



COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES JUNE MEETING

Meeting. The Department of Human Services (DHS) Council on Human Services met on June 8, 2016, in Des Moines. The following topics were addressed.

Rules. The Council reviewed both Filed and Noticed Rules that will be presented to the [Administrative Rules Review Committee](#). The DHS is submitting a comprehensive package of four child care rules that conform to the reauthorization of the Child Care Development Block Grant including:

- Implementing a required orientation training in health and safety content areas for all staff within three months of employment and enhancing emergency planning requirements.
- Adopting safe sleep practices.
- Providing for enhancements to current rules including a requirement for the regulatory fee to be part of a sufficient application.
- Providing technical clean-up of the rule chapter as a whole.

United Health Care Presentation. Kim Foltz, CEO for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Iowa, provided an update to the Council on the implementation of Medicaid managed care. United Healthcare has 173,516 individuals enrolled in their Medicaid managed care plan. Ms. Foltz addressed concerns from the Council regarding challenges with the rollout and assured the Council that they are working to address all issues as they arise with both consumers and providers.

Inpatient Psychiatric Hospital Bed Presentation. Rick Shults, Mental Health and Disability Services Division Administrator, presented on the availability of inpatient psychiatric hospital beds and on the first year of the new system that tracks the availability of beds across the state. As of June 7, 2016, there are 731 staffed psychiatric hospital beds across the state, with 489 dedicated to adults, 142 dedicated to children, and 100 for adults over the age of 55. For the first 10 months of the tracking system, there have been an average of 66 beds available at any one time (12.4 children's beds and 53.4 adult beds). The two biggest reasons an individual may not be admitted to a bed is that they have been or currently are aggressive and that they are under the influence of drugs or alcohol. The biggest challenges facing the system related to psychiatric beds are the need for intensive community services to move individuals out of these beds and into a less restrictive and less costly setting and the need for psychiatrists.

Other Business. The Council discussed its new role, as directed by [HF 2460](#) (FY 2017 Health and Human Services Appropriations Act), as an oversight entity for the Medicaid managed care program. The Council will review a variety of reports from the DHS and set a standing monthly agenda item to discuss the program.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Council will be July 13, 2016, in Des Moines. Additional information including handouts can be obtained from the Legislative Services Agency and on the [Council's Webpage](#).

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