

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
New Jersey State Police Headquarters Complex
Public Health, Environmental and Agricultural
Laboratory Building
3 Schwarzkopf Drive
Ewing Township, New Jersey 08628

January 20, 2016
10:00 a.m.

FINAL

MEETING SUMMARY

MEMBERS PRESENT:

DEBORAH SPITALNIK, PHD, CHAIR
THERESA EDELSTEIN
BEVERLY ROBERTS
MARY COOGAN
DENNIS LAFER
WAYNE VIVIAN
SIDNEY WHITMAN

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

SHERL BRAND
DOROTHEA LIBMAN
JAY JIMENEZ

MEMBERS UNEXCUSED:

EILEEN C. COYNE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE:

Valerie Harr, Director
Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services

Transcriber, Lisa C. Bradley
THE SCRIBE
6 David Drive
Ewing, New Jersey 08638
(609) 203-1871
thelscribe@gmail.com

Slide presentations conducted at Medical Assistance
Advisory Council meetings are available for viewing at
<http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/>

ATTENDEES:

Linda Day	AARP
Lisa Eisenbud	Advocates for Children of New Jersey
Walter Nekom	Aetna Better Health
Evelyn Liebman	Alliance for the Betterment of Citizens with Disabilities
Peter Chen	Amerigroup
Christopher Bruette	Barnabas Health
Dan Keating	Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers
Roberta McNeill	CLB Partners
Alex Puma	CMH Consulting
Natassia Rozario	Community Care Behavioral Health Organization
Jason Tasches	Community Health Law Project
Colleen Wood	Disability Rights of New Jersey
Mary-Catherine Bohan	Family Planning Association of New Jersey
Kimberly Salomon	Family Resource Network
Susan Saidel	Health Care Association of New Jersey
Kate Clark	Omnicare Hospice Association of New Jersey
Elisa Cohen	Horizon NJ Health
John Indyk	Horizon NJ Health
Karen McCoy	IntelliRide
Lillie Evans	IntelliRide
Joseph Manger	Katz Government Affairs
Ryan Larson	Legal Services of Central New Jersey
Cynthia Roberts	LIFE St. Francis
Carol Katz	Medical Society of New Jersey
Gwen Orlovski	Medical Transportation Association of New Jersey
Christine Fares Walley	Medical Transportation Association of New Jersey
Melinda Martinson	Medical Transportation Association of New Jersey
Amanda Cortez	NJ Association of Health Plans
Gerald Muench	NJ Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies
Sarah Adelman	NJ Council for Developmental Disabilities
Mary Abrams	NJ Council for Developmental Disabilities
Stephanie Pratico	
Dennie Todd	

ATTENDEES:

Amanda Melillo	New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute
Tyla Housman	New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute
Selina Haq	NJ Primary Care Association
Karen Shablin	Optum
Mary Kay Roberts	Riker, Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti, LLP
Vincent Ceglia	UnitedHealthcare
Zinke McGeady	Values Into Action NJ Wellcare
John Kirchner	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Nicole McKnight	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Tara L. Porcher	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Maria Varon	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Frank Wise	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Elizabeth Marley	NJ Department of Children and Families
Frieda Phillips	NJ Department of Human Services
Syreeta Garbarini	NJ Division of Family Development
Jodie Flandinette	NJ Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services
Carol Grant	NJ Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services
Roxanne Kennedy	NJ Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services
Thomas Lind	NJ Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services
Joshua Lichtblau	NJ Medicaid Fraud Division
David Dresher	NJ Office of Legislative Services
Robin Ford	NJ Office of Legislative Services
James McCracken	NJ Office of the Ombudsman for the Institutional Elderly

1 DR. SPITALNIK: Good morning, everyone. And
2 welcome to the January 20th meeting of the a Medical
3 Assistance Advisory Council (MAAC). I know that it was
4 highly challenging for people to get through security,
5 and I appreciate your perseverance.

6 The notification for this meeting was filed
7 pursuant to New Jersey's Open Public Meeting Notice,
8 and it was transmitted in compliance with that and
9 filed with the office of Secretary of State.

10 I'm also obligated to tell you in terms of
11 the use of this building that upon the unlikely event
12 upon hearing a fire alarm or evacuation announcement,
13 please leave the building via the nearest exit and go
14 to Lamp Post No. 9 in the large parking lot.

15 Having dispensed with that, let me, in my
16 welcome to all of you, remind people of how this
17 Council has functioned and hopes to continue to
18 function, that we are deeply invested and enriched by
19 public input. We've never had to limit public input to
20 a specific time, the beginning or end of a meeting, but
21 invite the public to participate in the discussion but
22 with the ground rules that the members of the MAAC ask
23 questions or make comments first, and then we'll turn
24 to the members of the public.

25 So with that, let me ask the members of the

1 MAAC to introduce themselves. And then I'll ask the
2 public to do the same.

3 (Members of the MAAC introduce themselves.)

4 DR. SPITALNIK: Welcome members. I bring
5 regrets from Sherl Brand who is unable to be with us
6 this morning.

7 Let me ask the audience to introduce
8 themselves. Public introduce themselves.

9 (Members of the public introduce themselves.)

10 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you all for being with
11 us today.

12 Our first item of business is the approval
13 of the minutes of our last meeting, October 19, 2015.

14 Are there any comments or corrections?

15 MS. ROBERTS: Just one very, very small
16 correction on the minutes from October 19th section No.
17 22 there's a part where Liz Shea is speaking and she
18 was referring to the term non-DAC, but at the top it
19 calls top of 22 it calls it DAC.

20 DR. SPITALNIK: This is page 22?

21 MS. ROBERTS: Page 22 at the very top of it.
22 The top of that starts, "Internally we call
23 them Disabled Adult Children DACs," but the wording she
24 meant was non-DAC.

25 DR. SPITALNIK: Okay. So we'll make that

1 addition.

2 Any other additions or corrections?
3 Hearing none, may I ask for a motion to
4 approve the minutes?

5 MS. ROBERTS: Motion to approve.

6 DR. SPITALNIK: And second?

7 MS. EDELSTEIN: Second.

8 DR. SPITALNIK: All those in favor?

9 Any abstentions?

10 MS. COOGAN: I wasn't here.

11 DR. SPITALNIK: Okay. Coogan.

12 And we accept the minutes, as corrected.

13 Again, with our thanks to Lisa Bradley for her fine
14 work on them.

15 MS. MELENDEZ: Excuse me, Dr. Spitalnik.

16 The Members have to consider the June 15th minutes, as
17 well.

18 DR. SPITALNIK: The minutes of June 15th,
19 have people had the opportunity to review those?

20 Are there any comments or corrections?

21 With that, may I have a motion?

22 Dr. Whitman. Second, Coogan.

23 All those in favor?

24 MAAC MEMBERS: Aye.

25 MR. VIVIAN: Abstain.

1 DR. SPITALNIK: Wayne Vivian abstains.

2 MR. VIVIAN: I wasn't here.

3 DR. SPITALNIK: I think we have a sufficient
4 number to accept the minutes, so these are accepted.

5 And, again, with our thanks.

6 So I think we're ready to move to our series
7 of informational updates, beginning with Behavioral
8 Health Services. Valerie Mielke wasn't able to be with
9 us today, but Director Harr is going to give us an
10 update.

