

MEDICAID MINUTE

from the West Virginia Association of Health Plans

Welcome to Medicaid Minute from the West Virginia Association of Health Plans. Every month you can expect our newsletter to provide you with the most up to date information about the work Managed Care Organizations are doing within the Medicaid Program and for our state. We want to serve as a resource for your Medicaid questions.

MCOs Advance Health Equity

Health equity is defined as an organization's commitment to the ideals of social justice, respect, access, and dignity.

So what does this look like for the Medicaid managed care organizations across our nation that serve millions of Americans? It means that regardless of a person's circumstances or background, everyone deserves quality healthcare. Most of the members within the managed care organizations are low-income adults, pregnant women, children, and those with disabilities. MCOs are taking steps to advance health equity, reduce health disparities and lessen the effects of social economic conditions. Here's how:

1. Combatting the COVID-19 crisis and those most impacted by it
2. Improving maternal health for women of color
3. Caring for children with complex medical conditions
4. Overcoming socioeconomic barriers to better health
5. Building strong community partnerships
6. Supporting healthcare systems in rural areas to promote equal access to care
7. Improving access to care through telehealth
8. Advancing high quality care through performance metrics and financial incentives

The American Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) published a report titled, "Care that is Fair and Just: Improving Health Equity through Medicaid Managed Care." [Click here](#) to view the report and learn more about what the MCOs are doing to improve health equity.

WV Medicaid Highlights*

Total enrollment in WV Medicaid:

574,530 members

MCO Total Enrollment:

474,616 members

SSI Enrollment:

40,735 (9%)

Expansion Enrollment:

192,492 (40%)

TANF Enrollment:

216,245 (46%)

CHIP:

18,521 (4%)

Pregnant Women:

6,181 (1%)

CSHCN:

442 (<1%)

* Data Source: DHHR report 4-1-21/5-1-21

Good News Stories

Earlier this month, UniCare Health Plan of West Virginia and Laughlin Memorial Chapel in Wheeling, introduced the "Health and Hygiene Closet" for unsheltered women. UniCare is working to build strong community partnerships throughout our state. Thank you!

