

IBHA is the statewide association and leading voice for substance use disorder and addiction treatment programs, community mental health centers and problem gambling services in the state of Iowa.

IBHA member organizations provide high- quality, research-based and outcome- driven programs that improve the lives of Iowans and their families every day.

IBHA Managed Care Concerns:

Troubling Timeline

IBHA is not opposed to a managed care system. However, IBHA does have grave concerns about Iowa's very accelerated timeline for implementation. It is now only a matter of a few weeks before Iowa's golive date of January 1. That is an extremely aggressive timeline to transition nearly 500,000 Iowans, providers, state agencies, and other stakeholders. IBHA appreciates how fast the DHS/IME has attempted to move things, however, costly errors and mistakes are made when too much is transitioned too quickly. Consumer enrollment is beginning now- without provider networks in place, without CMS approval, and without full public knowledge.

Confusing Communication & Disorganized Details

Details and information are changing on what seems like an hourly basis. Providers are overwhelmed with informational letters, web postings, announcements, meetings and PowerPoints- many of which contain conflicting and confusing information that often times is different the next time it's issued. This makes it impossible for providers to strategically plan, budget, and prepare. This is an industry that does business "in the weeds". There are billing and taxonomy codes, cost reports, and various rate methodologies- details that need to be addressed and resolved before providers are able to feel confident going forward.

Solutions and Suggestions

IBHA members are the only sector of the healthcare delivery system that have operated under a form of managed care for the last 20 years. IBHA member organizations have the knowledge, experience and expertise to be a real partner and resource for the state, DHS/IME, the MCOs and the Governor's office on the best and most efficient methods to provide high- quality, outcome- driven integrated healthcare. IBHA member organizations have already been implementing and carrying out many of the goals of Medicaid Modernization- reduce costs, decrease ER visits and improve population health. We have many of the solutions the state is seeking and we strongly suggest the state, DHS/IME, the MCOs and Governor's office use us, the experts, to assist them in making this project successful.

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