11 Before I turn to her, I would like to also
12 call attention to one of the items in the Governor's
13 State of the State that called for increased funding
14 for mental health and substance abuse services and
15 acknowledge the work of the Rutgers Medicaid High
16 Utilizer Stakeholder Task Force in calling attention to
17 the fact that so many of the people who are in the
18 highest 1 percent of Medicaid utilization also have
19 significant mental health and substance abuse needs.
20 So we're very excited about that and appreciative of
21 the work of our colleagues at the Center for State
22 Health Policy.

23 MS. Harr: A perfect segue. So Valerie
24 Mielke was planning to be here, and very much wanted to
25 be here, but she had a conflict. Valerie is meeting

1 with some individuals from the Substance Abuse and
 2 Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) so she
 3 provided me with some talking points. We were very
 4 excited to hear the Governor's State-of-the-State
 5 Address with so much mention of the need
 6 for treatment for mental health and substance abuse.
 7 So specifically, there was mention of recovery coaches.
 8 So the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
 9 (DMHAS) has contracted with five providers to launch
 10 the Opioid Overdose Recovery Program. There's one
 11 provider in each of the five counties, with the
 12 expectation that the provider will serve the entire
 13 county. Each award is \$255,000. The five counties
 14 where there are contracts currently in place are
 15 Passaic, Monmouth, Ocean, Essex, and Camden. The
 16 Opioid Overdose Recovery Program will utilize recovery
 17 specialists -- most of these individuals are
 18 individuals in recovery themselves -- and patient
 19 navigators to engage individuals reversed from opioid
 20 overdose to provide non-clinical assistance, recovery
 21 supports and appropriate referrals for assessment in
 22 substance use disorder treatment. The recovery
 23 specialists and patient navigators will also maintain
 24 follow-up with these individuals.
 25 So in the State of the State, it was

1 announced that the program would be expanded to six
 2 more counties. An RFP, Request For Proposals, will
 3 determine the expansion counties. So more to follow on
 4 that.
 5 Also mentioned in the State of the State has
 6 to do with reimbursement rates for mental health and
 7 substance abuse services treatment. So we're in the
 8 final phase of tweaking the continuum of substance use
 9 disorder and mental health rates. Psychiatric
 10 inpatient rates were not part of the rate study.
 11 Increased reimbursement rates will help improve access
 12 to critical services. New Medicaid and State Fee for
 13 Service rates will be rolled out. The timeline for
 14 implementation is changed for substance use disorder
 15 ambulatory and residential rates, both State dollars
 16 and Medicaid dollars, will be implemented in July 2016.
 17 Change for mental health Medicaid will be implemented
 18 July 2016, and change for mental health state only
 19 rates will be implemented in January 2017 when the
 20 mental contracts convert to Fee For Service.
 21 The Division of Mental Health and Addiction
 22 Services will convene a small stakeholder group to
 23 share proposed rates to get feedback and subsequently
 24 provider meetings will be held to share the rates
 25 with the entire provider community. We do not yet have

1 a date of when these meetings will occur.
 2 So that, again, was very positive news, and
 3 was very exciting to hear the Governor mention and
 4 highlight that in the State-of-the-State Address.
 5 One other item to note in the Address
 6 was the Governor's commitment to supporting the
 7 three certified Accountable Care Organizations (ACO).
 8 Again, these funding initiatives will have to go
 9 through the normal budget cycle, but certainly he
 10 expressed his commitment to supporting the three ACOs
 11 that have been certified. It's Newark, Camden, and
 12 Trenton. So, again, very exciting news for the
 13 Department.
 14 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.
 15 Any comments or questions for MAAC?
 16 Beverly.
 17 MS. ROBERTS: Thank you for this
 18 information. It's certainly very good news.
 19 My question relates to individuals who are
 20 duly diagnosed with developmental disability and a
 21 behavioral health challenge. Can you give any update
 22 on that?
 23 MS. HARR: I can't, really. So I think with
 24 the rate analysis, it's looking at rates and
 25 utilization. I'm not sure that anyone drilled down

1 into the individuals utilizing the services. If you
 2 would tell me what type of services, we could look and
 3 see if those services were part of the rate study.
 4 MS. ROBERTS: Well, because for this
 5 population, if someone has an intellectual disability
 6 served by the Division of Developmental Disabilities
 7 (DDD) and they have mental health or behavioral
 8 health challenge, they've been getting those services
 9 from the Medicaid health plans.
 10 MS. HARR: So the plan for moving to managed
 11 mental health, behavioral services is a different
 12 discussion, sort of the next phase of this. The first
 13 is really the increase in the reimbursement rates under
 14 the current constructs.
 15 MS. ROBERTS: I just want to know if we can
 16 put it on the table to maybe have something separate
 17 from the MAAC but a re-convening of a workgroup or some
 18 group that could look at the mental health services
 19 for the DDD population.
 20 MS. HARR: Okay.
 21 DR. SPITALNIK: Wayne.
 22 MR. VIVIAN: Valerie, regarding the 2017
 23 rollout of the Fee-For-Service (FFS), will that include
 24 the Community Support Services?
 25 MS. HARR: I believe that's already been

1 implemented. It's already underway.

2 MS. KENNEDY: The Community Services is
3 being implemented.

4 MR. VIVIAN: Will the agencies begin billing
5 in January 2017?

6 MS. KENNEDY: No, they'll begin billing
7 prior to that. We were targeting April 1st of this
8 year to begin billing. But the State-only FFS
9 will probably move in January. But the Molina
10 billing for the Medicaid individual will begin April.
11 It will follow the same track, but the State-only
12 billing with the State in January of 2017.

13 MR. VIVIAN: Thank you.

14 DR. SPITALNIK: Other questions from the
15 MAAC?

16 Questions from the public?

17 Yes. And when you ask a question, can I ask
18 you to stand up and also state your name so it can be
19 reflected in the minutes. Thank you.

20 MS. ABRAMS: Mary Abrams, New Jersey
21 Association for Mental Health and Addiction Agencies.

22 Director Harr, I was just wondering can you
23 clarify. When they roll out the ambulatory and
24 residential in July, and that was State and Medicaid
25 and the mental health Medicaid, there's no conversion

1 at that time to FFS? That's just under
2 existing contracts and rates?

3 MS. HARR: So I have here the change for the
4 Medicaid because there's already FFS
5 billing under Medicaid, so those rates will be
6 implemented in July. But the State-Only under Mental
7 Health and Addictions, because there's a need to
8 convert contracts to FFS, those won't be
9 done until six months following in January 2017.

10 MS. KENNEDY: For mental health. Under
11 addictions, most providers are already in a FFS
12 setting, so you have to clarify with Valerie Mielke.

13 MS. HARR: Right. So it says change for
14 ambulatory residential, both State and Medicaid will be
15 implemented July 2016. And that's because the
16 substance abuse services are already being billed FFS.

17 MS. KENNEDY: We can clarify with Valerie.

18 DR. SPITALNIK: Kevin.

19 MR. CASEY: Kevin Casey, New Jersey Council
20 on Developmental Disabilities.

21 I just want to emphasize Beverly's points.
22 The problem of people with development disabilities
23 having access to mental health services is a serious
24 problem in terms of talking to families and advocates.
25 It's not just a New Jersey problem. We need to look at

1 this issue nationally. But we really do need to look
2 at it in some very formal way at how we give people
3 with developmental disabilities that kind of access.
4 Thank you.

