

NAMEtag

May 2016

"NAME Advocates Program Integrity For School Based Medicaid Reimbursement"

Volume 11 Issue 3

President's Corner

NAME committees are in high gear this spring, organizing several events for NAME members, including:

- Succession planning to keep NAME a strong partner in policy and in practice for local, state and national Medicaid in Education stakeholders across the country
- The upcoming annual election of NAME officers and Representatives to the Board of Directors. Voting Members, please watch your email and cast your electronic ballot between May 23 and May 27.
- Two national conference calls: one on free care, held April 26, 2016 and another on May 12, 2016, to introduce you to the candidates running for office on the NAME Board of Directors. Both of these events were recorded, enabling you to listen anytime at your convenience.
- Disseminating NAME's 2016 Biennial Survey and urging state agencies to submit data by May 31, 2016, to be included in NAME's 2016 Biennial Survey Report
- Posting news and notices of upcoming events on the NAME website (Have you visited www.MedicaidForEducation.org lately?) and responding to your requests for information sent to us via email info@MedicaidForEducation.org

In addition to exchanging ideas and information during NAME national conference calls throughout the year, I look forward to networking with many of you in person at the 2016 Conference in scenic Bozeman, Montana. In this issue of the NAMEtag, you will see many more details about our September 18-21, 2016 Conference, planned with your interests and recent hot topics in mind.

Tracy Brunner (IN)
2015-2016 President

In This Issue

| | Page |
|---------------------|------|
| President's Corner | 1 |
| NAME Elections | 1 |
| From the Hill | 2 |
| Committee News | 2 |
| More Committee News | 3 |
| 2016 Conference | 4 |
| Regional News | 5 |

**Conference Registration
is OPEN!**



Dear NAME Voting Members:

The 2016 NAME annual election will be held electronically between May 23 and May 27, 2016. Only voting members of NAME will receive a ballot via email. Per the NAME Bylaws, voting members are state Medicaid agency staff, state Education agency staff, and Local Education Agency representatives, and who have paid their NAME membership dues for 2016 by May 12, 2016.

The actual election ballot was sent to voting members via email from NAME at noon EST Monday, May 23, 2016. Some of you joined us for the Candidates' Forum National Conference Call on May 12, 2016, and heard from some of the candidates and read their bios. The audio recording of the Forum session (MP3 format) has been posted on the NAME National Conference Calls website.

National Election

The 2016 NAME election is a national election because all NAME voting members are able to vote for every position that appears on the ballot. In advance of voting, please read the candidates' biographies, as these bios will NOT appear on the ballot. Links to each candidate's bio is viewable by logging in to the member only section of the NAME website, then clicking on the candidate's name. Find that information on the Nominating Committee's website, [here](#).

Where to find Us:

www.MedicaidForEducation.org



Email:

info@MedicaidForEducation.org

Find us on Facebook 

*From
the Hill*

John Hill, Executive Director

American Association of School Administrators (AASA)

This is the second in a series of five articles highlighting the other not-for-profit organizations and associations that the National Alliance for Medicaid in Education (NAME) works most closely with. These partners help us educate other stakeholders about the critical link between health care and education. We refer to these five organizations as NAME's strategic partners and we rely on them to help co-create a future where children's health is seen as essential to their learning.

AASA is the premier association for school system leaders and serves as the national voice on Capitol Hill for public education and school district administrators. AASA and NAME have worked closely together on school-based Medicaid issues since NAME's inception in 2004. This year, AASA assisted NAME in revising and disseminating NAME's 2016 Biennial School-Based Medicaid Survey. AASA's expertise in developing and conducting surveys has been an invaluable asset as we have worked together to refine the biennial survey questions to ensure the survey produces consistent and reliable information.

NAME's 2016 Biennial Survey has been disseminated to all state Medicaid and education agencies with a completion due date of May 31, 2016. I am currently reaching out to state agency contacts to see if they have any questions about the survey and to encourage their participation. Please consider adding your voice if you are in a position to impact survey participation in your state. Once we have reached an adequate response rate, the survey data will be analyzed and formatted for use by a variety of stakeholders. We hope to have a report available by the end of the year, with the possibility of a sneak preview at the Annual Conference in Bozeman this September. Members will receive updates regarding the final report, which will be posted on the Member Only Section of the NAME website.

Contact me at John.Hill@MedicaidforEducation.org if you have any suggestions, concerns or questions about NAME and/or school-based health services.

NAME Releases the 2016 Biennial Survey!

by Laurie Ray (NC), Chair, Rick Jacobs (IL), Tabitha Taylor (VA) and Janet Lowe (MN) Members, Research Committee

NAME is pleased to announce the commencement of NAME's 2016 Biennial Survey. Since 2005, NAME has developed, conducted and analyzed this survey to collect information about Medicaid School-based Services programs. We sent the survey to contacts at each state Department of Education and state Medicaid agency to complete. It is open only to state agencies to obtain clear state level data for trend analysis.

