Medicaid Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Monday, Nov. 3, 2025
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Attendees: **MAC members** – Andrew Peterson, Arika E. Sánchez, , Elizabeth Hamilton, Gabriel Parra, Gary Housepian, Gina Deblassie, Jeramiah Jedd Raney, Larry Martinez, Laurence Shandler, Lex Garcia, Maggie McCowen, Meggin Lorrino, Nancy Rodriguez, Rodney McNease, Ruby Ann Esquibel, Trey LaFleur, Troy Clark, Samantha Barncastle (BAC), Donna Naclerio (BAC), Nancy Smith-Leslie, Vicente Vargas, Yvette Ramirez Ammerman

State staff – Heidi Capriotti, Dana Flannery, La Don Woodson, Alysia Beltran, Alanna Dancis, Jennifer Rodriguez, Tallie P. Tolen, Kristie Brooks, Kristen A Borderswood, Trisstin Maroney, Melanie Buenviaje, Jennifer Williams, Deanne Tapia, Erica Leyba, Victoria M Sanchez, Kresta Opperman, Christie Guinn, Jeannette Gurule, Erica F Cerno, Renee Martinez, Lorrina Rivera, Robert Kenney, Erika Price, Nick Boukas, Keenan Ryan, Carlos Ulibarri, Jennifer Jaramillo, Erica LeRouge, Jeanelle C Romero, Jarel LaPan Hill, Michal Hayes, Matthew Isiogu,

MAC members not in attendance – Anthony Yepa, Bruce Gilbert, Cynthia Cisneros, Debbie Armstrong, Kurt Rager, Olivia Sloan, Cabinet Secretary Emily Kaltenbach

Guests: Ellen Pine Jim Jackson, Mary Shephard, Jason Smith, JC Moore, Marilyn Bennett, Shawn Akey, Waymond Morris, Robran-Marquez, Darcie, Jordan Doll, Sandoval, Jennifer, Rodney F Mcnease, Debbie Rochford, Justin McCormick, Samuel Peinado, DOH, Alexandra MacDonald, Janis Gonzales, DOH, Miriam Acosta, Annie Jung, Jami Toole, Natalie Rose, Abuko Estrada, Tasia Martinez, Deborah Stewart, Tracy Perry, Jessica Osenbrügge, Julie Sanchez, ALTSD, Julia Ruetten, Brian Etheridge, Lindsay Buck, Stuart Pappas, Jody M Harris

Call To Order

Meeting called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Larry Martinez.

Agenda Review & Approval

Land Acknowledgement:
The meeting is being held on land that was originally occupied by the indigenous population, and we acknowledge agreement that we can conduct our business on the site in a respectful manner.

Vision, Mission, and Goals of the Medicaid Advisory Committee
- La Don Woodson

Approval of 8/04/2025 minutes
Introduction of guests
Medicaid Director Welcome
Introductions
New Medicaid Staff & Announcements
Reports
- NM Special Session & HR1
- Rural Health Transformation Plan
- SB3
- DDSD close out of Supports waiver

Intermission
New Business
- Appointment of Nancy Rodriguez as Vice Chair of the committee as well as Samantha Barncastle's participation as a member of the Beneficiary Advisory Committee.
- HCA Website Overhaul in procurement
- Overview of CMS Final Rule, 2442-F

Public Comment
Adjourn

Approval of 07/23/2025 minutes

Corrections:

- Minutes of Aug 4, 2025, approved with modification: Gina Deblassie recorded as absent on Aug 4.
- **Motion to Approve Previous Meeting Minutes (with corrections)**
- **Motion:** Approve minutes from prior meeting with edits
  Made by: Troy Clark
  Seconded by: Trey LaFleur
  Result: Approved

Medicaid Director Welcome

- Rural Healthcare Transformation grant: HCA submitted a ~60-page application to CMS. Project buckets: access & tech for rural providers; workforce expansion; community-driven design addressing social/behavioral needs; facility/equipment enhancements; provider operations sustainability and technical assistance; public-facing data/navigation improvements. Award notifications are expected in December; any downstream procurements will depend on award.

- Special session / HR1: State received appropriations to support rural healthcare delivery fund ($50M), SNAP/food program staffing/IT ($66M to HCA for SNAP food bank staffing, IT, insurance cost relief), and other items. HR1 impacts include phased federal changes (examples: work/community engagement, noncitizen eligibility changes, shorter retroactive coverage, increased redetermination frequency to 6 months, member cost sharing in 10/2028). Guidance from CMS is still pending; substantial systems and staffing work is required.