5 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

6 Other comments?

7 I think we'll ask Valerie Mielke to join us
8 at the next MAAC meeting and follow-up on these issues,
9 including the issue of dual diagnosis. Thank you.

10 It's now my pleasure to welcome Elizabeth
11 Manley who is Director of the Children's System of Care
12 in the Department of Children and Family to give us an
13 update on the Children's System of Care waivers under
14 the Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver (CMW).

15 Liz, welcome.

16 MS. MANLEY: Thank you.

17 DR. SPITALNIK: Liz, I'm sorry to interrupt.

18 We are unable to print the overheads for the entire
19 audience, but they are posted on the MAAC website
20 following the meeting at: [Http://www.state.nj.us/
21 humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/). Thank you.

22 MS. MANLEY: Thanks for having me. I'm
23 happy to be there. First change is that I did get a
24 slight promotion, so I'm Assistant Commissioner for the
25 Children's System of Care. That, for me, is exiting

1 but for Children's System of Care (CSOC), it's
2 incredibly powerful. It really speaks to work of the
3 Children's System of Care and efforts to transform the
4 service delivery system for youth with intellectual and
5 developmental disabilities (I/DD), substance use
6 challenges, as well as behavioral health services. I
7 just want to point that out.

8 As a reminder, because it's been a while
9 since I've been here, that the Children's System of
10 Care sits within the Department of Children Families
11 side-by-side with the Division of Child Protection and
12 Permanency who are really great partners in our work.

13 (Presentation by Ms. Manley.)

14 (Slide presentations conducted at Medical
15 Assistance Advisory Council meetings are
16 available for viewing at [http://www.state.nj.us/
17 /humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/).)

18 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you so much.

19 Let me ask the members of the MAAC, are
20 there questions?

21 Dr. Whitman.

22 DR. WHITMAN: I have a question. How many
23 beds are there in New Jersey for substance abuse
24 youngsters?

25 MS. MANLEY: We have close to 300 beds. And

1 we're at less than 80 percent occupancy, which is
 2 fascinating to me. We are prepared to develop more
 3 beds if it becomes necessary, but it hasn't been. And
 4 I should also just say that CSOC over the last year has
 5 made a substantial change in the way that we deliver
 6 services for youth with substance use challenges in
 7 that we, in our data and in our conversations with
 8 providers of services, we came to realize that youth
 9 with substance use challenges also almost always had a
 10 co-occurring disorder. And so there was anxiety and
 11 depression that we really needed to address. So we
 12 have re-organized the way that we deliver services for
 13 youth with substance use challenges. And we did see an
 14 increase in utilization, but it's still not a hundred
 15 percent capacity, which, like I said, just continues to
 16 baffle us. So we are looking at expansion and
 17 outpatient services, because we do know that youth who
 18 will agree to attend treatment will actually agree to
 19 outpatient service before they'll agree to intensive
 20 outpatient service. So we're trying to figure out how
 21 to connect in all levels.

22 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.
 23 Beverly, then Mary.

24 MS. ROBERTS: I want to thank you for the
 25 improvements that you've made serving children and

1 youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
 2 We've come a long way.

3 MS. MANLEY: Thank you.

4 MS. ROBERTS: A quick question on the
 5 transportation, because you had said that's sort of in
 6 process. Do you have any thoughts on when that will be
 7 available?

8 MS. MANLEY: So we're still trying to figure
 9 out what's the best actual model for that, and we were
 10 working with our providers to sort that out.

11 So I don't have a time frame on that. But we're
 12 certainly open to suggestions, because it's a complex
 13 service to provide.

14 DR. SPITALNIK: Mary Coogan.

15 MS. COOGAN: Thank you again for the
 16 presentation. I was just curious with the
 17 under-utilization of the beds, in terms of the courts,
 18 I remember being at a conference where, I guess, some
 19 of the judges were concerned about time frames or that
 20 the programs didn't go as long as they thought they
 21 should go. And I don't know if there's a lot of
 22 conversation with court staff in terms of making those
 23 connections.

24 MS. MANLEY: The length of stay is an
 25 interesting discussion. And to be honest with you,

1 we're doing a lot of work around the State for
 2 individuals in out-of-home treatment through a SAMHSA
 3 grant. The Children's System of Care received a pretty
 4 substantial SAMHSA grant to address restraint and
 5 seclusion and develop a trauma informed system of care
 6 across the board in terms of our delivery system. But
 7 length of stay is a big driver for us in terms of it
 8 not being too long. And so when the judges get worried
 9 that they can't put a youth in treatment for a long
 10 period of time, it's concerning to us because it really
 11 is a clinical necessity that drives the length of stay.

12 Having said that, let me just say that it's
 13 very easy to get into a substance use treatment program
 14 if you have a substance use disorder in New Jersey. It
 15 doesn't require a lot of -- it doesn't actually even
 16 require a child family team right now. It just
 17 requires a call and assessment by an approved assessor
 18 to ensure that the right services are provided at the
 19 correct time. Because of the complexity of a youth
 20 with a substance use challenge, we want to make sure
 21 they get into care as quickly as possible.

22 Now, the length of stay they're in care
 23 really is clinically driven and really needs to be
 24 driven by the clinicians and the team. So once a youth
 25 enters an out-of-home treatment program for substance

1 use disorder, they're actually assigned a care
 2 management. Care managers get involved. The child
 3 family team comes into play. And then you have
 4 a conversation with the clinicians who are providing
 5 treatment to that youth, as well as the folks who are
 6 going to make sure that the aftercare plan is in place.
 7 And so that gets a little complicated for our judges,
 8 but we work with our judges reporting around this, and
 9 I have folks who really spend a lot of time on the
 10 judges' report.

11 MS. COOGAN: I'm sure you do. Thank you.

12 DR. SPITALNIK: Anyone else?

13 Any members of the public?

14 Yes.

15 MS. ABRAMS: Still Mary Abrams.

16 Liz, on the beds, we just had a children
 17 practice group in yesterday, and they were talking
 18 about both the residential treatment center beds and
 19 group home beds. So I'm not sure if that 300 figure
 20 captures that.

21 MS. MANLEY: No. That's just substance
 22 abuse. That's just the substance use beds. It's not
 23 any of the behavioral health beds.

24 MS. ABRAMS: Right. But they were saying
 25 that they have a lot of empty beds, I think they said

1 for the 15 and up; but, there was a wait list for 11 to
2 15. Is that correct? And so are you looking at the
3 mix of those beds?

4 MS. MANLEY: So you bring up an excellent
5 point. To be honest with you, today, I'm not sure what
6 the data says. But I have a group of people who review
7 the data on the at-home world on a daily basis to see
8 where youth are waiting for access to treatment on the
9 behavioral health side. And so treatment on the
10 behavioral health side, it depends. It depends on what
11 intensity of service you're looking. I can tell you
12 group home across the board across the State of New
13 Jersey is not being requested at the same level that it
14 was requested in the past. And the same thing for what
15 we call a treatment home intervention. And so we look
16 at that data to try and tell part of the story. And so
17 we are in discussions with a lot of those programs who
18 rely on youth coming in. So we're looking at that
19 issue, for sure. I also anticipate that that's going
20 to change substantially over the next four years, as we
21 work on the SAMHSA grant and include the six core
22 strategies, which is an evidence based practice for all
23 for residential treatment programs. So I think life on
24 the residential side is going to be really interesting
25 for providers over the next four years.