In early April 2016, the surveys were emailed to Medicaid contacts by NAME Executive Director John Hill, and to State Directors of Special Education by Nancy Reder from the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE).

Each of these state contacts received an email with the link to the online survey tool, as well as a hard copy of the survey. The due date for completion is May 31, 2016 and it can be easily completed online in one session once needed information is gathered.

The 2016 Biennial Survey has been improved and streamlined, so completing it is markedly quicker and easier than past versions. However, the goal of the Survey—to support NAME's Mission of advocating program integrity for school based Medicaid reimbursement—remains unchanged.

Questions?

State Departments of Education participants, please contact: Becky Stoddard at Becky.Stoddard@education.KY.gov

State Medicaid Agency participants, please contact Shannon Huska at Shannon.Huska@state.CO.us

To read more < [Click Here](#)>

NAME Seeks Short-Term IT Consultant

The NAME Board of Directors created an *ad hoc* IT Committee which seeks the services of an information technology (IT) consultant. This individual will work in July and August 2016 to identify and sift through the various products, databases and services created or used by NAME. Applications are due by close of business Wednesday, June 8, 2016.

Nearly all NAME member services are delivered by its all-volunteer work force. **The desired outcome of this search is to select a contractor who can identify, recommend and provide pricing details for a workable, volunteer workforce-friendly solution for NAME's technical infrastructure that functions efficiently for the next 3-5 years.** Current activities include but are not limited to membership tracking, email subscriptions, and Conference registration.

NAME seeks someone with strong technical and analytical skills who knows current IT systems, products and services and who is willing to share that expertise with NAME.

These are the contract deliverables set by the Board for the contracted IT specialist:

- ◆ *Work with the IT Committee to identify and list NAME's IT priorities (with technical specifications) and propose to the Board of Directors by September 14, 2016, at least three options (with pricing) to build an IT infrastructure necessary for NAME to function efficiently for the next 3-5 years.*

NAME seeks a candidate who possesses the following:

- **Strong background in technology, education, government, and healthcare**
- **Experience with development, design, quality assurance, database, and networking**
- **Familiar with software design, analysis, and development**
- **Experience with multiple software applications including but not limited to, CRM (customer relationship management), POS (point of sale) systems, file sharing, email marketing solutions, etc.**
- **Ability to perform application reviews and make suggestions to best fit the needs of the customer**

The *ad hoc* IT Committee will serve as a resource for the selected consultant.

[<Click Here>](#) to read the overview and scope of the project.

Interested applicants please email your cover letter outlining your qualifications and provide a current resume including references to: NAMEITCommittee@MedicaidforEducation.org by close of business Wednesday June 8, 2016

NAME Sponsors

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NAME

Organizational Sponsors



Applications Open for the 2016 Anysia Drumheller Memorial Scholarship- *By 2016 Membership Sub-Committee*



The Anysia Drumheller Memorial Scholarship was created in 2013 by the NAME Board of Directors in memory of our longtime member, Anysia Drumheller. Anysia was elected to serve on the NAME Board of Directors, appointed Chair of the NAME Membership Committee and became an Honorary NAME Board Member prior to her death in May 2013. Her numerous contributions to NAME, service to existing members and determination to recruit new members are commemorated by this generous scholarship.

In 2016, the NAME Board of Directors approved three individual scholarships- one for each NAME Region ([See NAME Regions](#)). Each scholarship will provide reimbursement (not to exceed \$1,000) of reasonable travel costs and lodging for the 14th Annual NAME Conference in Bozeman, Montana. To read more and to apply [<Click Here>](#)

2016 NAME Conference

SAVE the Dates !

September 18-21, 2016

Achieve a Big Sky State of Mind

by *Rena Steyaert (MT), 2016 Conference Committee Chair & Teresa Pastore (MA) 2016 Conference Vice Chair*



**Conference Registration
is OPEN!**

We are only four months away from the BIG SKY views you'll see (as in the photo above), but so much more can be ACHIEVED when you attend the 14th Annual NAME Conference in Bozeman, Montana, September 18-21. The NAME Conference Committee is putting together a schedule of breakout and 'nugget' presentations from over 25 submitted proposals. Topics will cover free care, audits, direct services, administrative claiming, networking, designing a good program, and many more sessions that we hope will provide you with great learning opportunities.

Schedule your travel so you can attend the **Academy** and **Welcome Reception** Sunday afternoon and evening. The Academy is designed for individuals new to the field, but also works as a refresher course about Medicaid in the schools programs. And we think your time will be well spent the first evening of the Conference, greeting long-time friends, meeting new ones and networking with others as you kick off this four-day event.

