

Wake County Human Services Horizon Issues: Social Services

Overview to the Board of County
Commissioners

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Guest Co-Presenter: Mandy Cohen, MD, MPH – Secretary, NC DHHS



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Presentation Purpose

- In 2017, the North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA) enacted legislation on social services system reform and improvement.
 1. House Bill 630: Rylan's Law/Family and Child Protection and Accountability Act,
 2. An amendment in Senate law 2017-57 section 11H.22.f that adds Article 2 of Chapter 108-A of the General Statutes
- HB 630 requires the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) to develop a plan for improving service delivery and outcomes at the local level.
- The Senate Law Amendment requires the state to recoup from counties any amount of money paid out for Medicaid claims, due to county error.
- This presentation is designed to provide an overview of the legislation and potential impact on Wake County. We are excited that Dr. Mandy Cohen, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has joined us to give the State's perspective on these topics.

House Bill 630, Ryan's Law/Family Child Protection and Accountability Act

- Part 1 - Regional Supervision and Collaboration (enhances state supervision and improves collaboration with counties; forms a “Working Group”)
- Part II – Reforming State Supervision and Accountability
- Part III – County Contract/Corrective Action/State Intervention
- Part IV – Regional Social Services Departments
- Part V – Child Well-Being Transformation Council

House Bill 630, Ryan's Law/Family Child Protection and Accountability Act

- Part VI – Driver's License Pilot Project
- Part VII – Pilot Waiver for Intensive Alternative Family Treatment (IAFT) Foster Parents
- Part VIII – Termination of Parental Rights/Appeals
- Part IX – Reducing the Time Period for Foster Care Licensure
- Part X – DSS Observation before Reunification

House Bill 630 Timeline - 2017

- ✓ June, 2017: House Bill 630 approved
- ✓ June 21, 2017: Foster care license must be granted within 3 months
- ✓ Two required visits before granting physical custody of a child
- ✓ July, 2017 Driver's License Pilot became effective

House Bill 630 Timeline - 2018

- ✓ March 1, 2018 Driver's License Pilot Report due to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services
- ✓ April, 2018: First report due to NC DHHS from the Social Services Working Group
- ✓ July, 2018: Initial MOUs between NCDHHS and counties
- October, 2018: Preliminary report from Center for the Support of Families
- December 1, 2018: LME/MCO report on Intensive Alternative Family Treatment due
- November 15, 2018: NCDHHS submits plan for establishing regional supervision

House Bill 630 Timeline – 2019 and 2020

- January 1, 2019: Certain appeals now go to the NC Supreme Court
- February, 2019: Second report from the Social Services Working Group
- March, 2019: Counties are authorized to regionalize voluntarily for some services
- March, 2020: Regional supervision operationalized
- March, 2020: Child Well-Being council charged with monitoring reforms
- July, 2020: Changes to initial MOUs and consequences for noncompliance issues

Questions for Secretary Cohen and Deputy Director Pedroza

- Dr. Cohen, what would you like to share about House Bill 630 from the state perspective?
- Deputy Director Pedroza, what implications do you see for the County concerning House Bill 630?

Medicaid Recoupment

- Result of an amendment in Senate Law 2017-57 and begins with overpayments identified during state fiscal year 2017 audits
- Requires recoupment of overpayments from counties for the erroneous issuance of Medicaid and Health Choice
- Recoupment is based on the Medicaid claims for ineligible recipients, ineligible dates, or for the recipient's liability when the state cannot claim federal participation
- Estimating liability costs is not yet possible (cost is based on claims)
- Recoupment process is in effect for all state and federal Medicaid audits

Questions for Secretary Cohen and Deputy Director Pedroza

- Dr. Cohen, what would you like to share about Medicaid Recoupment from the state perspective?
- Deputy Director Pedroza, what implications do you see for the County concerning Medicaid Recoupment?

Strategies and Actions

- Develop actionable practice development plans for Child Welfare service units
- Participate in the State Child Welfare Train the Trainer Project
- Ensure consistent and ongoing training for Child Welfare and Economic benefit staff members
- Continue to measure outcomes in all benefit and service programs
- Ensure that accountability measures are part of the evaluation process at all levels and in every program
- Continue to use over hires in Child Welfare and in ESS to meet the challenges associated with the evolving demands of state and system reforms
- Continue to prepare for Child Welfare moving into NC FAST system

Questions?