1 DR. SPITALNIK: Anyone else?

2 Thank you again, Assistant Commissioner.
3 Congratulations on that new title and on the SAMHSA
4 Grant and all the work that's being done in the
5 Division.

6 MS. MANLEY: Thank you.

7 DR. SPITALNIK: Our next presenter on
8 Managed Long Term Services and Supports (MLTSS) and the
9 National Core Indicator is Deputy Commissioner Lowell
10 Arye.

11 It is with deep regret that I announce that
12 Lowell has announced his retirement from state
13 government. And even before this presentation, on
14 behalf of all of us in the MAAC and the community
15 at-large, we want to thank you for leadership and all
16 your contributions. You'll be greatly missed.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. ARYE: Thanks, Deborah.

19 It's kind of strange since I was vice chair
20 of this MAAC group for five years. Actually, I've
21 come to the MAAC when the only people that literally
22 came to the MAAC were me and Linda Garibaldi. Nobody
23 else was there other than the MAAC.

24 So if anybody wants to know, I'm actually
25 going to Disney World. I am taking a vacation that I

1 never get to take with my wife from January 4th through
2 probably end of May. I haven't taken a vacation in
3 18 years, I think. So I'm looking forward to it. I'm
4 sure we'll chat some more. I'm not leaving for another
5 month.

6 I'm real excited to talk MLTSS, as usual.
7 But also understand that people in the nation as a
8 whole are looking at New Jersey for MLTSS for a variety
9 of reasons. One, I think we have really done a good
10 job. And I take credit on behalf of the implementation
11 team.

12 The implementation team is really an
13 incredible group of folks who have worked really hard
14 to try to get things done. We've been trying as best
15 we can with the Steering Committee, as well as with the
16 MAAC, to give you all as much data as we possibly can.
17 That's the reason you are seeing the exact data that
18 we've seen. And in fact, for the last Steering
19 Committee meeting, we actually had just seen that data
20 just a week before and tried to interpret it ourselves
21 quickly.

22 (Presentation by Mr. Arye.)

23 (Slide presentations conducted at Medical
24 Assistance Advisory Council meetings are
25 available for viewing at <http://www.state.nj.us>

1 /humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/.)

2 MR. ARYE: So I'm going to stop here because
3 Maribeth is going to take the next slide, but I'm going
4 to stop here so I can answer any questions.

5 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you so much for all
6 this information.

7 Beverly.

8 MS. ROBERTS: Thank you. I really
9 appreciate the data and that there was information on
10 the 0 to 21 and Private Duty Nursing (PDN), so thank
11 you very much for that.

12 A quick question. When you just said about
13 the 75 percent, 25 percent with Qualified Income Trusts
14 (QITs), where would people living in assisted living
15 fit in there?

16 MR. ARYE: They're in the home and
17 community-based services (HCBS).

18 MS. ROBERTS: But in terms of QIT, do you
19 think that they would be lumped in with the 75 percent?

20 MR. ARYE: No. They're in the 25 percent
21 because that's part of the HCBS.

22 MS. ROBERTS: Okay. But you don't know
23 percentage-wise how many there are?

24 MR. ARYE: No, we don't.

25 MS. ROBERTS: Okay.

1 DR. SPITALNIK: Mary.
 2 MS. COOGAN: I just want to thank Lowell. I
 3 think I've learned a lot from you. And have fun in
 4 Disney.
 5 DR. SPITALNIK: Other comments or questions?
 6 From the public?
 7 Yes, Gwen.
 8 MS. ORLOWSKI: Hi. Gwen Orłowski, Central
 9 Jersey Legal Services. I'm going to echo, but first of
 10 all, thank you, Lowell, for all of your service and all
 11 of your really hard work on MLTSS. It's very much
 12 appreciated. So thank you.
 13 I have a question on private duty nursing.
 14 I don't know if you want to go back to those slides.
 15 DR. SPITALNIK: It's 0 to 64 old MLTSS
 16 population?
 17 MS. ORLOWSKI: Right. So the question I
 18 have goes to both slides. When you're talking about
 19 the percentage and number of people 0 to 64 getting
 20 private duty nursing services, are you distinguishing
 21 between those who are getting Early and Periodic
 22 Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) private duty
 23 nursing versus private duty nursing MLTSS?
 24 MR. ARYE: No. EPSDT has nothing to do with
 25 this. We are not talking at all about EPSDT. This is

1 just folks who are in -- EPSDT is a state plan service.
 2 We're only looking at people who are in need of private
 3 duty nursing because they're in the MLTSS world.
 4 MS. ORLOWSKI: I just want to make sure I
 5 understand. So I'm going follow-up on that. So in the
 6 numbers that you gave in this presentation, there are
 7 people 0 to 64 who are on MLTSS who are getting private
 8 duty nursing. Some subset of those people are under
 9 the age of 21?
 10 MR. ARYE: Correct.
 11 MS. ORLOWSKI: You're not breaking -- when I
 12 read the PDN waiver service, it says people under 21
 13 have to first maximize EPSDT to before they get MLTSS.
 14 MR. ARYE: Right.
 15 MS. ORLOWSKI: So I'm trying to understand
 16 where those people are and how they're reflected in
 17 these numbers.
 18 MR. ARYE: They're not. They're completely
 19 outside. If they need other MLTSS services in their
 20 level of care, they'll get it. But if they're needing
 21 PDN, it's under EPSDT under the State Plan?
 22 DR. SPITALNIK: I want to comment on Gwen's
 23 point. And we're so appreciative of the data that's
 24 been generated, but I think one of the next generation
 25 of issues about the data is the shift, the rebalancing

1 and finance is extremely important, but we also need to
 2 drill down to the numbers of people and where people
 3 are getting services because of the concerns about
 4 issues like private duty nursing. So I realize that
 5 there are limitations in the way the data is presented.
 6 But I think going forward, we also have to look to
 7 shaping questions based on the types of services people
 8 need and then how the funding supports that. So we are
 9 greatly appreciative of this, but trying to understand
 10 the private duty nursing issue independent of payment
 11 and similar issues that were raised last time about 0
 12 to 64, I think it's our next generation of data
 13 questions for the Division as a whole and for the
 14 Department as a whole.
 15 Other questions for this part of the
 16 presentation?
 17 Lowell, thank you so much. And we'll turn
 18 to Maribeth. And if Maribeth's presentation raises
 19 questions that we want to re-raise, Lowell, I know
 20 he'll be happy to respond.
 21 MR. ARYE: Always.
 22 DR. SPITALNIK: Maribeth Robenolt, welcome.
 23 MS. ROBENOLT: Thank you.
 24 Good morning, everyone. What I'm going to
 25 present to you is the information -- the first three

1 slides are information that is reported by the managed
 2 care organizations (MCOs). This is self-reporting by
 3 the MCOs.
 4 (Presentation by Ms. Robenolt.)
 5 (Slide presentations conducted at Medical
 6 Assistance Advisory Council meetings are
 7 available for viewing at [http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/.](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/))
 8 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you so much, Maribeth.
 9 Questions from the MAAC?
 10 Hearing or seeing none, questions from the
 11 public?
 12 Gwen.
 13 MS. ORLOWSKI: Hello again, Gwen Orłowski,
 14 Central Jersey Legal Services.
 15 First of all, thank you very much. This is
 16 really, really critical data. I think data that we've
 17 all been looking forward to since the get-go. I cannot
 18 process it all in the course of that presentation, but
 19 I have a couple of general comments. And I certainly
 20 would welcome the opportunity once I can digest it to
 21 perhaps give a little bit more feedback.
 22 The first thing is, while this is excellent,
 23 a couple of times advocates have noted that the really
 24 critical data from our perspective on appeals and fair
 25

1 hearings is what happened in the first six months
2 of the implementation of MLTSS from July 1 to December
3 31, 2014. The reason for that is that every
4 single person who transitioned from the waivers to
5 MLTSS had to be assessed in that period. So we think
6 that probably those numbers might show higher appeals,
7 fair hearings, than that which came after. But I
8 understand you worked excellently with what you had.

