

Medicaid Services Advisory Committee

Public Meeting

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

12:30 – 2:30 pm

- This meeting is open to the public
- Please mute your line to reduce background noise
- Public comment will be taken at the end of the meeting or can be submitted in writing to msac.dhs@state.mn.us



Medicaid Services Advisory Committee

May 9, 2023



Welcome and Overview

Melorine Mokri | Deputy Federal Relations Director, Health Care Administration

Housekeeping

- WebEx meeting
- Meeting is public
- Please mute your line when not speaking and state your name before speaking
- Committee members can use the chat to provide comment or ask questions
- Public members can provide public comment today by putting “public comment: your name, and your organization” in chat
- We welcome and encourage written public comments. Please submit to msac.dhs@state.mn.us
- Indicate conflicts of interest before providing comment

Purpose: why we're here



- State Medicaid Agency
- Minnesota Department of Human Services
- Our Stand—Better health, fuller life and lower cost for Minnesotans working to achieve their highest potential.

Committee charge

- **Purpose:**

- Guidance on key initiatives brought forward by the department that affect Medicaid program administration, policy or Medicaid funded services
- Representation for community groups, professional stakeholder organizations, Medicaid beneficiaries, caregivers, and various health care and long-term services and supports professionals that influence the health and covered services of Medicaid populations
- Advisory body

- **Duties:**

- Provide guidance on specific policies, initiatives, and proposed program changes brought forward by DHS
- Liaisons back to individuals, organizations, and institutions that receive, facilitate, or provide Medicaid services

Committee membership and introductions

Medicaid Beneficiaries or Caregivers

1. Aaron Wittnebel – Tribal Representative
2. George Klauser
3. Kate Quale
4. Saudade Sammuels
5. Kathryn Barton

Consumer, Non-profit, or Human Services Organizations

1. Samuel Moose – Tribal Representative
2. Abdullahi Abdullahi, Izone (urban planning/development)
3. Ashley Anderson, Central Minnesota Mental Health Center
4. Chelsea Georgesen, Minnesota Council of Health Plans
5. Christine Reiten, BlueCross BlueShield of Minnesota

Physicians or Provider Organizations

1. Lynette Tahtinen, CPCS, CPB – Tribal Representative
2. Micah Niermann, MD, Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare
3. Nneka Sederstrom, PhD; Hennepin Healthcare System
4. Elizabeth Duffy, Roots and Wings Therapeutic Services
5. Katie Peck, Wilderness Health

Public Welfare or Public Health Director

1. Jovon Perry, Director of Economic Assistance, Minnesota Department of Human Services

Agenda

- **Committee Member Introductions**
- **Welcome and Overview**
 - Opening Remarks – Julie Marquardt, Interim Assistant Commissioner and Minnesota Medicaid Director
- **Medicaid Program Updates**
 - Unwinding Continuous Medicaid Coverage – PJ Weiner, Managed Care Contracting and Rates Director
- **Committee Discussion**
 - Minnesota Disability Services – Heidi Hamilton, Disability Services Director
- **Public Comment**
- **Next Meeting**
- **Closing Remarks**



Information from the State Medicaid Director

Julie Marquardt | Interim Assistant Commissioner Health Care Administration and State Medicaid Director

Ensuring Access to Medicaid Services

- Ensuring Access to Medicaid Services is proposed change in federal regulations that would impact how states use their Medicaid Advisory Committee to support more meaningful and accessible engagement.
- This aligns with DHS goals of more meaningful engagement and increase in beneficiary participation in how we create our Medicaid program.

Legislative Update

- Package to support the work to unwind the continuous eligibility provisions during the COVID-19 pandemic was passed by both the House and Senate and signed by Gov. Walz at the end of March.
- Legislative session is in its final weeks. The legislature is scheduled to recess no later than Monday, May 22.
- Conference committees are hard at work negotiating the final health and human services bills.
- DHS is thrilled to see so many of the Governor's budget items in the Health & Human Services omnibus bills, including:
 - Establishing up to 72 months of continuous MA eligibility for children under age 6 and 12 months of continuous MA eligibility for children ages 6 to 21.
 - Investing in improvements to our IT systems, including both MAXIS and METS.
 - Expanding MinnesotaCare coverage for undocumented children under age 19, and the House bill is currently carrying expanding MinnesotaCare coverage for all undocumented Minnesotans.
 - Reinstating a more comprehensive adult dental benefit set and rebasing dental rates to bring them more up to date with the costs of providing care.
- There is still a lot of work to be done in the final days of session, and it still remains to be seen what will be included in the final bills.



