

It Takes a Village.... Florida Medicaid



Florida's Medicaid Certified School Match Program

Overview

- 67 Florida school districts
- 4,200 public schools
- Florida Constitution defines a district as a county
- 2,816,824 PreK-12 students
- 377,153 students with disabilities
- Medicaid School Based Services (SBS) is called the Medicaid Certified School Match Program
- School district matches state portion of Medicaid fee schedule rate
- Fee For Service (FFS) and School District Administrative Claiming (SDAC) policy currently under revision by state Medicaid agency

Fee for Service

- All Medicaid policies are in state rule
- Currently no cost settlement
- Districts have option of revising rates from existing fee schedule
- Current fee for service policy handbook can be found at <http://sss.usf.edu/resources/topic/medicaid/index.html>
- No statewide billing/reimbursement system is required to be used. District options:
 - Department of education service capture/billing system
 - Vendors
 - State Medicaid MIS

Therapy Service Providers

- Speech-Language Pathologists
- Speech-Language Pathology Assistants
- Physical Therapists
- Physical Therapist Assistants
- Occupational Therapists
- Occupational Therapy Assistants

Nursing Service Providers

- Registered Nurses
- Licensed Practical Nurses
- School Health Aides
 - School health aides must complete the following courses/trainings:
 - first aid
 - CPR
 - medication
 - student specific training

Behavioral Service Providers

- School Psychologists
- Psychologists
- Certified Behavior Analysts (CBA)
- Certified Associate Behavior Analysts (under supervision of CBA)
- School Counselors (formerly guidance counselors)
- Licensed Mental Health Counselors
- Marriage and Family Therapists
- Social Workers
- Provisionally licensed and Board registered Interns-Mental Health Counselors/Marriage and Family Therapists

Reimbursement Service Limitations

- Therapy Services
 - 1 unit = minimum 15 minute
 - Service limitation: 4 units per day per provider (procedure code) per student
- Behavioral and Nursing Services
 - 1 unit = maximum of 15 minutes (round up to nearest 15-minute unit)
 - Service limitation: 32 units per day per provider (procedure code) for nursing services; 6-8 units for others
 - NCCI MUE's recently affected some behavioral procedure codes and lowered service limitations

Transportation

- Reimbursed by one-way trip when Medicaid covered service provided at school
- Service limitation = 4 one way trips per day
- Student must have specialized transportation on IEP meeting one of following criteria
 - Medical or vehicle adaptive equipment required
 - Medical condition that requires special transportation environment
 - Attendant required due to physical or behavioral disability and specific need of student

Medicaid State Plan Amendment (SPA)

- SPA approved by CMS October 2, 2017
- Includes private and charter schools in MCSM program
- Opens door for revised policy to include services provided outside of the IEP/IFSP
- Policy will have to follow state rule development process – service providers, service limitations, reimbursable services

School District Administrative Claiming

- Policy Handbook can be found at <https://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/childhealthservices/schools/index.shtml>
- FFS quarterly billing requirement: **one** reimbursable service each for therapy, nursing and behavioral
- Required to have 75% valid responses
- No statewide billing/reimbursement system required to be used. District options:
 - Florida Department of Education EMACS system
 - Individual district system
 - Vendors

Monitoring Overview

- State Medicaid monitors throughout state
- Collaborative relationship between monitors and district representatives
- Transparency in monitoring process
- Monitoring tools shared with school districts
- Monitoring results sent to districts quarterly

Monitoring Process

Fee for Service

- Desk review of 2 paid claims per quarter per service, entrance and exit phone interviews conducted to review results with school district

SDAC

- Review District's quarterly sample pool of participants
- Review FMMS files to verify billing requirement is met
- Review every random moment completion for compliance
- Report monitoring findings to Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) headquarters and each school district

It Takes a Village.... Florida Medicaid



MEDICAID TAKES A VILLAGE FOR SUCCESS

Building Blocks of Medicaid Success

- Optimal student health care
- Higher student academic achievement
- Increased revenue to the district
- Advocacy and resources for students



Who are the Florida Village People for Optimal Student Health in Schools?



- Nurses – RNs, LPNs, School Health Aides
- Physical Therapists/ Assistants
- Occupational Therapists/ Assistants
- Speech-Language Pathologists/ Assistants
- Psychologists/ School Psychologists
- School Counselors
- Mental Health Counselors
- Social Workers
- Behavior Specialists
- Transportation

Who are the Village People for Student Achievement?

- Parents
- Students
- Teachers
- School and district administrators
- Paraprofessionals
- Support staff
- Educational diagnosticians
- Community stakeholders



Who are the Village People that Assist with Increasing Revenue?

- Florida Department of Education
- Superintendent
- School Board
- Budget Office
- School and District Administrators
- Human Resources
- Technology Department
- IDEA Grant Manager
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Medicaid Coordinators
- Medicaid Providers



Who are the Village People who Advocate for Student Resources?



