

NAMEtag



Spring 2017

“NAME Advocates Program Integrity For School Based Medicaid Reimbursement”

Volume 12 Issue 1

President’s Corner

Greetings everyone,

It is hard to believe that it is already 2017! This is sure to be a year of new challenges and many questions, specifically, the future of Medicaid. Unfortunately, no one has a crystal ball revealing what the future of Medicaid looks like. As an organization, NAME is paying close attention to what is being said and any potential changes that are being discussed. Our Executive Director, John Hill, has been working with many organizations to educate them on School-Based Medicaid and the importance of the program. If you have not seen the recent update from John, please take a look at what he is working on.

<http://www.medicaidforeducation.org/news/changes-are-likely-coming-for-school-based-medicaid>.

NAME will continue to monitor and watch for any possible changes in the School-Based Medicaid program and will continue to update our members as news becomes available.

If you have any questions or information to share about what is happening at the local, state or national level, please contact us at: info@medicaidforeducation.org. The NAME webpage www.medicaidforeducation.org will also be kept up to date with new information as it is available.

Shannon Huska (CO)
2016-17 NAME President

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Congratulations



Many of you know Elaine Lerner (NJ), she has been the Secretary of NAME for five (5) years and one of the leaders of the Medicaid Academy. We would like to congratulate Elaine with her retirement from the New Jersey Department of Education.

While employed with the New Jersey Department of Education, Elaine spearheaded the creation and advancement of the School-Based Medicaid Program.

Her involvement with NAME commenced in 2003 and Elaine has provided her wealth of knowledge to NAME members through eight (8) presentations at our national conferences.

Elaine, we wish you the best in your retirement!

Where to find Us:
www.MedicaidForEducation.org

Email:
info@MedicaidForEducation.org

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NAME bids a fond farewell to founding member Jane Reagan, who served NAME’s leadership team in numerous roles, including Bylaws Committee Chair, President, and Communications Committee Chair.

Throughout her lengthy tenure with the organization, Jane often helped behind the scenes to offer a variety of topics, formats and perspectives among NAME’s annual conference presentations.

Even while working full time for the Michigan Dept. of Education for 14 years, Jane has been busy swimming, hiking, cycling, volunteer lighthouse keeping and delighting in life’s simple pleasures. *Congratulations to Jane on her February 2017 retirement, and Happy Trails in whatever adventures lie ahead!*



John Hill, Executive Director

Healthy Schools Campaign (HSC)

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

NAME and HSC have collaborated on a number of initiatives over the past five years. In particular, working together to influence the 2014 change in the CMS Free Care provision, and more recently, to help provide leadership to the U.S. Department of Education and Health & Human Services Agency's "Healthy Students, Promising Futures: Learning Collaborative To Expand Access To School-Based Medicaid Services" initiative which was described in the September 2016 NAMEtag Edition.

HSC has developed an effective model for helping schools provide students with healthy environments, nutritious food, opportunities for physical activity and experiences that support lifelong healthy habits. Access to health care services is an essential component of the HSC approach. To bring about this transformation in schools across the country, HSC works at multiple levels to ensure that all students have an opportunity to develop the knowledge and skills they need to live healthy and productive lives.

For more information about HSC, please visit their website at: <https://healthyschoolscampaign.org>.

As always, please contact me at John.Hill@MedicaidforEducation.org if you have any suggestions, concerns or questions about school-based health services.

New Procedure Codes for Occupational and Physical Therapy Evaluations

By Kevin Bauer (MI) NAME President-Elect

On July 7, 2016, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a proposed rule that updates payment policies, payment rates, and quality provisions for services furnished under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS), effective January 1, 2017. New occupational therapy CPT evaluation and re-evaluation codes are being proposed under the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation section of the CPT Manual to replace existing CPT codes 97001, 97002, 97003 and 97004.