Unwinding Continuous Medicaid Coverage

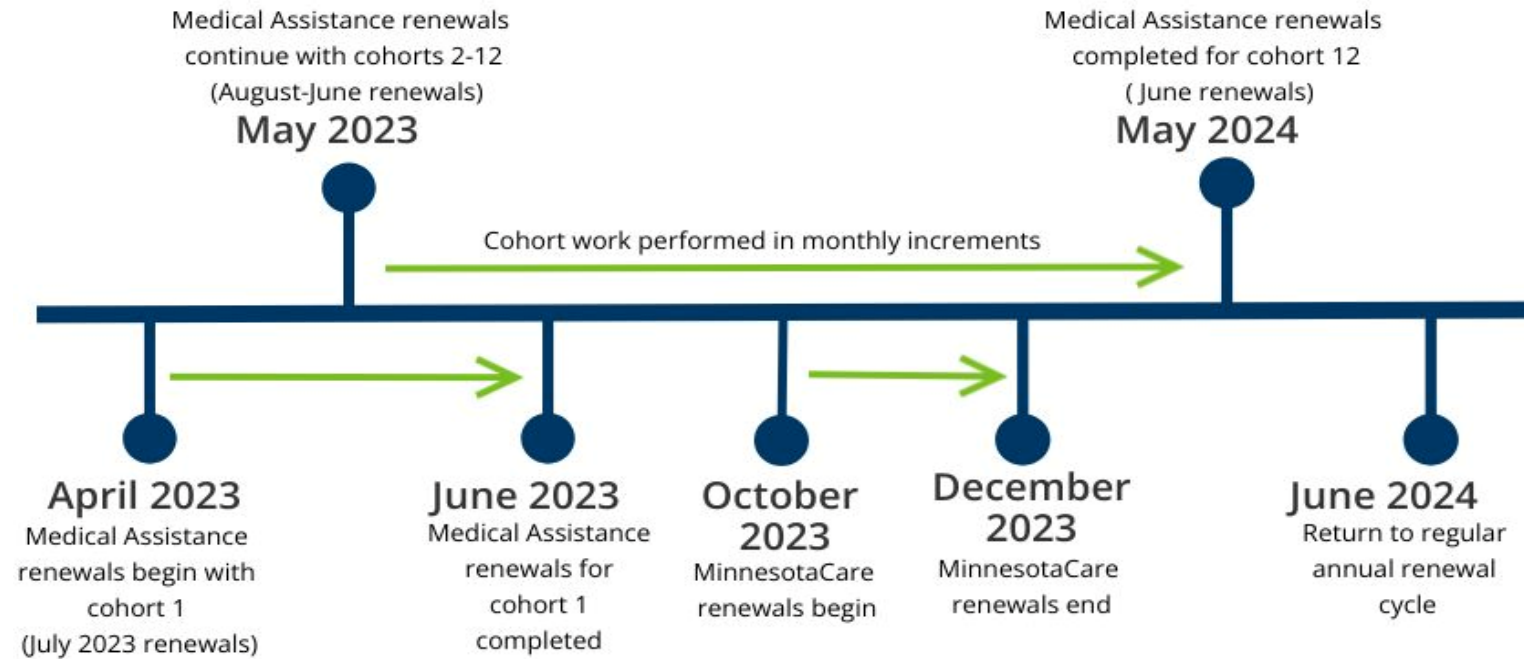
PJ Weiner | Managed Care Contracting and Rates Director

Maintenance of coverage in public health care programs

- March 2020: DHS stopped most annual eligibility renewals, other eligibility checks and most adverse action on enrollment
- Condition of enhanced federal funding through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act



Timeline for renewals





Tools to help Medical Assistance, MinnesotaCare enrollees keep their health insurance

Important new protections for enrollees



Add more user-friendly ways to complete the renewal process.



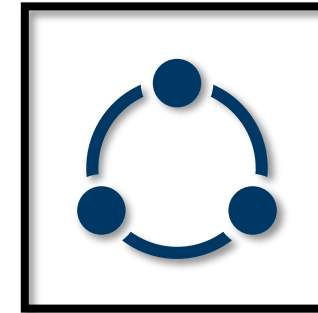
Make it easier to complete the paper-based renewal forms.



