

MEDICAID EXPANSION

An Investment in the Future
Health of Alaska

Commissioner Val Davidson



Medicaid Expansion

- Medicaid Expansion remains a top priority
- July 2015 is still the goal
- Medicaid Expansion as the catalyst for *meaningful* Medicaid Reform
 - Bending the cost curve on Alaska health care costs

Systems Update

MMIS

- Payments are still a concern
- We need Xerox to improve its success rate for accurately processing and paying claims.

ARIES/EIS

- Eligibility System to enroll people
- Working to address the backlog:
 - Public Assistance staff are getting help from other parts of the Department and developed other strategies.

The Reports

- The Lewin Report
 - http://dhss.alaska.gov/Documents/Lewin_Final_Report.pdf
- Urban Institute and Northern Economics
 - <http://www.anthctoday.org/news/medicaid.html>
- Evergreen Economics
 - Coming soon! <http://dhss.alaska.gov/>

Who are we talking about?

- Adults age 19 to 64
 - Otherwise ineligible for Medicaid or Medicare
- With Income at or below 138% FPL
 - Single Person earning up to \$20,120 annually
 - Married Couple earning up to \$27,130 annually
- Employment Status
 - 44% are employed
 - 30% are looking for work or seasonal

The Financial Reality

- Working to identify budget offsets
 - Corrections
 - Chronic & Acute Medical Assistance (CAMA)
 - More to be identified
- Medicaid Expansion Administrative Costs
 - Budget offsets to cover the increased costs
- SFY16 Budget
 - Identified 5% and 8% cuts
 - Offsets will help

Moving Forward: Expansion to Reform

- July 2015 is still the target for Expansion
- Governor Walker's State of the State Address
 - Wednesday, January 21st
- We will be working with Legislators

Moving Forward: Expansion to Reform

- RFP with the Alaska Mental Health Trust
 - Technical assistance for Medicaid Expansion to Medicaid Reform
 - Stakeholder participation crucial
- Health Care Commission
- Ensuring transparency of the expansion/reform process
 - Communications Plan
 - DHSS Public Information Team working on outreach
 - Informational videos
 - Fact Sheets
 - Website (coming soon!)

Moving Forward: Expansion to Reform

- Medicaid Reform
 - Alaskan Focused Reforms
 - Identifying opportunities to bend the cost curve
 - DHSS internal look
 - Identify opportunities to increase FMAP
 - 1115 Waivers

How can you help?

- Messaging
 - Medicaid Expansion remains a priority
- Beginning a Reform Dialogue
 - What does “meaningful reform” look like?
 - Goal: Minimize impact to the individuals while maximizing budget offsets
 - Identify opportunities to increase FMAP
 - Incentivizing health behaviors

How can you help?

- Stay engaged
 - Follow the process
 - Ask questions
 - Participate in the process
 - We are just beginning
 - Bringing your expertise to the table is crucial

How can we help you
to become more
informed about this
process?

Thank You!

Chris Ashenbrenner

Medicaid Expansion Program Manager

chris.ashenbrenner@alaska.gov

465-5808 (JNU Office)

343-9550 (Mobile)

Monique Martin

Health Care Policy Advisor

monique.martin@alaska.gov

269-7848 (ANC Office)

244-8830 (Mobile)