



Native American Technical Advisory Committee (NATAC)

Minutes for March 21, 2022

Time: Start 1:00pm **End:** 4:04 pm **Place:** Virtual meeting

Chair: Shelly Begay, Human Services Department (HSD) Tribal Liaison

Committee Members/Call In: Nicole Comeaux, Medical Assistance Division (MAD) Director; Shelly Begay, Tribal Liaison OOS; Theresa Belanger, MAD Tribal Liaison; Karmela Martinez, ISD Director; Dr. Neal Bowen BHSD Director; Donna Lopez, Melodee Kohler, Kim Carter, and Julie Lovato, MAD; Emily Haozous, Ft. Sill Apache; Eldred Lesensee, Indian Affairs Department; Tracy Sanchez, AAIHS; K. Dempsey NAIHS; Ezra Bayles, Taos Pueblo; Craig Sandoval, Iris Reano, Anthony Yepa, Kewa Pueblo; President Jonathan Nez, President, Navajo Nation; Kim Yazzie, Karessa Kee Navajo Nation Department of Health; Monica Vigil, Nambe Pueblo; Ed Ackron Santa Ana Pueblo; April Reuben and Patrick Aragon, Laguna Pueblo; Nathaniel Porter, Governor Nambe Pueblo; Cynthia Aragon Attorney, Children Youth and Families Department

DISCUSSION ITEM	OUTCOME	FOLLOW-UP ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON/ DEPARTMENT	EXPECTED OR REQUIRED COMPLETION DATE
I. Invocation/Introductions	A moment of silence was in place of the invocation. Introductions were done.	Completed	All	Completed
II. Review/approval of October 1,2021 minutes	No changes were voiced by the group. October 1,2021 minutes approved.	Completed	All	Completed
III. Medicaid Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative updates • 1115 Waiver Renewal updates • MCO Procurement • End of Public Health Emergency (PHE)  20220322_NATAC_Medicaid Update.ppt	Julie Lovato with the Director's Office at MAD provided updates. Legislative Updates - During this Legislative Session we received most of the funding we requested. Two bills passed – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House Bill 2 Budget bill allowing NM Medicaid to extend postpartum coverage from 60 days to 12 months • House Bill 95 Easy Enrollment which authorizes the Taxation and Revenue Department to transmit data from personal income tax filings to HSD as a pathway to enrollment in Medicaid if the individual is financially eligible or to the Health Insurance Exchange if the individual is over income guidelines for Medicaid based on their tax filing. End of Public Health Emergency (PHE) – the Biden administration has agreed to give 60 days notice prior to the end of the PHE. MAD expects one more extension from CMS which will end July 16, 2022		Julie Lovato, MAD	Next NATAC

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The unwinding will start June 2022 • States will have 14 months to unwind, but that is subject to CMS guidance. • MAD is in communication with the MCOs on this project. • Weekly internal workgroup meeting • MAD will start with individuals that we know are no longer financially eligible for Medicaid. • CMS will only allow 1/9th of the population to unwind each month • MAD will be sending out communication letters to Fee For Service (FFS) Medicaid covered individuals as well. Postcards, letters and text reminders will go out to members. • FAQs will be posted on the HSD website at https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/medicaid-back-on-track/ • There is a workgroup at MAD for Native American members that will be falling off Medicaid. <p>1115 Waive Renewal The current 1115 Waiver, Centennial Care 2.0, ends December 31, 2023. The new waiver starts January 1, 2024. The new waive needs to be submitted to CMS one year in advance for their review. There will be stakeholder meetings for the general public and for Tribes and Native Americans this spring towards the end of April 2022. MAD is working on scheduling meetings in the Albuquerque area. These meetings will be in person and via GoToMeeting.</p> <p>HSD is planning a formal Tribal Consultation in the fall of 2022 to discuss the 1115 Waiver before it is submitted to CMS. New Mexico Tribes will be given ample notice for the Tribal Consultation.</p> <p>MCO Procurement The Request for Proposals (RFP) release date is September 2, 2022 and MCO proposals are due November 4, 2022. The Notice of Intent to Award will go out to the MCOs that are selected January 16, 2023.</p>	<p>Question: How are the I/T/Us going to be involved with this process?</p> <p>How many Native Americans will be falling off Medicaid? Shelly and Theresa will provide that information once it is available</p> <p>Is MAD going to be working with the school systems (Theresa sent out the campaign “Back on Track” to NATAAC after the meeting</p>	<p>Medical Assistance Division (MAD)</p> <p>Theresa Belanger/ Shelly Begay</p>	<p>Next NATAAC</p> <p>Next NATAAC</p>
<p>IV. Kevin S. Update</p>  <p>Overview of Kevin S ICWA 3.2022.pptx</p>	<p>Cynthia Aragon, CYFD General Council provided an overview of the Kevin S. Lawsuit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal lawsuit filed on behalf of 14 plaintiffs in 9/2018 • Lawsuit settled 3/2020 • Doesn't involve children in Tribal custody. These are Native American children in State custody. 		<p>CYFD, Cynthia Aragon</p>	<p>Next NATAAC</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICWA (Indian Child Welfare Act) preferred placements – Native American foster home with least restrictive setting within reasonable proximity to the child’s home • ICWA was introduced in the 2021 legislature and again in 2022 • Passed in 2022 – renamed Indian Family Protection Act (IFPA) • Effective date July 2022 • HSD and CYFD will pursue maximum Title IV-E federal funding for traditional and culturally responsive treatment. <p>Questions for Cynthia “When a child is taken out of a family, who’s responsibility is it to inform ISD?” Answer: Currently it is the responsibility of the caretaker. Craig Sandoval – Kewa Family Wellness Center Santo Domingo Pueblo has a culturally relevant emergency shelter. Can they be part of this? Cynthia responded that CYFD hasn’t gotten to the licensing process yet for culturally relevant emergency shelters Emily Haozous asked when CYFD presents this information to Tribes, please make the information understandable to the lay person.</p> <p>NATAC plans to keep this topic on the agenda for future NATAC meetings. VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) is doing a survey on why it is difficult to get Native American resource families (foster families)</p>			
V. Behavioral Health Update	<p>Dr. Bowen was unable to present at today’s NATAC so Shelly Begay provided the BHSD update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 988 will be implemented July 2022. The number 988 will be used instead of 911 for mental health and behavioral health emergencies using trained staff to respond • We are also developing a mobile crisis unit in the future in certain areas of NM • There is a Tribal workgroup comprised of Tribal EMS, police, firefighters, and behavioral health providers • Text campaign for the 988 initiative – separate meetings for the larger stakeholder group and also a Tribal work group 	None	BHSD, Neal Bowen	Next NATAC
VI. Income Support Division (ISD) Update	<p>It is important for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) participants to complete their interim reports and recertifications. The SNAP emergency allotment may expire between now and the end of the PHE. Current allotments are through May 2022. There will be a \$95 SNAP decrease in households per month (at least).</p>	None	ISD, Karmela Martinez	Next NATAC

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		on that at the next NATAAC.		
VIII. Closing, meeting cadence for 2022	Shelly discussed the following meeting cadence for NATAAC for 2022: June 13 or June 21 September 19 December 19 Theresa will send out an email regarding which date the NATAAC prefers for the June meeting. Meeting adjourned 4:04 pm	Send agenda and attachments prior to meeting	Theresa Belanger MAD	Next NATAAC

Respectfully submitted:

Theresa Belanger

April 5, 2022