

## **Wake County Continuum of Care**

### **Membership Meeting**

**May 20th, 2024**

Attendees – See sign-in sheet at the end of this document.

Meeting start: 2:02 PM

Stephen Gruver, Chair of the Governing Board, welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda.

#### **Medicaid Expansion**

Stephen Gruver welcomes Hollis Smith, a Medicaid Expansion Outreach and Education Coordinator, from Care Share Health Alliance to present on Medicaid Expansion.

Hollis started with her agenda for the presentation. Details of the presentation can be found in the accompanying power point.

Hollis Smith began with asking “What is Medicaid?” She stated that Medicaid is a comprehensive health insurance coverage that pays for doctor’s visits, yearly check-ups, emergency care, mental health and more – at little or no cost to the beneficiaries. Hollis went on to explain the difference between private insurance and Medicaid is lower cost.

#### **Standard plans vs. Tailored Plans**

Hollis announced that Tailored plans (for individuals with significant behavioral health needs) will launch on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Beneficiaries who are currently enrolled in Medicaid direct will be transferred into Tailored Plans on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Medicaid Expansion**

North Carolina Medicaid has expanded to include to include ages 19-64, earning up to 138% of the Federal Poverty Line.

Hollis shared that *600,000+ North Carolinians are now eligible for Medicaid due to this reform.*

#### **Medicaid Expansion Eligibility Requirements:**

Hollis shared the requirements to be eligible for Medicaid Expansion:

- Live in NC: self-attestation is accepted.
- Age: 19-64
- A citizen (some non-US citizens can also get health care coverage through Medicaid)

## **Updated DACA status eligibility:**

Hollis shared that as of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, DACA holders will be eligible to enroll in Healthcare.gov coverage, assuming they meet other eligibility criteria.

**Q:** DaQuanta Copeland: Does this mean they are going to be receiving lower insurance costs?

**A:** Hollis Smith: Yes, they will be able to access lower healthcare coverage (not as low as Medicaid but there is now a path to health insurance during a time when there used to not be one).

## **Applying for Medicaid**

There are [Enrollment Assistants](#) in every county that offer in-person, phone and zoom appointments.

## **Important reminders about Medicaid Expansion:**

Medicaid is for low-income individuals while Medicare is for 65+ years of age.

“Asset Test” is not a part of expansion eligibility requirements. Applicants will still be asked the questions from this test, but their answers will not disqualify them.

History of incarceration cannot disqualify someone.

Previous Medicaid denial or recent termination does not necessarily disqualify someone from Medicaid Expansion.

[Access the NC Medicaid Expansion Dashboard here!](#)

**Q:** Unknown: Does the switch from Medicaid to Medicare change anything? Dual Enrollment?

**A:** Hollis Smith: No, they can transfer over.

## **Mailing Address**

Hollis Smith shared that if your client does not have an address at which they can receive mail, they are allowed to use their county Division of Social Services (DSS) office or a provider’s office if agencies are willing to accept mail on behalf of the applicants.

## **Medicaid Copays**

No Medicaid copays for people under the age of 21, pregnant, hospice care etc. See *PowerPoint for the complete list*.

Hollis Smith also shared that beneficiaries should not be denied services and if they are unable to pay their copays, flag the provider with her by emailing her at [hsmith@caresharehealth.org](mailto:hsmith@caresharehealth.org).

### **Medical Transportation:**

Your client's managed care plan is required to provide transportation.

### **Agent/Broker Fraud**

Hollis shared that over the past 1.5 years, there has been an increased frequency of agents or brokers committing fraudulent enrollments in Healthcare.gov plans. Some of the individuals we work with may unknowingly have been enrolled. Clients can report the instance of fraud but can also face tax penalties for the period where they may have been "double-covered" by the Marketplace and Medicaid.

**Q:** Barkley Sample, Catholic Charities: Can they do that after (report fraud after tax penalty or fine has been issued)?

**A:** Hollis Smith: Yes, they can. It can be reported upon discovery even up to a year later.

**Q:** Johnnie Thomas, member with lived experience: Who do I take this issue to about fraudulent Medicaid sign up attempts?

**A:** Hollis Smith: Send it to me. My email is at the end of the presentation.

Hollis Smith stated that her goal is to arm these trusted organizations that are a part of the CoC to spread this information.

### **Internal Opportunities**

Hollis Smith suggested that the CoC set up a kiosk for Medicaid Enrollment in a centralized location such as Oak City Cares. Staff can provide enhanced support and become a Medicaid Ambassador.

You can also become a Navigator ([click here!](#)) or Certified Application Counselor (CAC) by having your organization become a Certified Application Counselor Designated Organization (CDO) ([click here!](#))

**Q:** Sarah Quadri: How to do orgs become a certified CAC

**A:** Hollis Smith: Follow the link here in the PowerPoint.

**Q:** Eric Braun, community member: Is there a way to connect and arrange an informational session for Housing Authority and their residents?

