Tailoring MLTSS Programs for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission

Kristal Vardaman
Overview

- Background
- Results of contract review
- Key interview themes
- Next steps
Background

• Need to understand how managed long-term services and supports (MLTSS) programs serve different populations

• MACPAC employed Health Management Associates (HMA) to research how states have tailored MLTSS to meet the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD)
Background

- Intellectual disability is characterized by significant limitations both in intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior
  - Originates before the age of 18
- Developmental disabilities are severe chronic disabilities that can be cognitive, physical, or both
  - Appear before the age of 22
Background

- Twenty-three states have MLTSS programs, but only eight cover most LTSS for individuals with IDD
- HMA reviewed programs in Arizona, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Wisconsin
  - Vary on many dimensions including managing entities, mandatory versus voluntary enrollment, and inclusion of other LTSS populations
Reasons Fewer States Include Individuals with IDD in MLTSS

• Underdeveloped relationship between managed care organizations (MCOs) and IDD service providers
• Resistance from the IDD stakeholder community
• Difficulty in achieving cost savings
• Lack of data for capitation rate development
• Silos in administration of services for individuals with IDD
Contract Review Results

- IDD-specific provisions are more prevalent in programs designed for people with IDD compared to those that include other LTSS populations
- Contracts reflect state-specific goals
  - Tennessee’s efforts to increase employment opportunities
  - New York’s focus on integration of Medicare and Medicaid services
Contract Review Results

• The most frequent IDD-specific requirements relate to training and experience of the case managers
• Five states include IDD-specific quality provisions or measures
• Other requirements include stakeholder engagement and reporting of the use of physical restraint or seclusion
Key Interview Themes

- Some states have enrolled individuals incrementally by region, eligibility category, or both
  - Can be successful as it allows time for stakeholders to acclimate to change and creates opportunities for course corrections
  - One challenge is that a state must operate dual LTSS systems for some period of time
Key Interview Themes

- Stakeholder engagement is critical to program and policy success. Steps MCOs can take include:
  - having a member advocate on staff;
  - hiring people with disabilities or family members;
  - including advocacy and stakeholder organizations in service coordinator training;
  - supporting local disability-related events; and
  - hosting stakeholder meetings.
Key Interview Themes

- Consumers and providers want more transparency, responsiveness, and accountability
- Providers say timeliness requirements can conflict with person-centered planning
- Outcome-based payment arrangements are emerging
- MCO transitions or exits can cause disruption, particularly for residential or employment services
Next Steps

• Incorporating key themes into June chapter on MLTSS
• Supplemental issue brief on research results
• Staff monitoring of state activity
  – Several states have indicated they may incorporate this population into MLTSS in the future
  – Implementation challenges in some states may prompt changes
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