- Parents
- School and district staff
- Medicaid Staff
- Community stakeholders
- School board

What can we do?



Utilize the Village Network

- Connect with other districts in your region
- Keep up with potential state and federal legislative changes impacting Medicaid
- Share information about how Medicaid benefits children
- Join organizations such as NAME to advocate for Medicaid in schools

Pinellas County Public Schools' Village

- 7th largest district in Florida and the 26th largest in the United States
- 140 schools
- 103,242 students
- Medicaid eligibility rate: 63.22%

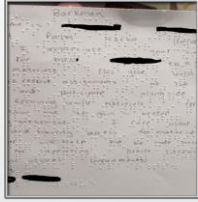


How Medicaid Reimbursement Has Influenced Student Health Care in Pinellas County

- Pinellas County purchased Vision Spot Screeners to screen all students in Pinellas County at appropriate age groups. In the first 6 months we caught a tumor in a child's eye.
- In the following year we screened an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) student and found hearing and vision deficits. The student was given an FM system, hearing aids, glasses with prisms and ESOL services. In 8 months time the child was almost at grade level.

...Another Example

An International Baccalaureate student who is blind needed a specific Nemeth trained transcriber to translate physics, chemistry and calculus. Medicaid paid for the Nemeth trained transcriber.



Examples of Ways Pinellas County Increased Revenue

- Increased reimbursement by approximately \$750,000
- Analyzed size alike district data
- Re-evaluated areas for improved revenue gain
- Worked with Human Resources to ensure accurate alignment of job titles and codes
- Developed electronic system internally- Interfaced billing and SIS
- Expanded transportation billing





Broward County Public Schools' Village

- 2nd largest district in Florida and the 6th largest school district in the United States
- Pre-kindergarten through grade 12
 - Total Students = 271,517
 - Total Schools = 236
- Total students with disabilities - 34,000
- 90% of teachers have at least 1 SWD student in their class
- Medicaid eligibility rate is 62.53%

What Makes Broward's Village Successful?



- Organizational Structure
- Collaborative Relationships
- Positive Impacts/Outcomes




The Organization



Structure	Responsibilities
• Coordinator	• IEP/Medicaid Compliance
• Analyst	• Policy
• Accountant	• Training
• Administrative Assistant	• Electronic Database Management
	• Administer SDAC and FFS Programs
	• Finance

Collaborative Relationships in the Village



Internal: Schools and Departments (Staffing Specialists, Nursing, Related Services, Transportation, Budget Office, Financial Reporting ,Technology)

External Organizations (AHCA, Department of Education (DOE), NAME, school districts)



Innovative Idea: Merge 2 Processes Into 1 (Paper Time Sheets and Electronic Documentation)

- Identify the Challenge
- Determine the Outcome
- Identify Key Players
- Develop a Plan
- Execute the Action Steps





One Village Member's Experience

- Debra Harrington, District Coordinator
 - Speech/Language Impaired
 - 400+ Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) providing services in Broward County Public Schools (BCPS)
 - 114 are contract SLPs in either part-time or full-time positions
 - Physically Impaired
 - Occupational Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT), Traumatic Brain Injury
 - 54 OT/COTA (all contract personnel)
 - 12 PT/PTA (all contract personnel)

Compliance: "If it's not documented, it didn't happen"



- Electronic service documentation applies to all providers in department (OT/PT/SLP)
 - Increase in ability to monitor services being provided
 - Primary objective: increase in services logged
 - Secondary objective : improved reimbursements from the FFS program
- Accountability (Reports, Transparency)
 - Access to multiple types of reports related to both student services and provider compliance
 - Stakeholders : School Administrators, Parents, Support Personnel, Budget Office, Financial Reporting



Practical Applications

- Collaborative effort created ability to communicate with multiple parties to access accurate information related to student services
- Ability to share data with multiple stakeholders and influence personnel decisions
- Significant decrease in time spent reviewing timesheets for accuracy
- Ability to review a provider's schedule/calendar at-a-glance and monitor service delivery with a higher level of fidelity



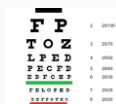
Positive Impact For Our Students

- Direct service reimbursement returned to schools
- Provides psychological testing materials
- Provides psychological interns
- Provides assistive technology assessment
- Provides staff (e.g. Nursing, OT, PT, Staffing Specialists, SLP, Parent Liaisons Behavior etc...)



How Medicaid Reimbursement Has Influenced Student Health Care in Broward County

- Hearing aids provided to Deaf and Hard of Hearing students to better access curriculum
- Health Technician Teams perform required Vision and BMI screenings
- Provide Health Care services to students with a Section 504 Plan (e.g. diabetes, hearing loss etc..)



IT DOES TAKE A VILLAGE!



WHO ARE YOUR VILLAGE
PEOPLE?