**A:** Hollis Smith: Yes, we have done this with other housing authorities. Calls for people to ask for the presentation in other organizations.

**Q:** Alexis Hampton with Healing Transitions: Do you have any suggestions on how to better follow up on application status?

**A:** Hollis Smith: Yes, you can complete an application as an authorized representative, and this allows you to track the process. If it has been longer than 45 days, the application has been labeled “delinquent”. Should be reported to the state after that.

### **Community Partnerships:**

Hollis Smith suggested for organizations to develop/foster relationship with county DSS office.

[NC DHHS Medicaid Expansion Toolkit](#)

[NC Medicaid Ombudsman](#)

Hollis Smith stated that if you cannot get in touch with NC DSS, then contact the Ombudsman.

Hollis called for questions.

**Q:** Eric Braun, community member: Do you have counterparts in other counties?

**A:** Hollis Smith: I meet with people across the state but someone with a similar position to mine is in High Point.

### **Mainstream Benefits:**

Stephen Gruver introduced Lesli Davis, Operations Director-Embedded Programs, from Southlight to begin her presentation of Mainstream Benefits.

Lesli Davis started with explaining Food Stamps.

### **Food stamps:**

Lesli explained that Food Stamps provides supplemental food assistance. Access to the application for Wake County is [here](#). She also explained that prior controlled substance felony would require a Qualified Professional in Substance Abuse (QPSA) Assessment which can be done with Southlight.

### **Supplemental Security Income (SSI):**

Disability income for adults and children with low income. More information and to access the application for SSI is [here](#).

### **Social Security Disability Income (SSDI):**

Monthly income for disabled workers who have a work history that has paid into social security. People can apply for Social Security disability benefits in person at a local SSA field office, by telephone or by filing online.

### **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families aka Work First (TANF):**

Temporary financial assistance and support services to low-income families with children. More information can be found [here](#).

### **Substance Use Services**

Lesli shared information about Southlight and their services. Read more here:

<https://www.southlight.org/>

Lesli Davis called for questions. No questions.

### **ESG RFA Timeline:**

Stephen Gruver announced the State RFA Estimated Timeline. He explained that this is not the local timeline, but that information is coming. Stephen called for questions. No questions.

### **Charter Timeline:**

Stephen Gruver gave an update on the charter and that we have received a few public comments. He reminded everyone that the charter is the driving document for the Governance Board to make decisions and must be voted on by membership. Public comment is open only for three more days. The charter review workgroup will meet to discuss any changes that need to be made to the charter once this period is over. Stephen called for questions. No questions.

***Committee Updates are written and attached at the bottom of the minutes.***

### **Conflict of Interest Policy**

Stephen Gruver said they are in the middle of updating the policy.

Stephen called for an open floor if any agencies have anything to share.

Kelsey Mosely from Haven House Services: Wanted to provide clarification on some of their programs. Haven House has an access site for ages 18-24 but they do not

have an emergency shelter for this age group. They do have emergency shelter for ages 10-17 at Wrenn House.

***Adjourn: 3:02 PM***

***Next meeting is June 17<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.***

**CoC Updates**  
**For CoC Membership meeting: May 20, 2024**

**Coordinated Access System Committee (CAS):**

*Chair: Rebekah Shamberger*

- Discussing with the Coordinated Entry Manager the potential of two recommendations for coordinated entry pertaining to shelter & street outreach
- HUD Technical Assistance Update: TA request is under review
- Next meeting is Wednesday May 22 from 10am -11am

**Data Advisory Committee (DAC):**

*Chair: Thurston Alexander-Smith*

- Meeting with “Familiar Faces” staff
  - Familiar Faces project looks to promote cross-sector collaboration HMIS, EMS, Hospitals, etc) through client informed data-sharing
- Legacy data transferred to new HMIS system continues
- HMIS lead RFP on hold for the time being
- DAC will be looking to evaluate data quality and HMIS user training needs in upcoming meetings
- DAC collaboration with partners around the state for data sharing
- Next meeting is May 21st at 9 AM

**Homelessness Emergency Response Committee (HERC):**

*Chair: Pastor Vance Haywood*

- Coordinating next Emergency Shelter Meeting
- Work with the Advisory Committee regarding flow of system, how folks are coming into to the program and into housing?
- Are there folks in the drop-in shelter that could get into a program-based shelter? Perhaps after 3 months of checking into the Drop-in Shelter, initiating an assessment to see where the guests are at and what their needs are?
- Scrub list of people currently serving and applied to serve on the committee
- Brainstorming how to streamline the process for opening a White Flag shelter
- Research in HMIS and start tracking the census and capacity numbers regularly so we can monitor trends in this data
- Receive clarity on what CE sites have what referral or entry procedures, perhaps other centers may be under capacity
- Communication around being more proactive about the shelters communicating their capacity proactively (would this be reported to the HERC?)
- Updating Emergency Declaration
- Next meeting is TBD

**Racial Equity Committee (REC):**

*Co-Chairs: DaQuanta Copeland and Johnnie Thomas*

- Recruitment to the REC has been steady.
- Application for CoC committee was fixed to allow non-CoC members to apply.
- Bringing at least 3 priorities of different disparate areas to discuss at the next meeting.
- Want to get with the people who have been approved to join the committee and email the committee to comment on the charter.
- Next meeting is May 21st at 2 PM

**Funding Review Committee (FRC):**

*Co-Chairs: Michelle Grant and Meredith Yuckman*

- Discussed and revised Reallocation Policy, Ranking and Review Policy, and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Funding Policies and Procedures.
- Finalized an ESG Scorecard.
- Discussed and revised ESG timeline for the Wake NC 507 CoC.
- Next meeting is TBD.



