

## Welcome to AHCCCS Hot Topic

While you are waiting TEST YOUR AUDIO. LISTEN FOR MUSIC.

You were automatically muted upon entry.

Please only join by phone or computer.



Thank you.



## Back-to-School Well-Care Member Incentive Campaign

**WHO:** AHCCCS or KidsCare (managed care enrolled) members, ages 3-19, and who complete their first well-care visit of 2023

**WHEN:** June 5 - Sept. 5 2023

WHAT: Eligible to receive a \$25 gift card

from their AHCCCS health plan.

azahcccs.gov/wellcare.html





#### Statewide Arizona Crisis Hotline

Call: 1-844-534-HOPE (4673) or

Text: 4HOPE (44673)

**Chat:** Crisis Response Network





## **Arizona Crisis Hotlines by County**

#### **Local Suicide and Crisis Hotlines by County**

#### **Phone**

Maricopa, Pinal, Gila Counties served by Mercy

Care: 1-800-631-1314 or 602-222-9444

Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Pima, Santa Cruz and Yuma Counties

served by Arizona Complete Health: 1-866-495-6735

Apache, Coconino, Mohave, Navajo and Yavapai Counties served by Care1st:

1-877-756-4090

Gila River and Ak-Chin Indian Communities: 1-800-259-3449

#### **Especially for Teens**

Teen Life Line phone or text: 602-248-TEEN (8336)





#### How to access the crisis line in your area

#### Statewide:

Call: 1-844-534-HOPE (4673), Text: 4HOPE (44673) or

**Chat:** Crisis Response Network

#### **North GSA**

Counties: Coconino, Mohave, Navajo, Yavapai:

Health Choice Arizona: 1-877-756-4090

#### **Central GSA**

Maricopa County, Pinal, Gila: Mercy Care 1-800-631-1314

#### South GSA

 Counties: Apache, Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz County, Pima, Santa Cruz, Yuma:

Arizona Complete Health - Complete Care Plan

1-866-495-6735

#### **Tribal**

Ak-Chin Indian Indian Community:

1-800-259-3449

Gila River Indian Community:

1-800-259-3449

Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community:

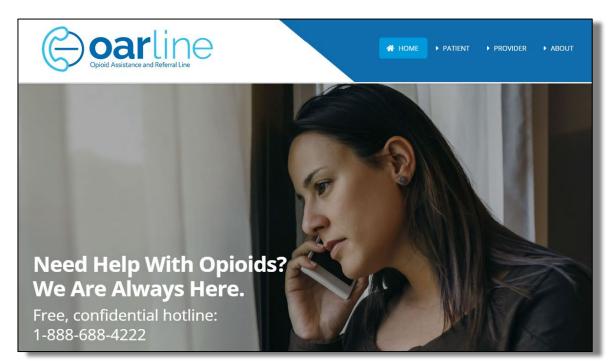
1-855-331-6432

Tohono O'odham Nation:

1-844-423-8759



#### **OARLine**



**Email:** 

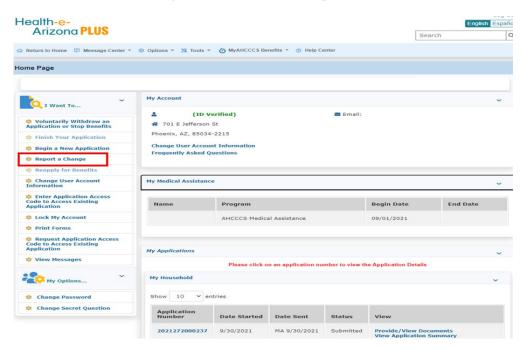
AzOarline@gmail.com

www.azdhs.gov/oarline



## Members: Make Sure Your Contact Info Is Current In Health-e-Arizona PLUS

Need to report a change?



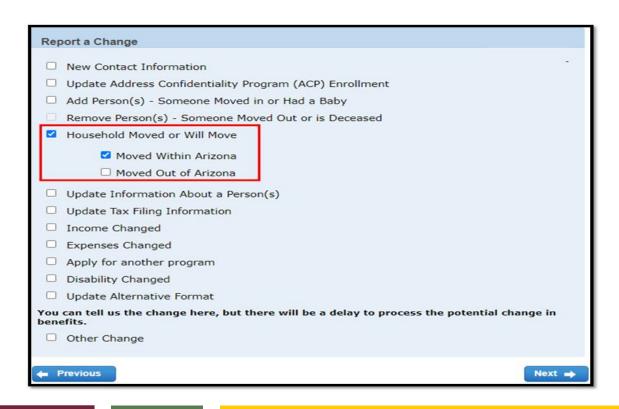


Log in or create an account today at <a href="https://www.healthearizonaplus.gov">www.healthearizonaplus.gov</a>



## Health-e-Arizona PLUS Address Changes

Address changes can be reported online using Health-e-Arizona PLUS.