9 The second sort of general observation. And
10 this is not just myself. I've talked to other
11 advocates about this. We're a little bit concerned
12 that to the extent people are encouraged to either
13 withdraw their appeal or their fair hearing, that that
14 isn't being represented in the data. And so just
15 thinking prospectively how we make sure we capture
16 people who filed a fair hearing, then there was a
17 resolution, is that really being captured, or they
18 filed an appeal?

19 MS. ROBENOLT: The data I presented here was
20 all the fair hearings that were filed. Many of those
21 were withdrawn, of the stats provided.

22 MS. ORLOWSKI: Okay. Great. Thank you.
23 That will be helpful.

24 Then just one last brief overview comment.
25 I'm a little bit surprised to see how few of the Stage

1 1 appeals and document stage 2 and then I guess to a
2 certain extent I'd be interested to know how many of
3 those Stage 2 that are upheld and up in fair hearing.
4 One of my concerns as a really long-term legal services
5 attorney is that every time my clients have to take an
6 action, they have to appeal something, they have to
7 fill out another form, they have to make another
8 telephone call and they're told no in response, they're
9 less likely to go to that next step. When you have a
10 lot of stages in New Jersey, potentially three stages
11 of appeal in a fair hearing as one of the things that I
12 know that the proposed federal regulations are going to
13 look at, and I just think we need to think about how
14 many times we're saying to people come back and ask
15 again, come back and ask again. And these statistics,
16 just quickly seeing them, seems to support that
17 anecdotal experience that I've had.

18 Thank you.

19 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

20 Yes.

21 MS. SAIDEL: Sue Saidel, Disability Rights
22 New Jersey.

23 I just have a few questions about whether
24 you have additional data with a breakdown from the
25 individual MCOs so we that can see if one MCO is more

1 problematic than others in terms of appeals.

2 Also, I'm not sure if Gwen mentioned this,
3 but the results of Stage 1 and Stage 2 appeals, and
4 that also broken down by MCO, which would be very, very
5 useful information, I think, to see.

6 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

7 Kevin.

8 MR. CASEY: Just a quick question. What is
9 the process that we go through to make sure individuals
10 and families know they have a right to appeal in the
11 first place? And how do we get information about what
12 the appeal process is? And is there any assistance
13 available for families and individuals filing their
14 appeals and things of that nature?

15 MS. ROBENOLT: The perfect segue into our
16 next presenter.

17 MR. CASEY: I was glad to do it.

18 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you, Maribeth.

19 Thank you, Kevin. That brings us to Carol
20 Grant's presentation on appeals and grievances. Carol
21 is the Chief of the Office of Managed Health Care in
22 the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services.

23 MS. GRANT: I'm going to just go through
24 some numbers. Our presentation on the acute side of
25 NJ FamilyCare. It is not as detailed as Maribeth's,

1 but we're going to try to do some better visuals for
2 future meetings, but I really want to go through some
3 of the numbers that we have. We have complaints in
4 both quality offices. There is an MLTSS Office of
5 Quality and Monitoring and we have an Office of Quality
6 Assurance that handles the other side, with the bulk of
7 our managed care members actually being dealt with by
8 that office. They have their own complaint tracking
9 database, and this is what has been recorded for the
10 quarter that's reported to you. We are actually
11 re-constructing some of our reporting, taking some of
12 the provider information out of the tables that we use.
13 And so by the next MAAC, we will probably have more
14 than one quarter that we'll be able to report on.

15 (Presentation by Ms. Grant.)

16 (Slide presentations conducted at Medical
17 Assistance Advisory Council meetings are
18 available for viewing at [http://www.state.nj.us](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/)
19 /humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/.)

20 DR. SPITALNIK: Carol, thank you so much, in
21 particular, your last point about the focus on the
22 people who are being served. We recognize that and
23 deeply appreciate it.

24 Questions or comments?

25 MR. WHITMAN: Carol, when I look at

1 dissatisfaction with dental services, has that been
2 broken down into categories?

3 MS. GRANT: We have not, it's a large
4 number.

5 DR. WHITMAN: And when you say that the
6 member gets a handbook, I must tell you that my average
7 patient does not read that handbook, so that I don't
8 think they really understand the process. And I think
9 certainly many of the members have sometimes
10 unreasonable expectations of what NJ FamilyCare is, and
11 certainly as it relates to dental. But many times
12 there are services that are denied that really should
13 be approved. I think it's a combination of both the
14 MCO and the patients for more education on what's right
15 and what's fair.

16 MS. GRANT: Thank you. I think that's a
17 fair comment. I know that we do provide some
18 additional information for individuals with I/DD, a
19 sort of making managed care work for you guide. I
20 think we updated the "Making Managed Care Work for You"
21 guide a couple of years ago. But your points are
22 valid and we will definitely take them back and see
23 what we can do.

24 MS. ROBERTS: Thank you very much. Two
25 quick questions.

1 The data that you provided, is that for the
2 first quarter?

3 MS. GRANT: It is.

4 MS. ROBERTS: So perhaps now that 2015 is
5 over, if you could provide something for all of 2015?

6 MS. GRANT: We changed some of the
7 reporting. We didn't have it ready at the time.

8 MS. ROBERTS: That would be terrific.

9 And then my next question is: The Office of
10 Quality Assurance (OQA) has been very helpful for the
11 people who knew to contact them and say that they had a
12 problem, et cetera. Is it acceptable to have the
13 information on how to reach OQA disseminated for
14 people in general?

15 MS. GRANT: You know, we've talked about it
16 a lot, and we have to make sure we have the band width
17 for 1.4 million members to contact us.

18 MS. ROBERTS: They're not all going to
19 contact you on the same day.

20 MS. GRANT: That's true. It's a fair
21 question. I think we really have to figure out how
22 would we do it so that we don't get so overwhelmed.
23 You know, every time somebody calls us, we get involved
24 and engaged and we work at that problem until it is
25 resolved. We track providers leaving because we want

1 to make sure that every member by name has a home to go
2 to if they lose a provider. I just want to make sure
3 we can do it without being unrealistic.

4 MS. ROBERTS: I know what OQA has meant for
5 the people that I know who have contacted them, and
6 plus for myself when I've contacted them on behalf of a
7 family. They're very helpful.

8 MS. GRANT: Thank you. I'll certainly share
9 that with them and they'll appreciate that because they
10 work very hard. They're nurses with velvet gloves and
11 steel-tip boots.