# Wake Continuum of Care Membership Meeting

Name	Email Address	Organization	Check One:	
			Individual Coc Member	Organizational Coc member
Robert Shambaugh	robert.shambaugh@wakecc.org	Triangle Triad of Area FPD		✓
Jackie Poynter	jackie.poynter@wakecc.org			
Hannah King	Hannah@families.together.org	Families Together		✓
Caroline Seydi	Csephid@urbanmin.org	Urban Ministries		
Mary Thompson	maryj150@gmail.com		✓	
Michael Pearson	Michael.Pearson@thefirstplace.com	The First Place		
Karen Lassiter	karen@families.together.org	Families Together	✓	
Chris Pearson	cpearson@casac.org	CASA		✓
Julie Paul	julie@lotuscampaing.org	Lotus Campaign		
Nikei Ahija	nikei.ahija@outlook.com	GolWake Access		✓
Tosheria Brown	tosheria.brown@wakechc.org	Wake City Cures		✓
John W. Huggins	john.w.huggins@wakechc.org	Wake City Cures		✓
Tommy Mauldin	Tommy@wakechc.org	Triangle Family Services		✓
Philisa Charity	philisa@wakechc.org	Southlight		✓
Baekley Sample	Baekley.Sample@wakechc.org	Catholic Charities		✓
Hannah Shinnick	hshinn@wakecc.org	Haven House Services		

# Wake Continuum of Care Membership Meeting

Check One:			
Name	Email Address	Organization	Individual Coc Member
Jackie Jordan	jackie.jordan@wakecouncil.org	Wake County	✓
MEGAN PEEVEY	mpevey@arise-collective.org	ARISE COLLECTIVE	✓
LISA JONES	lisa.jones1@wake.nc.gov	Wake	✓
Meredith Yechman	myechman@shopecenterpharmacy.com	The Center at RDU	✓
Eric Braun	BraunRHA@e.braun.org	Individual	✓
William Torres Fuentes	william.torresfuentes@wake.nc.gov	Wake	✓
Bethley DIXON	bdixon@neighborhoodhealthcenter.org	NHC	✓
Emily Downing	emily.downing@thegreenchair.org	TGCP	✓
Rashawn Stanley	Rashawn.Stanley@familypartnership.org	FP of the Triangle	✓
David Harris	dharris@wake.nc.gov	Wake County	✓
Tearis Compton	tcompton@blackbyblack.com	Deportation Relief Ambassadors	✓ DRA
Andre Curry	andre.curry@divcasnc.org	Divcas	✓
Katya Turner	katya.turner@the-carryplace.org	Wake County	✓
Robin Harrington	rharrington@arise-collective.org	ARISE COLLECTIVE	✓
Pamela Oliveris	pamela.oliveris@wakecouncil.org	Wake County	✓
Erin Furrin	efurrin@wakecouncil.org	Haven House Services	✓

# Wake Continuum of Care Membership Meeting

Check One:				
Name	Email Address	Organization	Individual CoC Member	Organizational CoC member
Michelle Zellmann	mzellmann@havenhousesc.org	Haven House		✓
Daniel Lipman	dli@pacellie.com	McGraw Hill Health		✓
Darwanta Copeland	darwanta.copeland@wake.gov	Wake Co. Gov. Housing	✓	✓
Johnnie Thomas	johnnie.thomas@gmail.com	SCFAC - Wake Board	✓	
Kelsey Mosley	mosley@havenhousesc.org	Haven House		✓
Erin Yates	eyates@caseac.org	CHSA		✓
Alexis Hampton	ahampton@healing-transitions.org	Healing Transitions		✓
Lynesi Blank	lynesi.blank@wake.gov	Wake Co.		✓
Robert Yates	Robert.Yates@wake.gov	Urban org		✓
Altheia Daniels	Altheia.Daniels@familypromise.org	Family Promise		✓
Don Chase	donsthandchase@gmail.com		✓	
Trena Baker	trena.baker@wake.gov	Wake Co.		✓
Leslianne Davis	davisles@thlight.org	Southlight Healthcare		✓
Nicole Stewart	nicole.stewart@wake.gov	ATF		✓
Sarah Quadi	Sarah.Quadi@gmail.com		✓	
Kathleen Herr	kathleen@wake.gov	Urban main		✓

## Wake Continuum of Care Membership Meeting

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