

MEDICAID NEWSLETTER

A newsletter intended for all Contracted Providers of Medicaid Services for Kenosha County Department of Human Services

May 2021

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COVID-19/Kenosha Climate:

Vaccine efforts are ramping up in Kenosha County! As more staff and consumers become **fully vaccinated**, many programs are slowly and cautiously transitioning back to in-person services. Currently, all residents 16 years and older are eligible to receive the vaccine.

General MA Updates:

A new MA policy now allows that Medicaid eligibility will no longer be denied or terminated based on a person's incarceration status. Instead, a **"suspended"** status has been added. Please check out [DMS Operation Memo 20-24](#) for more information on this exciting update!



Providers across programs have demonstrated great creativity in offering virtual services this past year during the pandemic. Although many programs still have temporary telehealth rules in place, it seems the next challenge will be figuring out how to safely return to in-person services!



Certification Updates:

Annual re-certifications are underway around many Kenosha County MA Programs! **Crisis Intervention** has successfully completed re-certification and a desk review this spring! The **Comprehensive Community Services (CCS)** program as well as the **Community Support Program (CSP)** have

submitted recertification materials. The Wisconsin Division of Quality Assurance (DQA) scheduled on-site reviews with the CCS program on May 4th and CSP on June 3rd. Until recently, DQA has been conducting on-site reviews virtually due to COVID-19. As vaccination efforts around Wisconsin have picked up, DQA has started to return to in-person reviews.

SERVICE HIGHLIGHT:

Eligibility Specialist & The Resource Center

Despite the many barriers of 2020, many programs still managed a high number of new referrals. For example, the CLTS program experienced a dramatic increase in enrollments—**up 23%** since April 2020! Kenosha County's Eligibility Specialist and Resource Center play key roles in referrals to Medicaid Programming.

Service Highlights:

The Eligibility Specialist with Families First, a new position as of February 2021 that replaced Compass services, has been hard at work these past couple months! The **Eligibility Specialist** assists children and families in exploring Home and Community Based service options, such as CLTS and CCOP, as well as other programs, including CCS. The eligibility specialist is also

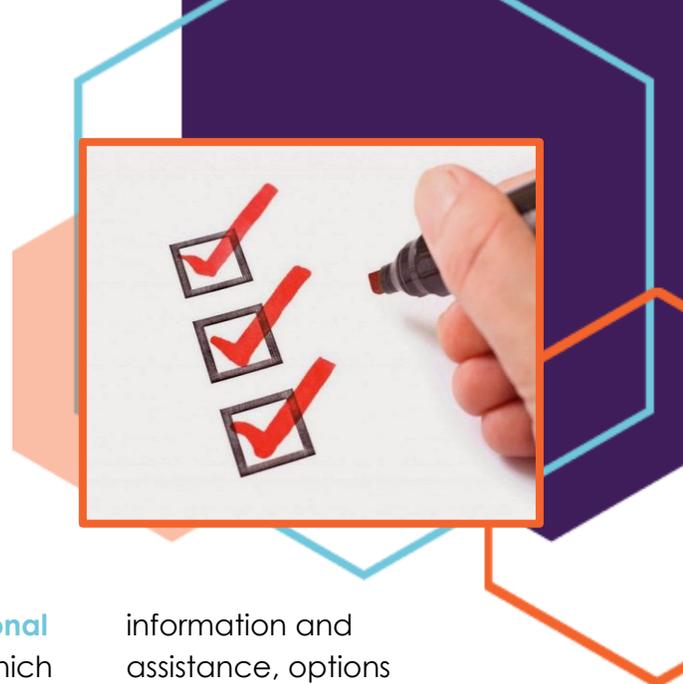
able to complete **functional screens** with juveniles, which is a key step to accessing many Medicaid programs.

Although the Eligibility Specialist is a dedicated resource to juveniles, adults have a similar resource available through the **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Resource Center** at Kenosha Human Development Services. Adults can receive

information and assistance, options counseling and more through the Resource Center. Functional screens for adult mental health programming, including CCS and CSP, are also offered.

To reach the **Eligibility Specialist**, call **262-605-6599!**

To reach the **Resource Center**, call **262-764-8555!**



Questions?

If you have questions about information in this newsletter or have Medicaid program related questions, please reach out to the Reimbursement Team! We are happy to answer questions or provide Medicaid billing training!

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