

State Health Benefits Program
Plan Design Committee
Open Session Minutes: April 22, 2020 1:00 p.m.

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided through the annual notice of the schedule of regular meetings of the Committee filed with and prominently posted in the offices of the Secretary of State. A meeting notice was mailed to the Secretary of State, Star Ledger and the Trenton Times on December 26, 2019.

The meeting of the State Health Benefits Program Plan Design Committee of New Jersey was called to order on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. Due to COVID-19 this meeting was held telephonically.

The text of Resolution B (Executive Session) – was read in its entirety in the event that the Committee desires, at any point in the meeting, to approve a motion to go into closed session.

Acting Secretary Ludwig took Roll Call and established that a quorum was present.

Roll Call

Committee Members:

Patrick Nowlan, AAUP – AFT (Chair)

Jennifer Keyes-Maloney, Assistant Treasurer (Co-Chair)

Michael Zanyor, NJSTFA

Kevin Lyons, NJ State PBA

Justin Zimmerman, Chief of Staff, Department of Banking and Insurance

Kimberly Holmes EEO/AA Officer, Department of Community Affairs

David Kreuger, NJ FMBA

Tennille McCoy, Assistant Commissioner of Human Capital Strategies, Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Absent:

Hetty Rosenstein, New Jersey Area Director, CWA/District 1

David Ridolfino, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Dini Ajmani, Assistant Treasurer

Robert Little, AFSCME Department of Research

Also Present:

Christopher Meyer, Deputy Attorney General

Christin Deacon Division of Pensions and Benefits

Nicole Ludwig, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Andrew Lawson Division of Pensions and Benefits

Pledge of Allegiance:

Acting Secretary Nicole Ludwig led the PDC in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

DIVISION UPDATES

Assistant Director Christin Deacon provided an update regarding the Testing and the treatment of COVID-19 for the SHBP/SEHBP members. She stated that currently telehealth and telemedicine for in-network providers are being provided at no cost. She advised that Horizon now has two additional means by which telemedicine is able to be accessed by members, which are found on the Horizon website. She stated that Aetna has contracted with Teledoc for enhances telemedicine services for the Medicare Advantage population. Both R-Health and Paladina with the DCPMH population are offering telemedicine visits.

NJWell has increased its programing for members with several online resources, such as online exercise classes, and webinars. Mrs. Deacon advised that there is now a COVID-19 specific resource page on the Division's website. On this page there are several resources available along with links to the various Vendors.

Mrs. Deacon asked the PDC to please pass this valuable information onto their members, and staff.

MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESOURCE UPDATES

Binsy Francis, Rachel Goldberg and Chris Barton of Horizon presented on the Mental and Behavior Health resources which are now available to the members. Mrs. Goldberg stated that the Behavioral Health Network which consists of more than 4,000 facilities. She stated that Horizon has completed a study of the outpatient providers who confirmed that they have now moved to Telemedicine and Telehealth.

Mrs. Goldberg stated that Horizon has now launched WorkIt, a virtual substance disorder treatment program, with a brick and mortar location in Hamilton Township NJ. She also advised that Joyable, a

cognitive behavioral therapy program has also launched. Mrs. Goldberg stated that Horizon has started to work with AbleTo, which is a program designed for those members with comorbid physical and behavioral health conditions.

Committee member Lyons asked if out-of-network tele-therapy is still covered, with a co-pay. Mrs. Goldberg confirmed it is. Committee member Lyons asked Aetna if this also applied to the Post 65 population. Mrs. Kimberly Ward of Aetna confirmed that resources for living can assist the Medicare population with finding providers, as well as other services available to them.

Mrs. Francis introduced Laurie Hutchinson from My Strength. Mrs. Hutchinson explained that My Strength is offered through the SHBP and helps with mindfulness, which can help reduce stress and anxiety.

Kate Miller of OptumRx reviewed the claims that have been processed for prescriptions related to mental and behavioral health. She stated there has been a 24 percent increase of claims for Anxiety, ADHA and antidepressant medications since February. She stated there has been a seven percent increase of new mental health utilization and 21 percent of utilizers are new to therapy. She stated that the increase of claims are coming from family practice, psychiatrists and internal medicine.

OPTUMRX: REVIEW OF JULY 1, 2020 FORMULARY EXCLUSIONS

Steve White of OptumRx presented the July 1, 2020 formulary exclusions, stating that formulary changes happen twice a year: July 1 and January 1.

Kate Miller went over the July 1, 2020 exclusion list. Committee member Lyons asked if there are any medications approved for the treatment of COVID-10; Steve white said at this time there are not. Committee member Lyons thanked OptumRx for the transparency. He then stated for the record that he does not agree with the six month changes as it was not a part of the resolution passed.

Adjournment

Co-Chair Patrick Nowlan thanked the Division staff, the court reporters, especially the first responders for all the great leadership through the unprecedented times.

Having no further actions to discuss, Co-Chairperson Nowlan made a motion to adjourn. Committee member Holmes seconded the motion; all voted in favor. The meeting concluded at 2:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nicole Ludwig
Acting Secretary SHBP PDC