NC Collaborative for Children, Youth and Families
DATE: November 13, 2020

To join i2i's mailing list and receive our News Briefs and other information directly to your inbox, contact Jean@i2icenter.org, let her know you are with NCCCYF and ask to be added to our circulation.

Upcoming Legislative Meetings:

Committee	Date and Time	Location, Video and Audio
Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee	December 1, 2020, 10 a.m.	Room 544 LOB, audio, video
2021-22 Long Session Begins	January 13, 2021, noon	

Reboot of Medicaid Transformation Implementation Resources:
NC DHHS has restarted plans for the implementation of the Standard Plan, set to begin on July 1, 2021. They have recently gone live with the website that can guide individuals through the implementation functions that will be available. Here are a few resources available now as well as those with expected go-live dates:

Function	Go-Live Date
Application for Medicaid	Available now
Information on Medicaid managed care	Available now
Benefit package under Standard Plan	Available now
Q and A on Medicaid	Available now
Website Choice Guide and NC Provider Director	January 1, 2021
Go-live of Call Center and Mobile App	March 1, 2021
Go-live of Standard Plan and Tribal Option	July 1, 2021

Another resource for the latest developments on Medicaid Transformation is the NC DHHS Medicaid Transformation website.

OhioRise New Medicaid Managed Care Program for Youth with Complex Behavioral Health and Multi-System Needs:
The State of Ohio released a Request for Application from managed care organizations interested in serving as the specialized managed care organization for OhioRise. OhioRise is a new program for Medicaid eligible youth who have complex behavioral

health needs and require assistance from multiple systems. OhioRise will be governed by the Governor's Office of Children's Initiatives, and Ohio's Family and Children First Cabinet Council. Members of the governing board will include representatives from a number of related State agencies.

The OhioRise specialized managed care organization will work closely with regional care management entities. Children and youth may also have co-occurring substance use disorders or intellectual-developmental disabilities and are/may be involved in systems such as juvenile justice, child protection and education.

New Boarding School to Open for Adolescent Boys in Recovery: Monarch, a large provider of mental health, substance use disorder and intellectual-developmental disabilities, is opening [The Goodale School](#) in Asheville and currently accepting applications.

Opportunities for Feedback:
  - [Andrea Harris Social, Economic, Environmental, and Health Equity Task Force](#) is seeking feedback in 5 core areas:
  1. Access to Healthcare
  2. Economic Opportunity and Business Development
  3. Educational Opportunity
  4. Patient Engagement
  5. Environmental Justice and Inclusion

This Task Force was established by Governor Cooper over the summer and they just completed two listening sessions that can be heard via the above link. There is a [feedback form](#) that can be used to submit your comments on one or more of the five areas. The Task Force subcommittees have already developed initial focal points for each of the core areas with the goal to improve disparities in communities of color disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

  - NC DHHS has just one more upcoming [Town Hall](#) left, led by Deputy Secretary Kody Kinsley and Division of MH/IDD/SAS Director Victor Armstrong. The purpose of these town halls is to gather comments and recommendations on the future of MH/IDD/SUD services. There are several ways that you can submit questions and comments:
  - Submit comments in the chat box during the virtual meeting
  - Record a video message prior to the meeting
  - Submit questions before the virtual meeting

All meetings are at 6 pm and are accessible via the [NC Governor's Institute Facebook Live page.](#) ***Note that, because they are allowing comments to be pre-recorded or submitted prior, you do not have to be present for the town hall in your area for your voice to be heard.***

- [The Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice](#) was established by Governor Cooper to address existing policies and procedures that disproportionately affect communities of color and developing solutions to ensure racial equity in North Carolina's criminal justice system. The Task Force will submit its recommendations on or before December 1, 2020. They are currently seeking feedback and North Carolinians can use [a form](#) to submit these comments.

Resources:
- Governor Cooper has proclaimed November as [Family Engagement Month](#). The Exceptional Children's Assistance Center has developed activities for the month that are available for download on their [website](#).

- NC DHHS has $7.8 million available through December 30, 2020 to reimburse primary care practitioners for COVID-19 related services provided to uninsured individuals. Individuals are eligible for the program if they are North Carolina residents and have no health care coverage (e.g. Medicaid, Medicare, or other health insurance). Providers are eligible if they are PCPs that operate in North Carolina and are registered in NCTracks, North Carolina's Medicaid payment platform. More information is available on the NC DHHS [website](#), including a fact sheet and a joint communication bulletin.   In addition, they now have versions in Spanish available.