Check enrollees losing coverage for other eligibility.



Renew coverage automatically for more enrollees



Minimize hurdles that cause enrollees to temporarily lose program eligibility.



Work with contracted health plans to maintain coverage.

Example of a renewal form hitting mailboxes now

Example of an automatic renewal notice hitting mailboxes now

You are getting this notice because it is time to renew coverage for members of your household. This notice tells you the status of your renewal. This notice is for the people listed below.

John Doe - MNsure ID Number: 1234567890

Minnesota Department of Human Services | mn.gov/dhs

One-stop shop for all things renewal

mn.gov/dhs/renewmycoverage



Look up when your renewal takes place

Know when to watch your mailbox for your renewal information: Look up your renewal month with the renewal date lookup tool coming soon. Learn more about the [timeline](#) for resuming renewals.

Medical Assistance enrollees can expect their renewal to take place based on the anniversary month of their application for coverage. If you work with a [health plan](#), contact them to learn more about when your specific renewal will take place. MinnesotaCare enrollees can expect their eligibility renewal beginning in October 2023 for coverage effective Jan. 1, 2024.



Watch for the circle in blue when it's time to renew

You'll get an envelope in the mail marked "Important information enclosed" with your renewal paperwork.

[Here's what to do next.](#)



Report address and phone number changes

It's important we be able to reach you when it's time to renew your health insurance. Don't risk losing your health insurance and possible disruptions in seeing your doctor or filling a prescription. [Update your contact information](#)



Get text messages when you need to take action

DHS will text you from "28343" when we mail you your renewal information and to remind you to submit your paperwork before the deadline.



Get answers to your questions

[Get your renewal questions answered](#)