Registration for the Conference is **open!** Just go to the NAME website <http://www.MedicaidForEducation.org> to register and make your **Hotel** reservations at one of the two hotels hosting NAME's Conference: the Bozeman Holiday Inn and the Best Western Gran Tree, which are adjacent hotels separated only by a parking lot. Sessions will be in both hotels.

Arrive early or stay late! Plan a trip to Yellowstone, Glacier or other national parks nearby. Or, if you like college football, we have reserved a block of 20 tickets for the Montana State University football game on Saturday, September 17th, hosting Western Oregon (no kickoff time yet; more is [here](#)). If you're interested in purchasing tickets at \$40 each, let us know at our email address below. If you are a football fanatic, there are two other MSU football games—on the weekend before the Conference starts or the weekend after the Conference ends, but you're on your own to purchase tickets for those!

Here are a few more things you may not know about Montana and our Conference:

- Montana has no sales tax!
- Yellowstone National Park is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year so it is a good time to visit and only a short 1 hour and 20 minute drive from Bozeman
- At the Conference website, find: answers to all your FAQs; updates on the NAME silent auction fundraiser and our chosen beneficiary; NAME-organized social events on Monday evening; and things to do in Bozeman (in the FAQ); and so much more.

We do look forward to welcoming you to Bozeman this September. If you cannot find answers to your questions on our website, just email us: ConferenceCommittee@MedicaidForEducation.org



Regional News

News From Region 3

Region 3 States: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

Electronic Signatures Allowed in Washington State

The School Based Health Care Services Program in Washington State recently started allowing school based providers to electronically sign daily treatment notes and service logs for direct health care services provided to children with IEPs and IFSPs. Since authenticating treatment notes with a handwritten signature can be very time consuming, the use of electronic records and electronic signatures can significantly reduce costs as well as simplify and speed up work processes. It is expected that acceptance of electronic signatures will relieve some of the administrative burden that can come with Medicaid billing. The State law authorizing Washington State agencies to utilize electronic signatures is codified in Chapter 19.360 RCW.

New Mexico in Final Stages, Transition to Cost Reporting and Settlement

The New Mexico Human Services Department's Medical Assistance Division is in the final stages of negotiating a State Plan Amendment (SPA) with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). This SPA will transition the Medicaid School-Based Services (MSBS) direct service payments from the standard fee-for-service model to one that involves cost reporting and settlement for services. This change will start with services provided on or after July 1, 2015. The department's School Health Office, which administers the MSBS, has been working with Fairbanks, LLC to implement the cost report. The state and Fairbanks have been co-administering the state's current random moment time study (RMTS) and administrative claiming programs since 2011. In 2013, as the state prepared to re-procure the contract for the RMTS and administrative claiming, it was decided to add direct services cost reporting and settlement. According to School Health Manager Christie Guinn, "The agency felt comfortable with the current RMTS process and decided that making the transition to cost settlement was something we were ready to do. We anticipate this being a very positive change for our schools and are anxious to get final approval from CMS and begin the final stages of implementation."

California Submission of State Plan Amendment for School Based Direct Service Program

On September 30, 2015 California's Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) a State Plan Amendment (SPA). This SPA will include new assessment and treatment services, new practitioner types, and a Random Moment Time Survey (RMTS) methodology to the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Program. In addition, DHCS is implementing the guidelines in accordance with the letter to the State Medicaid Director (SMD-14-006) dated December 15, 2014.

More information regarding the CA SPA and copies of CMS and DHCS communications to Request Additional Information (RAI) can be found here [<click here>](#).

Region 3 Representatives and Officer on the NAME Board of Directors:

Stacie Martin (KS) Christie Guinn (NM) Jeremy Ford (CA)

Education Agency Medicaid Agency Local Education Agency

Shannon Huska (CO)

President-Elect

Mark Smith (OH)

Dario Avila (TX)

Tabitha Taylor (VA)

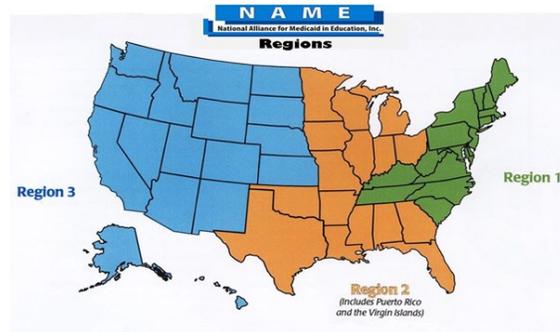
At-Large Education Agency

at-Large Medicaid Agency

at-Large Local Education Agency

To contact us: Region3@MedicaidForEducation.org

Also contributing: *Shanna Muirhead (WA), Program Manager, School-Based Health Care Services, Washington State Health Care Authority and Cathy Bennett (CA), Medi-Cal Program Specialist, Sacramento City Unified School District.*



N A M E

National Alliance for Medicaid in Education, Inc.