prefer to continue meeting monthly, preferably the same week as the ICC committee.

7. Adjourn at 1:56 p.m.