These codes were replaced with the following codes:

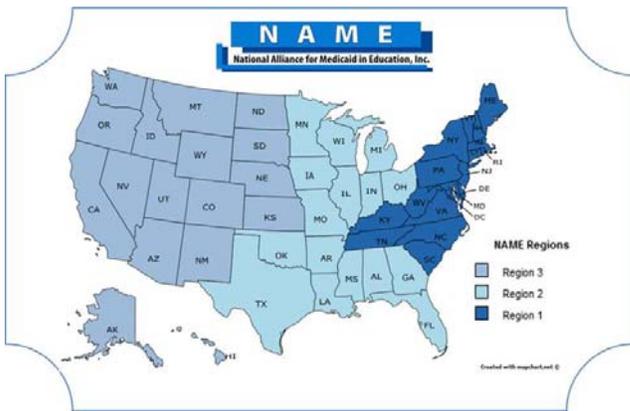
- 97161 - Physical therapy: low complexity
- 97162 - Physical therapy: moderate complexity
- 97163 - Physical therapy: high complexity
- 97164 – Physical therapy re-evaluation
- 97165 - Occupational therapy: low complexity
- 97166 - Occupational therapy: moderate complexity
- 97167 - Occupational therapy: high complexity
- 97168 – Occupational therapy re-evaluation

All of these new evaluation codes are based on the complexity of the evaluation, including: the criteria of patient history and comorbidities; examination and the use of standardized test and measures; clinical presentation; and clinical decision making. **It is important to note that the coding criteria are general guidelines; it is up to the therapist to determine which level of complexity is appropriate.**

Additional information can also be found:

Suggested guidelines from CMS can be found in the Medicare Learning Network Article MM9782 <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/MM9782.pdf>.

Resources from the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. (AOTA) <http://www.aota.org/Advocacy-Policy/Federal-Reg-Affairs/Coding/new-OT-CPT-evaluation-codes.aspx>



Regional News

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Region 2 Representatives:

Steve Ireland (MI) Medicaid Agency

Anne Glass (FL) Education Agency

Kathleen Cummins Merry (MI) Local Education Agency

To contact us: Region2@medicaidforeducation.org

Flint Water Crisis

The USDOE press release dated October 7, 2016 stated USDOE's Office of Safety and Healthy Students has awarded \$480,000 to Flint Community Schools in Flint, MI. According to the press release the grant will be "used to restore the learning environment following the water crisis that began in 2014." Further information on the award other federal efforts to assist Flint can be found at

<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-awards-480000-flint-michigan-schools>.

Genesee Intermediate School District

Genesee Intermediate School District is also part of another exciting project currently under development. This new project is a combined effort with non-profit Flint Kids Learn, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Community Foundation of Greater Flint, University of Michigan-Flint (UM-Flint), Flint Schools and Genesee Intermediate School District. These organizations and foundations have continued to be a part of developing projects to assist Flint children, which has made a tremendous impact in the Flint community.

The project is a new school located in Flint expected to open in the Fall of 2017. The school will be servicing Flint student's ages 8 weeks to 3 years old. It will also include an adult education learning space, a need identified by community organizations. Genesee Intermediate School District will provide educational programming and services to an expected 200+ children. UM-Flint will collect data and conduct research needed by policy makers.

Genesee Intermediate School District is excited to be a part of such a valuable project which will provide the much needed programs, services and many other supports to the Flint residents. The full article regarding this project can be found at:

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2017/01/construction_begins_on_state-o.html

Florida Match Funding for Private and Charter Schools

The 2016 Florida Legislature appropriated funding to be used for the state match for Medicaid-reimbursable services provided by private and charter schools. The state Medicaid agency is submitting a Medicaid state plan amendment to add the private and charter school providers.

2017 NAME Conference

"The Sunshine State is Calling Your NAME"

by Deneen Gorassini (FL), 2017 Conference Committee Chair

We are busy, busy, busy planning for a very productive, engaging, and fun 2017 Conference. NAME Conferences stay true to our mission: NAME Advocates Program Integrity for School Based Medicaid Reimbursement.

