Arrowhead Regional Quality Council

Meeting Minutes

May 25, 2023

ARQC Meeting Date: 5/25/2023, 8:30-10am

ARQC Meeting Platform: Zoom

Greetings/Introductions/Opening Round

- Welcome to Megan Halena, joining us to speak on the MA Renewals. Thank you!!
- There were several people missing from this month's meeting due to illness or vacation, but we had a great discussion on healthcare barriers with those present.
- Overall, the feeling was that people need to go to extreme measures to receive health care, especially if they have disabilities. These barriers discourage people from seeking basic healthcare, and for some, leave them thousands of dollars in debt, many without the answers they are seeking, or wasting money and time on unnecessary tests.

Bite Size Learning

- We watched a clip on the disparities that those with disabilities face in the health care system, often times going unheard and unseen. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=un3LK77DZdg&t=25s
- After the previous discussion on personal experiences with obtaining healthcare, this video showed a stark difference in accessibility.

MA Renewal Process: Megan Halena, Generations Health Care, MN Sure Navigator

- Starting in June, MA renewals will restart, everyone who is on MA will be receiving a packet in the weeks before their renewal month that they must fill out and submit back to DHS to renew their MA. It is important for people to complete the packet as soon as it is received. Many people may find themselves either without MA or routed to another option.
- Megan reiterated that obtaining help from a MN Sure Navigator would assist most people with understanding what options are, what your future insurance will look like, and if there is any needed information that is missing. There are Navigators at Community Action Duluth, Lake Superior Community Health, WE Clinic, the YMCA, and Generations Health Care.
- You can find this info at: Insureduluth.org.
- Navigator's will also be available on Thursdays at the Duluth Library, noon-6pm and at St Louis County on Mondays from noon-4pm.
- AEOA is heading up the renewal outreach outside of the Duluth area.
- There was discussion about the ARQC taking an active role in helping to spread this information in communities outside of Duluth. Becky will send out a Doodle poll to set an initial meeting for this project.
- Useful links for more information:

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- https://mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage/
- https://mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage/timeline/
- https://www.mnsure.org/help/find-assister/find-assister.jsp
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KtuMg2098WE

Virtual Site Visit and Audit for ARQC Grant, June 13th

- The ARQC will meet virtually with DHS to conduct a virtual site visit and audit of the program on June 13th. We have been reviewing our successes and challenges over the last year and half and shared some of the successes with the Council.
- We look forward to a discussion next month on what some of our challenges have been, what we can be doing differently or better in the coming months and years.

Agency, Provider, and Advocacy Updates

- Arc Northland is moving to the Zeitgeist during June and will be officially out of the Ordean at the beginning of July.
- The Lighthouse will be moving to new premises this summer. Their new location will be at the Landsman Building on W 1st St.
- Mary and Shawn gave a review of the virtual Save Medicare Rally on May 24th. Since this meeting, the negotiations seem to have ended and have pointed to some new work requirements. The debt ceiling extension is projected to be passed by June 5th.
- The Northern Lights Express is a go and has been fully funded!!
    - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4TzOtMwrHA

Upcoming Meetings (all virtual)

- Culture of Safety Data Action Workgroup Meeting- June 6, 1-3pm
- Statewide RQC Update-June 13, 11-12pm (see email)
- Person-Centered Concepts Workgroup Meeting- June 19, 3-4pm
- RQC Workforce Shortage Workgroup Meeting- June 22, 11-12:30pm
- Self-Advocate Pre-ARQC Meeting- June 21, 3-4pm
- Self-Advocate Post-ARQC Meeting- June 23, 3-4pm

June ARQC Meeting: June 22nd, 8:30-10am

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Attendance

Name	Member Representation		Present Y/N
Becky Lambert	Arc Northland	ARQC Staff	Y
Beth Johnson	Arc Northland	ARQC Staff	Y
	Carlton County	Lead Agency	N
Amy Patenaude	St. Louis County	Lead Agency	N
Lauren Nelson	Cook County	Lead Agency	Y
Kerwin McKay	DHS	Lead Agency	Y
Michelle McDonald	Lake County DAC	Lead Agency	N
Beth Swanson	Lake County	Lead Agency	N
Shawn Stanich		Self-Advocate	Y
Heath Maki		Self-Advocate	N
Connie Kotonias	Family Member	Advocate	Y
Amanda Crosby	Arc Northland	Advocate	N
Mary Martin	Family Member	Advocate	Y
Kristie Buchman	Choice Unlimited	Service Provider	N
Nicole Lind	RSI	Service Provider	N
Ann Dahl	Udac	Service Provider	Y
Josh Howie	Trillium Services	Service Provider	N
Sherri Cooke	Lighthouse Center for V L	Service Provider	Y
Others Present:			
Megan Halena	Generations Health Care		Y