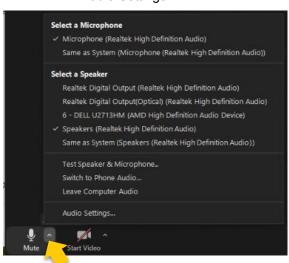




#### **Zoom Webinar Controls**

#### Navigating your bar on the bottom...

#### **Audio Settings**



#### Turn on Closed Captioning



#### Raise Hand



#### Chat



#### KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS TO RAISE HAND

Windows: Alt+Y to raise or lower your hand

Mac: Option+Y to raise or lower your hand



## Tips for successful ZOOM PARTICIPATION





















MUTE your mic when you're not speaking





PREPARE & queue docs or links that you plan to share

BACKGROUND
NOISE watch when
turning on mic





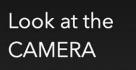
Stay FOCUSed by not texting or side conversations

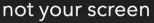
Limit the
DISTRACTIONS
around you





Use GALLERY
VIEW to see all
participants









Use CHAT to ask questions or share resources



## This Meeting Is Being Recorded

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## Transforming Policy: The Medicaid State Plan and Role of Lived Experience in Public Comments

Ruben Soliz, Federal Relations and Health Policy Advisor



#### Welcome

The purpose of today's presentation is to:

- Provide an overview of AHCCCS' State Plans and federal policy, and
- 2. Describe the important role of lived experience in shaping health policy.



### What is health policy?

- The laws, regulations, actions, and decisions implemented within society in order to promote wellness and ensure that specific health goals are met.
- Notable events in health policy include:
  - 1965: Medicaid established
  - 1992: SMI rights established in AZ in Laws 1992, Ch. 301, § 61
  - 1997: CHIP established for low-mind income children
  - 2014: The Affordable Care Act expanded Medicaid eligibility (up to 133% FPL)



## Why does health policy matter?

- Issues of health policy affect:
  - Who receives health care.
  - The kind of health care services available.
  - The quality of health care.
  - The amount (\$\$\$) that health care providers are paid for services.
  - The amount (\$\$\$) that you pay for health care.



#### What is the State Plan?

- The State Plan is AHCCCS' core health policy document.
- It describes Arizona's Medicaid program and how it operates.
- It is a legal contract between the State of Arizona and the federal government, authorizing Arizona to implement Medicaid within the limits of federal regulations.
- It is also the basis for the state to receive federal matching funds to implement Medicaid.



#### How is the State Plan Organized?

- The State Plan is approximately 1,000 pages.
- It is organized into 7 sections which cover topics such as:
  - Eligibility Criteria
  - Services Offered
  - Payment Rates
  - Legal Requirements
- It is posted to AHCCCS' website:
   www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/StatePlans/





#### Why does the State Plan matter?

#### The State Plan...

- Establishes who may receive Medicaid in Arizona.
- Establishes the services available to Medicaid members.
  - E.g. Psychiatry, Lifeskills, Peer Support, Individual/Group Therapy
- Establishes how much **providers are paid** for providing services
- Establish health care quality and treatment standards
  - E.g. Provider qualifications, Medication Assisted Treatment, etc.



### How is the State Plan updated?

- The State Plan is a living document.
- It is regularly updated for many reasons such as adding new services, updating eligibility criteria and changing payment rates.
- To change the State Plan, for reasons such as those noted above, we must prepare and receive CMS approval of a State Plan Amendment (SPA).

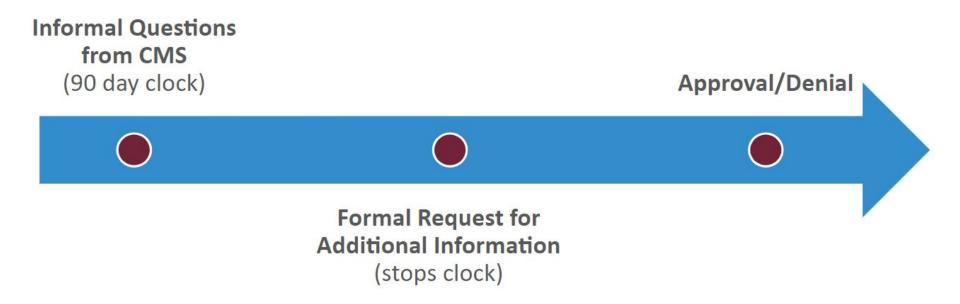


#### What is the SPA Process?





### What is the SPA Process? (Cont'd)





#### What are some notable SPAs in AZ?

- Peer and Family Support Services (2010)
- Medicaid Expansion in Arizona (2013/2014)
- Public Health Emergency (PHE) Flexibilities (2020-current)
- Medicaid School Based Care (2021)
- Postpartum Coverage Expansion (2023)
- Community Health Worker Services (2023)



