
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

May 21, 2018



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITY SERVICES (MHDS) COMMISSION MEETING

Joint Meeting. The MHDS Commission met on May 16, 2018. The meeting was a joint meeting between the Commission and the Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council. The purpose of the joint meeting was to inform each group of the other's activities and to coordinate activities and efforts when appropriate. Both the Commission and the Council provided updates on their activities over the past six months, and in addition, Rik Shannon from the Developmental Disabilities Council provided an update on its activities.

Medicaid Update. Medicaid Director Mike Randol provided a general update on Medicaid and answered questions. The Director spent time covering similarities and differences between the Medicaid programs in Iowa and in Kansas, where he previously served as director; spoke about the evaluation underway regarding health homes; and mentioned that the Department of Human Services (DHS) is evaluating new federal direction related to Medicaid work requirements and their impact on the Program.

MHDS Update. Rick Shults and Theresa Armstrong from the Division of Mental Health and Disability Services in the DHS provided an overview of legislation passed during the 2018 Session, including [HF 2456](#), which required a number of new core services including: comprehensive crisis services, subacute services, access centers, and intensive residential service homes. Mr. Shults also indicated that the DHS has applied for a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant to establish and expand Assertive Community Treatment (ACT). For more information on the grant, please see the following link: www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-18-013.

Legislative Update. Representative Dave Heaton and Senator Liz Mathis provided an update to the Commission on the Legislature's activities during the 2018 Session and spoke on a wide variety of topics related to adult and children's mental health, Medicaid, and the health care workforce.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the MHDS Commission will be Thursday, June 21, 2018, at Polk County River Place. For more information and Commission handouts, please visit the Commission's webpage here: dhs.iowa.gov/about/mhds-advisory-groups/commission.

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