

PREPARED BY: Narkesia Swanigan

DATE MATERIAL PREPARED: 01/04/13

AGENDA ITEM: Presentation: Healthy Families

- ENCLOSURES:**
- Healthy Families Program Transition To Medi-Cal: Benefits Comparison
 - Healthy Families Program To Medi-Cal Transition Frequently Asked Questions

OTHER MATERIAL RELATED TO ITEM:

ISSUE:

At the October Healthcare Reform (HCR) Committee meeting members identify their interest and specialty in mental health. A common interest in mental health was children issues. A workgroup was established to develop a workplan for the HCR Committee and part of the workplan looks at children issues in relation to the implementation of the affordable care act. Healthy Families is a program for children that will transition to Medi-Cal as healthcare reform is implemented. Staff has invited a presenter from the Department of Health Care Services to inform the HCR committee on how this transition will take place and how the HCR committee can advocate for children to continue receiving services under the new system.

BACKGROUND:

Healthy Families provides low cost insurance that provides health, dental, and vision coverage to children who do not have insurance today and do not qualify for no-cost Medi-Cal.

All children enrolled in the Healthy Families Program will move to the Medi-Cal Program. This is due to a change in state law. The children’s coverage will move to Medi-Cal in groups starting no sooner than January 2013 and continue through 2013. Children enrolled in Healthy Families will not lose any health, dental, or vision coverage when they change to Medi-Cal.

Healthy Families Program (HFP) Transition To Medi-Cal

Pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 1494, (Committee on Budget, Chapter 28, Statutes of 2012), all Healthy Families Program (HFP) enrollees will transition to Medi-Cal as targeted low-income Medicaid children, as allowed under federal law, beginning January 1, 2013. The transition of approximately 875,000 HFP enrollees will be implemented in four separate phases over the course of one year and in a manner that minimizes disruption in services, maintains adequate provider networks, and ensures access to care. Each Phase will require an implementation plan, including information on health and dental plan network adequacy, continuity of care, eligibility and enrollment requirements, consumer protections, and family notifications.

The transition of HFP enrollees to Medi-Cal will simplify eligibility and coverage for children and families while providing additional benefits and lowering costs for children at certain income levels. The State will also gain administrative efficiencies, achieve General Fund savings, and provide a more consistent health plan contracting process while increasing plan accountability for providing high quality services to children.

X INFORMATION

TAB SECTION: A

___ ACTION REQUIRED:

DATE OF MEETING: 01/16/13

PREPARED BY: Narkesia Swanigan

**DATE MATERIAL
PREPARED: 01/04/13**

The California Health and Human Services Agency, in collaboration with the Department of Health Care Services, the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board and the Department of Managed Health Care will collaborate with the Legislature and stakeholder partners over the coming months to ensure a successful plan is created to transition the children from HFP to Medi-Cal. A transition plan will be provided to the Legislature no later than October 1, 2012. The Administration will convene a stakeholder process for preparation and transition and will have ongoing meetings throughout the transition.