



E-CONNECT NEWS

The Moore Center Legislative Updates

HB692 PASSED: Relative to Dental Care for Medicaid Recipients



Dental Care for Medicaid Recipients

It has been brought to our attention that there is some confusion related to a dental care benefit for adults that are on Medicaid. We hope to help clarify some of the information related to this to better inform recipients and their families of what is being offered. There are a few different things that are happening at the same time that is also adding to the confusion.

HB 692: Relative to dental care for Medicaid recipients.

This is a bill that went through the 2019 legislative session. When this bill was introduced, it required the Medicaid managed care programs in NH to provide a dental benefit to recipients that were in their plan. The bill moved through the legislative process and, like many other bills, the language was amended along the way.

The final version of this bill gave authorization to the Medicaid managed care programs to be able to provide a dental benefit to Medicaid recipients in their program. It also required the commissioner of the department of health and human services to convene a work group to develop a dental benefit that was a value-based plan.

The commissioner is then required to submit all proposed changes to state law that may be necessary to incorporate an adult dental benefit into a value-based care plan by October 1, 2019. DHHS is then required to present an update on the status of the plan each month to the health and human services oversight committee and the fiscal committee.

A few things to know:

- This does not mandate the managed care companies to offer a dental care benefit at this time.
- HB 2 had language to begin the implementation of this benefit by April 2021. (This is part of the budget that has been vetoed and is in a continuing resolution at this time. This language, start date and plan may change.)
- There are three Managed Care Organizations in the Medicaid program as of July 1, 2019. One of them, AmeriHealth Caritas, is offering a dental care benefit for adults that are 21 years old and older. (They state there are some restrictions and limitations that apply.) AmeriHealth is offering this as a value-added service to its members. This is not required at this time; they are offering this as an additional benefit.

To find the language to the final version of HB 692:

http://gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/billText.aspx?sy=2019&id=640&txtFormat=pdf&v=current

To find more information about the open enrollment period for the Medicaid managed care organizations and comparison of plans you can visit the news section of our website:

<https://csni.org/news>

Northern Human Services · Pathways of the River Valley · Lakes Region Community Services · Community Bridges · Monadnock Developmental Services · Gateways Community Services · The Moore Center · One Sky Community Services · Community Partners · Community Crossroads

To find the language to the final version of HB 692, [click here](#).

To find more information about the open enrollment period for the Medicaid managed care organizations and comparison of plans you can visit the [news section of CSNI's website](#).



Fiscal Committee Grants DD Funding During Continuing Resolution

On July 25th, the Fiscal Committee approved Governor Sununu's request to correct an "unintended consequence" of vetoing the budget - placing access to \$15.9 million in funds for Developmental Disability (DD) services on hold.

The Fiscal Committee approved the release of this funding during the Continuing Resolution that we are currently in as we wait for a budget to be passed.

It is currently unknown how this funding will be appropriated, but the Area Agencies are working closely with the Bureau of Developmental Services and the Department and Health and Human services to understand this process. More information will be shared as it becomes available.



SB86 PASSED: Relative to a Commission to Study Developmental Disability and Mental Health Dual Diagnoses

SB86 was passed into law later last month. This allows for a commission to be formed to study dual diagnoses of developmental disabilities and mental health

disabilities.

Often co-existing conditions, understanding the connection between developmental disabilities and mental health will help The Moore Center and agencies alike offer the best possible supports and services to the individuals in our system. We are looking forward to what this commission will bring to the table!



"Like" The Moore Center on Facebook!

The Moore Center has our own [Facebook page](#) where we post updates about our programs, services and the disability community. [Click here](#) to give us a "like" and stay in touch with all things Moore Center!



Looking for an easy way to stay in touch with other families from the comfort of your own home?

The [Family Support Council Facebook Group](#) is up and running! This is a closed group, designed to be a place where families can share resources, post questions, and offer support to each other. The Facebook group is administered by two Moore Center staff, but all family members are welcome to add content and share at any time. Simply search for The Moore Center Family Support Council on Facebook or [click here](#) and ask to join. Once we confirm that you are a family member, you will be granted access. We hope that this group becomes a source of community and support for you and we are excited to see what it can grow in to. Questions about the Facebook group? Contact Barbara.didona@moorecenter.org or (603) 206-2832.