12 DR. SPITALNIK: Any other comments?
13 Any comments from the public?
14 Gwen.

15 MS. ORLOWSKI: Thank you so much. Gwen
16 Orłowski, Central Jersey Legal Services. Thank you so
17 much.

18 First of all, I want to say just kudos to
19 both of the quality offices. They really have been
20 excellent and responsive. I rely on them a lot and I'm
21 deeply appreciative, so thank you, particularly on
22 behalf of the clients that I serve. Ultimately, it
23 ends up making it a better experience for them.

24 Two quick comments. One is there's still a
25 problem with Notice of Actions. They're not always

1 being served, they're not being served in a timely way
2 necessarily. I'm particularly seeing a problem for
3 people who are having level of service changes in
4 nursing homes that they also require a Notice under the
5 Medicaid law 10 days in advance. This is not happening
6 in my limited anecdotal experience. And the language
7 of the Notices still to me, in some cases, look more
8 like utilization management notices as opposed to a
9 Medicaid Notice of Action. I know this is a really
10 hard thing. The federal law requires a lot. And all
11 that has to be done on a meeting level that is
12 accessible to folks. I'd be happy to talk to you about
13 it, but other states like Wisconsin, by way of example,
14 have much more simplified Notices than New Jersey that
15 work, I think a little bit better.

16 MS. GRANT: I'd be happy to have you share
17 that with us.

18 MS. ORLOWSKI: The other thing is I really
19 appreciate the site now that has the final agency
20 decisions. In the old days, we also had initial agency
21 decisions. I haven't checked it recently, but it would
22 be great if we could have both there, because
23 frequently it's that initial agency decision where you
24 see the details of the case and the finding the
25 Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) made, which obviously

1 matters to the application of law in the final agency
2 decision.

3 MS. GRANT: We'll take it back.

4 MS. ORLOWSKI: Thank you.

5 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

6 Joe.

7 MR. MANGER: Joe Manger with Horizon Blue
8 Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey.

9 Thank you so much. The stats are really
10 helpful. I want to echo what you said, and I hear Gwen
11 saying it too, it's a very complicated process.

12 MS. GRANT: It is.

13 MR. MANGER: As the regulated industry --
14 strictly just talking for Horizon right now. We
15 struggle with this every day; how would we best
16 communicate. And as Dr. Whitman notes, there's
17 something in the handbook. We put it in the newspaper
18 every year. It doesn't mean anybody reads it. And I
19 think the Division has done an excellent job of Notices
20 of Action. But with due respect -- and I've raised it
21 too -- I don't understand the Notices. So it's time
22 for us to all get together. Gwen, I like what you're
23 saying about maybe Wisconsin, but at Horizon, we always
24 like a one-pager that said, this is what we're doing,
25 this what you should do -- basically health literacy

1 has to come back into it. With regard to the Notices
2 now, a ton of calls are going to the Department of
3 Banking and Insurance (DOBI), a ton are going into fair
4 hearing. But what I'm seeing is there's less folks
5 taking advantage of the three-stage appeal process
6 which avails them right to the process, which, to me,
7 is a big concern. If we could maybe sit down and work
8 together to come up with a Notice that isn't six pages
9 long, which is what it is now. Six pages. So we've
10 got to do it a little better.

11 MS. HARR: Let me jump in. Joshua Spielberg
12 is not here, but we worked with Josh Spielberg on
13 revising the Notices. So I think that if we want to
14 revisit them, then we need to pull Josh in and other
15 folks, because the changes were made at the request of
16 Legal Services.

17 MS. GRANT: That's true. The thing is,
18 though, again, nothing stays the same. So as an issue
19 is worked out in the field, maybe this is an
20 appropriate time to say we think they can even be
21 tweaked even better than what they are now.

22 MR. MANGER: Carol, if I could just add,
23 what we're seeing in the data, and I watch it very
24 closely, there's definitely a huge increase, which is a
25 good thing. And you're probably surprised to hear

1 health plans say that, but members are taking advantage
2 of using their rights which is what we really want. We
3 don't just do health care, we also look out for
4 people's well-being. So we do see a wide variety of
5 people, so I think the Notices have done a really good
6 job of getting the word out. But I think, as the
7 gentleman said over here, where do I call? What do I
8 do first? And I think now that we've educated folks, I
9 think we can work together to steer members towards the
10 right decision for them. It's not for the health plan
11 to decide, it's not for anyone else to decide, but the
12 member or their representative.

13 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

14 Kevin Casey.

15 MR. CASEY: Just a quick suggestion on this.

16 You might look at trying some literacy reviews of some
17 of the documents you're putting out. You can get a
18 pretty good literacy review that will tell you what
19 reading level the document has and that kind of thing.
20 You might want to look at that, too.

21 DR. SPITALNIK: It's a good suggestion.

22 Although in the work that we've done with Medicaid,
23 like "Making Managed Care Work for You", the minute you
24 add a word like cardiologist, the literacy level sort
25 of jumps. So there are a lot of challenges, but it

1 does sound like it's timely to re-think both the
2 content of the Notices and their acceptability to
3 everyone.

4 MR. CASEY: So we describe the person as a
5 heart doctor in the documentation as opposed to a
6 cardiologist.

7 MS. GRANT: I think these are really very
8 good suggestions.

9 DR. SPITALNIK: Anything else on appeals and
10 grievances?

11 Thank you. And, Carol, a further topic,
12 we'll ask you to give us an informational update on the
13 dual integration.

14 MS. GRANT: Before we start doing the duals,
15 I think one of the things I was going to give you also
16 was an update on our July 15th contract. I'm really
17 pleased that we have finally been notified by the
18 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that
19 they have no further comments, questions, or change
20 requests to that July 15th contract. However, the CMS
21 central office continues their analysis of capitation
22 rate development processes used not only by New Jersey
23 but other states. And there's a possibility of future
24 questions in that regard that could result in a rate
25 adjustment by the period covered by this amended

1 contract. However, this is a State contract. We're
 2 forwarding it to the health plans. And we're going to
 3 be behave as we normally do, in terms of sharing
 4 information and other contractual-related information.
 5 I think a lot of this is an increased scrutiny and eye
 6 on the new regulations that are proposed and making
 7 sure that states have a transparent and
 8 actuarially-sound process. And we're working with CMS
 9 to get the contract finally done. We apologize for the
 10 hold-up. We normally don't post the contract to the
 11 website until it's actually finally approved.
 12 Otherwise, it's an issue if CMS wants some changes.
 13 And in the past, they've made some tweaks that have
 14 been very good. So I think this is good news. At
 15 least it feels like we're moving forward, which is
 16 good.

17 DR. SPITALNIK: Carol, thank you.

18 Are there any questions about the contract
 19 from MAAC or from the audience?

20 Thank you for that, for letting us know that
 21 information. And now we look at dual integration thank
 22 you.

23 (Presentation by Ms. Grant.)

24 (Slide presentations conducted at Medical
 25 Assistance Advisory Council meetings are

1 available for viewing at [http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/.](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/))

3 DR. SPITALNIK: Carol, thank you so much.

4 Any questions or comments about the Dual
 5 Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs)?
 6 Beverly.

7 MS. ROBERTS: Thank you very much, Carol.

8 Right now there is a voluntary enrollment into D-SNP.
 9 Is it the expectation that it will stay as a voluntary
 10 enrollment?