Join us for the 2017 NAME Conference where you will receive the most up to date information that is relevant to your Medicaid Program.

The Conference is October 15 - 18, 2017 and will be at the Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida; more information to follow. Continue to check the conference website often for updates related to the 2017 NAME Conference. <http://www.medicicaidforeducation.org/annual-conference/2017-ft-lauderdale-fl>

Also, there's still time to be part of one of the many sub-committees to make this event possible. Contact Deneen Gorassini or Nanci English @ 754-321-3400 if you are interested in participating.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Florida!

Save the Date

October 15-18, 2017



Nominating Committee News

Charles Tyler Jr. (MD) Nominating Chair



Spring 2017

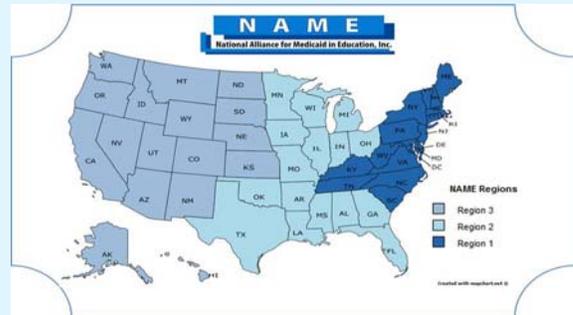
New NAME Secretary

With the retirement of Elaine Lerner, the NAME board has elected Tabitha Taylor (VA) to complete Elaine's term in office. Tabitha has previously served the NAME board as the Region 1 State Medicaid representative and the At-Large LEA representative. **Congratulations Tabitha!**

Upcoming NAME board elections

As we all know, May is approaching quickly and it will soon be time for the NAME board elections. Each position serves a three (3) year term. The following board positions will be voted on by the membership in May, 2017:

- * President-elect: 1 year President-Elect, 1 year President, 1 year Immediate Past President (The President-Elect must be from a state education or a state Medicaid agency)
- * Region 1 State Medicaid Agency representative
- * Region 3 State Education Agency representative
- * Region 3 Local Education Agency representative
- * At-Large State Medicaid Agency representative
- * Treasurer - not elected by the voting members, but appointed in September for a 2-year term by the Board of Directors



The composition of the board is twelve Regional Directors and five Officers. Some of the responsibilities of all elected leaders for NAME include: attendance at monthly Board meetings via teleconference; in-person attendance at the 2-day Board meeting and annual Long Range Planning meeting that immediately follows the NAME Annual Conference; in-person attendance at one Strategic Planning Meeting held every 3 years (May 2020); and participation on at least one NAME committee. Some financial assistance may be available for travel related to attending the Annual Conference and long range planning meetings referenced above.

The NAME Nominating Applications are available on the NAME members-only website

<http://medicaidforeducation.org/members/committees/nominating-committee> Applications from any NAME member in good standing, will be accepted through April 14, 2017. To submit your application or if you have any questions, please contact NAME Nominating Committee Chair Charles Tyler, Jr. at CTyler@bcps.org.

This is the first "Call for Candidates" for the 2017 election cycle, so if you are interested in helping NAME expand and flourish with your unique perspective, serving on the Board of Directors is a positive way to give back to NAME.



Free Care

Amy Edwards (VA), Governmental Affairs & Public Relations Committee Chair

On December 2, 2016, NAME participated in the second on-site *Healthy Students, Promising Futures Learning Collaborative* in Washington DC conducted by the U.S. Department of Education, Healthy Schools Campaign and Trust for Americas Health.

The goal of these meetings is to strategize on ways to improve children's health by expanding access to school based health services to the Medicaid enrolled children. This meeting was attended by State Medicaid agencies, State Education agencies, Local Education Agencies and interested organizations giving all an opportunity to share ideas and best practices.

Ongoing meetings are expected to continue sharing ideas, best practices and progress. For more information, check out the Healthy Students, Promising Futures website <https://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/healthy-students/index.html>