## What are some upcoming SPAs?

- Expansion of CHIP Income Eligibility Limits (225% FPL)
- CHIP 12-month Continuous Eligibility
- Medicaid Children 12-month Continuous Eligibility



### How does lived experience fit within health policy?

- Lived experience plays a vital role in shaping health policy.
- A <u>2021 Report</u> from the US Dept of Health and Human Services describes how to incorporate lived experience in policy through:
  - Storytelling: Telling one's unique story and highlighting one's experience in the health care system.
  - Advising: Making policy recommendations and suggestions based on lived experience



#### What is a public comment?

- Definition: Input given by the public on certain proposed government actions.
- A public comment can be sent on behalf of yourself or can be sent on behalf of a group (e.g., an organization, a community).
- A public comment can be a simple email to the public comment email address.
- A public comment can also be a more formal letter.



Who is qualified to submit a public comment?

# EVERYONE!



## What opportunities for public comment does AHCCCS have?

- AHCCCS has <u>a website</u> with Public Notices and Opportunities for Public Comment.
- Each State Plan Amendment (SPA) <u>is posted</u> for public comment.
- The Public Comment Period for each SPA lasts 45 days.
- Public comments may be submitted via email or postal mail.



#### How does AHCCCS use SPA public comments?

- The public comments help AHCCCS to better understand the needs of AHCCCS members and stakeholders.
- All SPA comments are reviewed, summarized, and presented to AHCCCS Executive Leadership.
- The public comments may affect how a policy is operationalized.
- The public comments may also inspire the creation of entirely new policies and services.



## What sort of experience should I share in my public comment?

Share whatever is important to you!

This might include:

- Cultural background
- Community connections
- Needs and preferences
- Experience in the healthcare system
- Recommendations based on experience



## What are some examples of public comments?

- "As someone who has been on AHCCCS, I understand the difficulties of..."
- "Living in a community where 75% of the population speaks only Spanish, I recommend that..."
- "As the father of child with a diagnosed mental health condition, I believe that this policy is..."



## How can I stay updated on opportunities for public comment?

- Check the AHCCCS web page titled "Public Notices and Opportunities for Public Comment"
- Follow AHCCCS on Social Media
- Attend the State Medicaid Advisory Committee (SMAC) as a public member



## Questions?



## Thank You.



## Follow & Support AHCCCS on Social Media









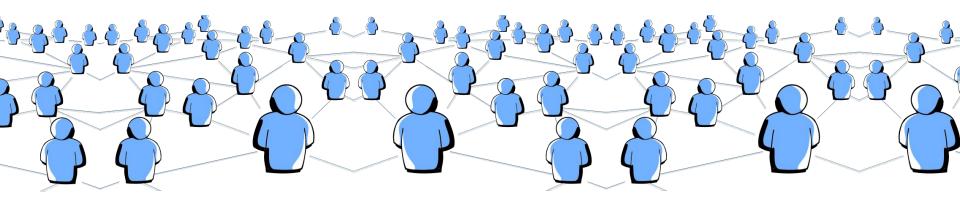
Handle: @AHCCCSgov

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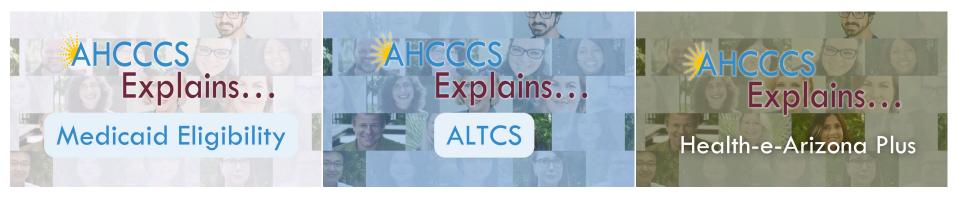
Handle: @AHCCCS

Channel: **AHCCCSgov** 





#### Learn about AHCCCS' Medicaid Program on YouTube!





Watch our Playlist:
<a href="Meet Arizona's Innovative Medicaid Program">Meet Arizona's Innovative Medicaid Program</a>

#### Other Resources - Quick Links

- AHCCCS <u>Waiver</u>
- AHCCCS State Plan
- AHCCCS <u>Grants</u>
- AHCCCS Whole Person Care Initiative (WPCI)
- AHCCCS <u>Office of Human Rights</u>
- AHCCCS <u>Office of Individual and Family Affairs</u>
- Future RBHA Competitive Contract Expansion