11 MS. GRANT: I think for the time being, yes.

12 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

13 Other questions about dual integration?

14 Carol, thank you so much for your
 15 information on those three areas.

16 We'll now look at the Comprehensive Medicaid
 17 Waiver (CMW) renewal and evaluation. And I'll turn to
 18 Director Harr.

19 MS. HARR: Thank you. Just to work
 20 backwards, our Medicaid 1115 waiver (CMW) expires June
 21 2017. The renewal application is due to CMS a year
 22 advance, so June 2016. So that is six months away,
 23 just to put that into context.

24 So what have we been doing to prepare? So
 25 for the past few months we have been meeting internally

1 with our staff and with people like Liz Manley and Ruby
 2 Goyal-Carkeek at CSOC and other individuals in other
 3 divisions in our department, or even other departments,
 4 in looking at mostly with those agencies that are
 5 responsible for an aspect of the CMW and brainstorming
 6 with them about is there anything that you want to
 7 change. This is a renewal, so we're expecting that we
 8 will renew what's in the CMW today, but we may want to
 9 make modification or add new initiatives. So we've
 10 been conducting those sessions to this point.

11 So what's next? We're a little behind the
 12 timeline here. I was touching base with Meghan Davey.
 13 Meghan and her staff is leading this effort in
 14 developing the renewal. So I still haven't seen a
 15 draft of the concept paper, so I would expect in the
 16 next few weeks that I'll have a draft. And what I'm
 17 proposing is that we would share the concept paper with
 18 the MAAC electronically. I think we'll probably post
 19 the concept paper on our website for public comment, as
 20 well, and have an e-mail box created to take feedback,
 21 but certainly want to make sure that the MAAC has it
 22 and provided an opportunity to provide feedback. Once
 23 we have all of the feedback on the concept paper, we'll
 24 make any modifications and we'll submit the concept
 25 paper to CMS. And when we reconvene with the MAAC, we

1 could share the final concept paper with the MAAC.

2 So after that point, once we have the
 3 concept paper shared with CMS and get their feedback,
 4 we will begin to prepare the full renewal application.
 5 And we will provide Public Notice of that intent
 6 application on May 1st. And again, the renewal must be
 7 to CMS by June 30, 2016.

8 From July 2016 to June 2017, we expect to be
 9 working with CMS closely negotiating the Special Terms
 10 and Conditions (STCs), developing the budget neutrality
 11 with a target approval date of June 30, 2017. That's
 12 the expiration of the current Waiver.

13 We were also asked at the last MAAC about
 14 questions about the Waiver evaluation. The draft
 15 evaluation report is due July 1, 2016, or with a Waiver
 16 renewal application. The final Waiver evaluation
 17 report is due 60 days after CMS comments. And the
 18 draft final evaluation report is due July 1, 2017. So
 19 the report is due 60 days after CMS comments.

20 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you. On behalf of the
 21 MAAC, we are appreciative of the opportunity to comment
 22 in the development of the Comprehensive Medicaid
 23 Waiver. Originally, the MAAC served as an important
 24 vehicle for stakeholder input both from the MAAC and
 25 from the community at-large. So we welcome the

1 opportunity.

2 Other comments or questions from the MAAC?

3 From the community?

4 Thank you very much.

5 We turn to you again for the update on NJ

6 FamilyCare.

7 MS. HARR: These are similar slides with
8 some updated numbers, and I'll try to move quickly
9 through these.

10 (Presentation by Ms. Harr.)

11 (Slide presentations conducted at Medical
12 Assistance Advisory Council meetings are
13 available for viewing at [http://www.state.nj.us](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/)
14 /humanservices/dmahs/boards/maac/.)

15 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

16 Any questions from MAAC?

17 Mary.

18 MS. COOGAN: I have a comment and a
19 question.

20 There was a report just recently published
21 by the Georgetown University Center of Children and
22 Families and the National Council of La Raza commending
23 the reduction in the numbers of uninsured Hispanic
24 children, and New Jersey is one of a handful of states
25 that is actually below the national average, which I

1 think goes to all the efforts of the Department but
2 also a lot of people in this room. I look at Carol
3 Grant and Heidi Smith who says there's no one answer,
4 there's no one answer to finding all the kids. So I
5 have to say New Jersey's had a public-private
6 partnership for a long time, and everybody in this room
7 and those who are not who have worked on trying to find
8 the uninsured, I think everybody should pat themselves
9 on the back. Congratulations.

10 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

11 MS. COOGAN: My other question, I guess,
12 with the 76 percent denied for failure to respond, I do
13 recall, and having looked at this for so long, there
14 was a time when we had this issue and the health plans
15 assisted in doing the reach-out.

16 MS. HARR: Yes, they are.

17 MS. COOGAN: Are they having any better luck
18 in terms of encouraging people to get a little bit more
19 proactive in filling out the paperwork?

20 DR. SPITALNIK: We'll put that on the agenda
21 for next time.

22 Wayne.

23 MR. VIVIAN: Of the people that are denied
24 for failure to respond, are they allowed eventually to
25 re-apply?

1 MS. HARR: Yes.

2 MR. VIVIAN: My only concern about that is,

3 I mean, I don't want to point fingers at the local

4 offices, the County Medicaid offices, but sometimes

5 they drag their feet, too. And they're not always as

6 timely and as responsive as they need to be, as well.

7 I wonder how many people may be denied because of some

8 action that may or may not be happening at the local

9 offices. When you go do your Medicaid review, your

10 Medicaid re-application. It's not always easy.

11 I take a lot of our consumers into that

12 process. And, you know, you may fail to bring one

13 paper or one thing, and all of sudden you'll be denied

14 and have to start the whole process all over again.

15 And it really can be very intimidating to people to

16 have to go through this process. So I wonder how

17 efficient the local offices are and what their role may

18 be in some of this.

19 MS. HARR: These cases, these were handled

20 by the Health Benefits Coordinator (HBC). But I

21 understand what you're saying in terms of county

22 welfare agencies (CWAs). We've been working very

23 closely with them to try to make improvements. And we

24 have been trying to streamline as many things as we can

25 in terms of verification. And reinforcing the federal

1 requirement that they should do an automatic

2 redetermination if the data is available.

3 So your points are all valid and we've been

4 trying to make improvements. And the counties have

5 been working collaboratively with us to do that, as

6 well.

7 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

8 Anyone else?

9 Anyone audience?

10 Yes, Paul.

11 MR. BLAUSTEIN: Paul Blaustein.

12 I'm trying to reconcile some numbers that

13 you gave out, Valerie. When you showed the NJ

14 FamilyCare slide you had an increase to covered

15 population of 434,000. But then when you went down to

16 total expansion, expanded population, you have 517.

17 I'm trying to get the meaning of the 434 and the

18 meaning of the 517. The 434 is clearly the difference

19 between the population that you showed covered on

20 December 2013 versus December 2015. I don't really

21 understand --

22 MS. HARR: I'll go back and verify it. I

23 think is net increase with the entire NJ FamilyCare.

24 MR. BLAUSTEIN: My next question is does

25 that imply that the non-expansion population actually

1 declined by that much? And what was the reason for
2 that decline?

3 MS. HARR: Meghan?

4 MS. MEGHAN DAVEY: This number is the number
5 of childless adults that increased, but we had parents
6 that were covered prior, which are part of the
7 expansion population, so that would be the difference.
8 It's about a hundred thousand.