Staff Announcements/Introduction

- **Zachary Larry (HCA)**: Supporting the Primary Care Council, Medicaid Advisory Committee, Beneficiary Advisory Council, and other workgroups.
- **Jarel LaPan Hill,** Assistant Deputy overseeing MCOB, Compliance & Program Integrity, LTSSB, Federal Relations, and Special Projects
- **Chasity Sandoval,** Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD) Tribal Liaison
- Retiring: **Theresa Belanger**, MAD Tribal Liaison with 22 years of service to the State, retiring Dec 2025
- **Dana Flannery** has resigned from her position due to personal issues. **Alanna Dancis** will be Interim Medicaid Director effectively at the beginning of December.

Reports

- SB3 Behavioral Health Reform & Investment Act – SB3 (2025) establishes regional approach for behavioral health reform; HCA and Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) co-leads. Behavioral Health Executive Committee formed (meets quarterly) includes HCA, BHSD, AOC, LFC, and appointed behavioral health experts.
  13 behavioral health regions were adopted to mirror judicial districts. Regions select up to 5 priority areas and will submit regional plans. AOC scheduling regional planning workshops; initial planning grants increased from $45k to $60k to support regional planning/consultant needs. Next Exec Committee meeting Nov 12; public materials on website.

- DDSD Supports Waiver Sunset – Supports Waiver (2019 temporary program for those on DD waiver waitlist) sunset completed Sept 29, 2025. Statewide Super Allocation initiative (2021) and FY26 legislative appropriation enabled elimination of waitlist and continuous monthly allocations into DD or

Medically Intensive (Mi Via) waivers. Over 5,000 people offered waivers: no interruptions in services. DDSD will continue monthly allocations to sustain no-waitlist policy.

New Business

- HCA Website Overhaul in procurement – (Mural Exercise)
    - What do you go to HCAnm.gov Website to find?
        - Caregiver training information
        - Mi Via section with directions for members (W4 form, FAQs)
        - Acronyms
    - Which pages or sections do you use more often?
        - Waiver information, regulatory information, drive through covid shot
    - What is frustrating about the website?
        - Broken links
    - What would make the website more helpful or easier to use? What's missing?
        - Give HCA structure info
        - Clear website navigation
        - Resource lists

- Overview of CMS Final Rule, 2442-F – CMS renamed/retooled the prior MCAC to: MAC (Medicaid Advisory Committee) and required establishment of a beneficiary-only BAC (Beneficiary Advisory Council). Objectives: strengthening person-centered input and beneficiary voice.
    - Composition changes: MAC must include Medicaid-serving stakeholders (providers, MCOs, consumer advocates) and at least one other state agency. BAC must be beneficiary-only (members, family caregivers, direct caregivers) ~15 members selected by Medicaid Director; states must staff & support MAC/BAC operations.
    - Meeting requirements: minimum quarterly meetings for both; BAC meeting must occur prior to MAC meeting so BAC input can be presented to MAC. States must maintain meeting schedules, bylaws, agendas and provide documentation; MAC expected to include BAC representation (10% BAC members initially, ramp to 25% by Year 3).
    - MAC/BAC responsibilities: topics to address include service access/quality, enrollment & renewals, member & provider communication, cultural & language needs, equity & social drivers of health, etc. MAC must produce an annual report (documenting recommendations and activities) to meet CMS requirements.
    - HCA will provide collaboration tools (SharePoint, Teams channel, dedicated email) for MAC/BAC members to facilitate input, documentation and reporting.

Public Comment

- Ellen Pines (Disability Coalition): requested reinstating budget report on MAC agendas (noted absence of any budget report at this meeting despite being between HCA budget request and legislative session).
- JC Moore (NM Chiropractic Association): shared update on Medicaid chiropractic rollout (~1 year); progress on claims/reimbursement but continuing enrollment/credentialing/claim issues with some MCOs; urged HCA collaboration to strengthen program and expand provider participation.
- Other public commenters reiterated concerns around provider enrollment portal, payment/credentialing impacts on safety-net providers/FQHCs and requested inclusion in beta testing and communications.

Next Steps and Action Items

For La Don Woodson:

- Post meeting slides and materials to website Provide access to BAC SharePoint and Teams
- Set up SharePoint and Teams collaboration space and grant MAC/BAC members access
- Revise 08/04/2025 Minutes

- Schedule next MAC meeting (propose meeting at the Round House if available)

Next meeting (PROPOSED):

- Monday February 2, 2026. Time: 1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn
Made by: Trey LaFleur
Seconded by: Nancy Rodriguez
Final Vote: Approved unanimously
Result: Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.