

MINUTES
Stakeholder Conference Call
September 22, 2006

Attendees: Stakeholders, Regional Community Services Staff, HarmonyIS Milestone Oversight team, HealthCarePerspective LLC team, Mrs. Wilson, and Daphne Rosalis

1. NPI Number:

- a. Last time we discussed the NPI number we were not clear on what the requirements would be so Fordyce recommended that providers apply for a NPI number for each Medicaid Performing Provider number they had. So if you provider services under the MR Waiver, Living at Home Waiver, and Targeted Case Management you would have applied for three. Since then we have had clarification on this issue. To date, the recommendation is that each provider get only one NPI number. This number will cover all the divisions so that if you are offering services in MR, MI, and in SA you will have just one NPI number. Please send the information to DMR after you have applied for the number. EDS is requesting additional documentation along with the NPI number and we ask that you send us a copy of whatever you are sending to EDS.

2. Harmony updates:

- a. We have been working with Harmony for the last two weeks on claims adjudication and ensuring that claims make it through both the Harmony adjudication and the EDS adjudication processes to ensure payment of claims. This week we had our fiscal manager's come into Montgomery to learn how to set up a prior authorization in MRSIS. Then pilot sites came to Montgomery to test the claims entry system. There were three pilot sites: Calhoun-Cleburne, East AL, and Nobles Group Homes. Two of the three pilots sites send claims via 837 (HIPAA compliant electronic format) and one agency sends claims through the EDS interface (PES).
- b. Things went as smoothly as could be expected. There were a lot of recommendations that came out of the pilot site training. Tonya Harmon (President of Harmony) was in town this week and able to speak with the billing folks and get recommendations and feedback. Tonya suggested a meeting a month from now to get feedback on the changes that will take place with the billing system from now until the time the application is delivered to DMR. We've asked the pilot sites to go back to their office and help continue testing with a structured plan. Toward the end of the month we will ask that providers send claims for all of their consumers so that we can do a volume test.
- c. We have a limited number of tests that we can run completely through the ESD system. We are working on a tight time-line, but we believe we can get what we need to test through EDS by mid-November.
- d. We have a revised format for 837 submitters available. There are only a few fields that require modification. We need for the 837 submitters to get with their vendor and make the modifications to their system relatively soon. Our

hope is to test every 837 (from all providers) in Harmony to make sure that Harmony is able to read the data fields correctly because each agency has a variation of an 837. We are hoping to be able to do this toward the end of the year. The format will be posted on the web and will be sent to providers via e-mail.

3. Go live dates are still on time. February 1, 2007 for claims and prior authorizations. March 1, 2007 for the Case Management piece. We plan to send out an RSVP to all end users to establish training dates and locations. We want to make sure that all folks are set up in MRSIS to use the system. Look for this within the next month or so.
4. For SPES users we are working with Barry Hartman to get an electronic 837 sent from the SPES system to MRSIS. He is very close to finalizing the format. Once the format is complete we will work with Lee Connor (MASPMR) in testing the systems ability to generate an 837 that is accepted by both MRSIS and EDS. This will be a transitioning functionality until MRSIS has the ability to duplicate the SPES system.
5. Questions: Is there a deadline date for the NPI number application?

Answer: The transition from performing provider numbers to NPI number will happen on May 23, 2007 at EDS. The recommendation is that you go ahead and get the NPI number as soon as possible. There will be a lot of people requesting a number and the sooner you have yours the better. Also, we need to be able to crosswalk the numbers in the MRSIS system. The application is fairly easy. You can go onto the Medicaid web-site and complete the application on-line. Once you have the number there is a request that you send the NPI number along with additional documentation to EDS and when you do this we request that you send DMR a copy as well. As a point of clarification, this is a national registry where you are registering yourself on a national registry so it is not something that the Division or even EDS has control over. Medicaid and EDS has the link on their web-site, but it is to the National registry. You can find the application on the following web link <http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/billing/NPI.aspx?tab=6>