9 DR. SPITALNIK: But isn't there a national
10 trend somewhat as the economy has gotten somewhat
11 better that there has been some decreases in people who
12 had previously --

13 MS. HARR: That is what happens.

14 MR. VIVIAN: I don't know. That number is
15 really high, that's the only reason I'm kind of
16 dwelling on this. Maybe also people didn't get any
17 benefit from it. Maybe they never used their services
18 or never needed the insurance, they weren't ill or
19 something and they figured, well, I'm not just not
20 going to bother.

21 MS. HARR: Right. And so that's what I was
22 saying. So I think the question is assuming they file
23 taxes -- I've been trying to play this out and think
24 this through. Assuming they file taxes, what happens,
25 they file taxes and they'll either need to pay a tax

1 penalty; or if they appear to be eligible, they would
2 be able to come back in and re-apply. And of course, I
3 think most people, if there's no cost sharing in
4 Medicaid in New Jersey, I'm expecting some of them to
5 come back or they're no longer eligible. I think for
6 folks that are eligible for Medicaid, I don't know why
7 they would pay a penalty and --

8 MR. VIVIAN: Maybe people just don't
9 understand how important it is. I don't know.

10 DR. SPITALNIK: Other comments?

11 Comments from the public?

12 Thank you so much.

13 And now we turn to Dr. Lind for a continued
14 update on provider credentialing.

15 DR. LIND: Good afternoon. I just wanted to
16 provide an update on our credentialing process. We're
17 very excited, actually. We have a contractor, Molina
18 Medicaid Solutions, and a subcontractor, Aperture, who
19 is going to handle our credentialing function. And we
20 have begun presenting a rollout plan to our
21 stakeholders. And we're now in the process of
22 incorporating feedback we've received with both Molina
23 and with Aperture. We're, in parallel, assembling a
24 skeleton of what will be the new credentialing system.
25 We have begun the interface. We have an interface

1 already existing with Molina, and we have now developed
2 another interface between Molina and Aperture.

3 Aperture is National Committee for Quality
4 Assurance (NCQA) accredited and will be performing the
5 function as a closed box. Molina will be incorporating
6 their data with Aperture. And the process of data
7 transfer has already begun. We're beginning our
8 fee-for-service data transfer over into what will be
9 the new system. And if acceptable at the April MAAC
10 meeting, I'd like to present a more comprehensive
11 presentation of what the new system will look like and
12 what it's going to be able to perform and what it's
13 going to look like to providers. If that's okay with
14 the members of the MAAC, I'd like to request a larger
15 chunk of time to be able to present that in detail.

16 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.

17 Any other questions at this point?

18 Any other questions.

19 Thank you. We'll look forward to that.

20 We've come to the end of the formal agenda.

21 Was there anything that anyone on the MAAC wanted to
22 add at this point?

23 We always work to set the agenda for the
24 next meeting at least, according to my notes, that we
25 would like to have more discussion about people with

1 the dual diagnosis and developmental disabilities and
2 mental health issues.

3 We wanted to hear the data, all of the FY
4 '15 data from the Office of Quality Assurance.

5 We will also spend a considerable portion of
6 our agenda reviewing the concept paper for the renewal
7 of the Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver, both the MAAC and
8 members of the public.

9 The issue of redeterminations and failure to
10 respond and we will devote a significant portion of the
11 agenda to a comprehensive presentation on the new
12 credentialing system.

13 Are there other things that people would
14 like to add?

15 Yes, Theresa?

16 MS. EDELSTEIN: Just a question. Is it
17 reasonable to think that by April we might know who our
18 new transportation broker is going to be?

19 MS. HARR: I'll give an update.

20 DR. SPITALNIK: The question was would it be
21 known who the new transportation broker is. The
22 response was we're not sure but that we will provide an
23 update on the transportation broker.

24 Any other additional items?

25 Beverly?

1 MS. ROBERTS: Could we invite Liz Shea to
 2 give an update on The Supports Waiver?
 3 DR. SPITALNIK: Okay.
 4 And I wanted to thank you -- the Division
 5 and the Department-- for the amount of information, and
 6 particularly the concern about individual members
 7 that's reflected. I do, however, want to suggest that
 8 the presentation of data reflect both numbers of people
 9 and what percentage of the population being served that
 10 the numbers represent. I think that would be helpful
 11 metrics, and I think there may be more streamlined ways
 12 of presenting the considerable amount of information
 13 that's presented.
 14 Anything else.
 15 Yes?
 16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: How about the
 17 reimbursement increases from the task force, or
 18 whatever group was going to be working on that?
 19 DR. SPITALNIK: I'm not sure what you're
 20 referring to.
 21 MR. VIVIAN: The details of the
 22 reimbursement.
 23 DR. SPITALNIK: In what?
 24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: For the Medicaid
 25 population that the Governor has just --

1 DR. SPITALNIK: For behavioral health?
 2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.
 3 DR. SPITALNIK: That was what I was trying
 4 to clarify. We'll hope Valerie Mielke will join us and
 5 talk about the reimbursement rates.
 6 Kevin.
 7 MR. CASEY: Two things. I really would like
 8 to see the MAAC continue to pay attention to and
 9 discuss grievance and appeal process. It might be
 10 helpful to invite the Division of Developmental
 11 Disabilities (DDD) and the Division of Mental Health
 12 and Addictions Services (DMHAS) and the Department of
 13 Children and Families (DCF) to come and present some of
 14 their grievance processes too so we can get some feel
 15 for that.
 16 The second, I think I'd like the MAAC to
 17 start to look at the issue, in particular in the
 18 developmental disabilities system, but I think in other
 19 human service systems too, of staff salaries. For
 20 provider staff, we're at a level of crisis on that
 21 issue. We have providers reporting that they're having
 22 25 and 30 and 35 percent staff vacancies, and these are
 23 Medicaid programs.
 24 DR. SPITALNIK: Okay. Let's figure out how
 25 to appropriately structure that. I think we're not

1 going to make a commitment to that in the April
 2 meeting, particularly given the time constraints of
 3 responding to the Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver. Thank
 4 you.
 5 Yes?
 6 MS. LIEBMAN: Evelyn Liebman, AARP.
 7 I just wanted to follow-up on a suggestion
 8 and comment Valerie made at one of the last meetings.
 9 We, too, appreciated the Governor's support for the
 10 Medicaid Accountable Care Organization (ACO)
 11 demonstration project. And, Valerie, you had suggested
 12 that perhaps we bring representatives here to the MAAC
 13 to give an update on the work that they're doing. I
 14 know that this is the year to put gain-sharing plans
 15 out for public comment, so perhaps we could have that
 16 on the next agenda.
 17 MS. HARR: They're scheduled.
 18 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you.
 19 Seeing no other hands, do I have a
 20 motion to adjourn?
 21 MS. ROBERTS: Motion to adjourn.
 22 MS. COOGAN: Second.
 23 DR. SPITALNIK: All those favor?
 24 MAAC MEMBERS: Aye.
 25 DR. SPITALNIK: Thank you all. Take good

1 care this weekend, and we look forward to seeing you at
 2 the meeting on April 20th.
 3 (Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATION

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Lisa C. Bradley, CCR
The Scribe

Date: June 1, 2016