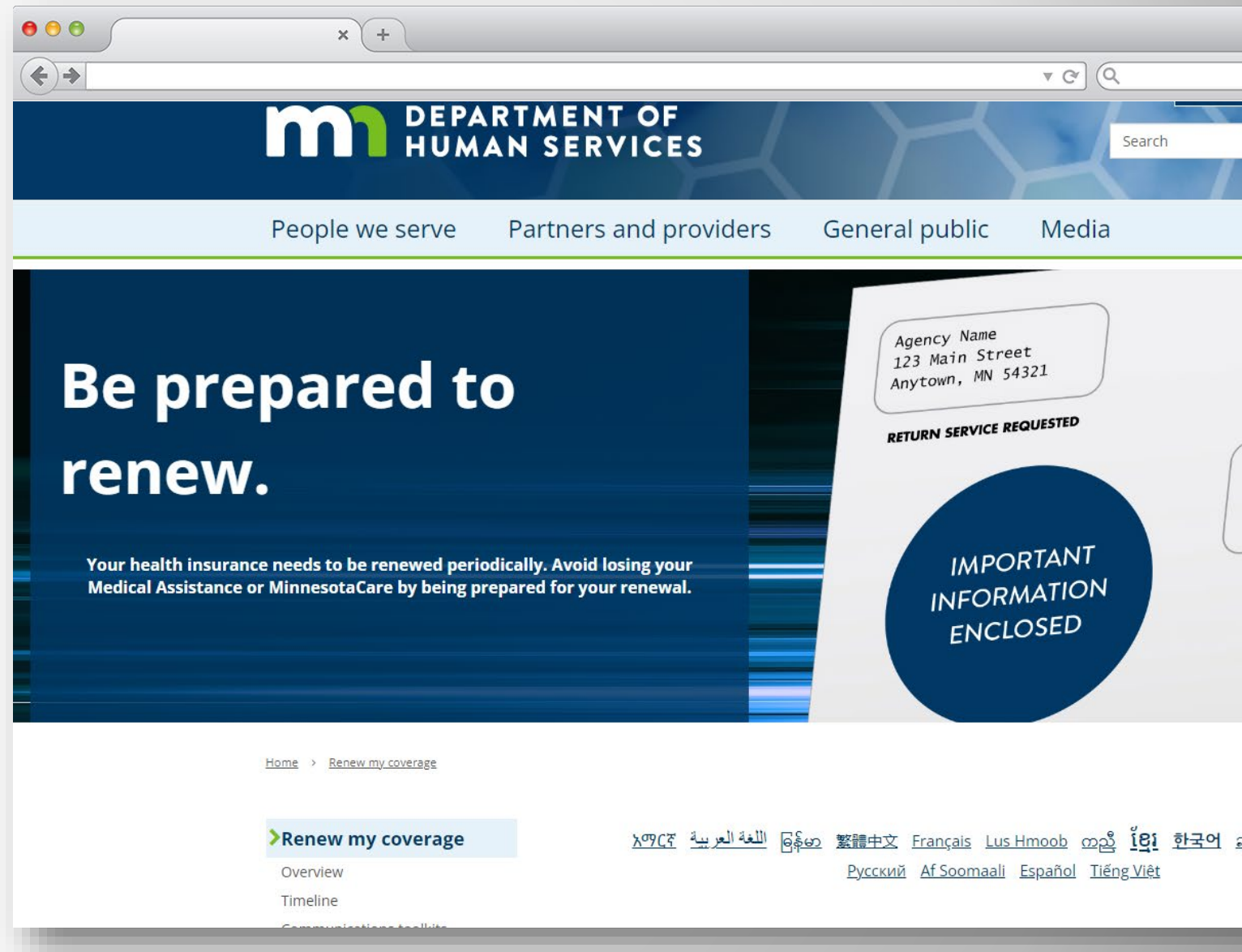
Connect with a trusted partner

If you get your Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare insurance with the support of a [health plan](#) or [navigator](#), they want to help. Connect with them for assistance.



Watch this page for updates

DHS will update this page with new information. You can [sign up to receive email alerts](#) when information on this page changes.



mn DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

People we serve Partners and providers General public Media

Be prepared to renew.

Your health insurance needs to be renewed periodically. Avoid losing your Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare by being prepared for your renewal.

Agency Name
123 Main Street
Anytown, MN 54321

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED

Home > Renew my coverage

[Renew my coverage](#)

Overview
Timeline
Communication tools

اللغة العربية 繁體中文 Français Lus Hmoob བོད་སྐད་ 한국어

Русский Af Soomaali Español Tiếng Việt

Discussion

- What questions do you have about renewals?
- What are you hearing from community members about renewals? Any early stories of success or struggle?
- Are there points that cause consistent confusion?



Disability Services Overview

Heidi Hamilton, Disability Services Director

- Disability Services Programs
- Transformation Projects
- Discussion
- Questions

Disability Services and the Medicaid Program

- Home and community based services (HCBS) waivers
- Personal Care Assistance (PCA)
- Early and Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Interventions (EIDBI)
- Home Care Services
- Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (ICF/DD)

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waivers

- Brain Injury (BI – hospital and nursing facility level of care)
- Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI – nursing facility level of care)
- Community Alternative Care (CAC – hospital level of care)
- In fiscal year 2021,
 - 37,282 accessed CADI; 1,140 accessed BI; 733 accessed CAC
 - 32% of the population were black, indigenous, and people of color
 - 76% of the population were between the ages of 23 and 64 years of age
 - Largest growth in people of two or more races or unknown race and older adults (65+)

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waivers

- Developmental Disabilities (DD – ICF/DD level of care)
- In fiscal year 2021,
 - Nearly 23,000 people accessed the DD waiver
 - 19% of the population were black, indigenous, and people of color
 - 63% of the population were between the ages of 23 and 64 years of age
 - Largest growth in people of two or more races or unknown race and under age 18

Personal Care Assistance (PCA)

- Provides services to people who need help with day-to-day activities
- In fiscal year 2021,
 - Over 31,000 people accessed PCA services
 - 55% of the population were black, indigenous, and people of color
 - Largest growth in people of two or more races or unknown

Early and Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI)

- Benefit to provide treatment to children with autism and related conditions
- Intention is for early intervention, but depends on timing of diagnosis
- Access of this benefit is increasing – approximately 1,000 children in January 2022 to approximately 2,000 children in August 2022.
- Over 52% of children are black, indigenous, and people of color

Transformation Initiatives

- **Waiver Reimagine**
- Community First Services and Supports (CFSS)

What is Waiver Reimagine?

Waiver Reimagine will improve the overall disability home and community-based waiver system. so that it's more **person-centered, easier to understand, and simpler to navigate.**

Common
service menu
across all waivers



Two waiver
system based on
where a person
lives and not on
their diagnosis

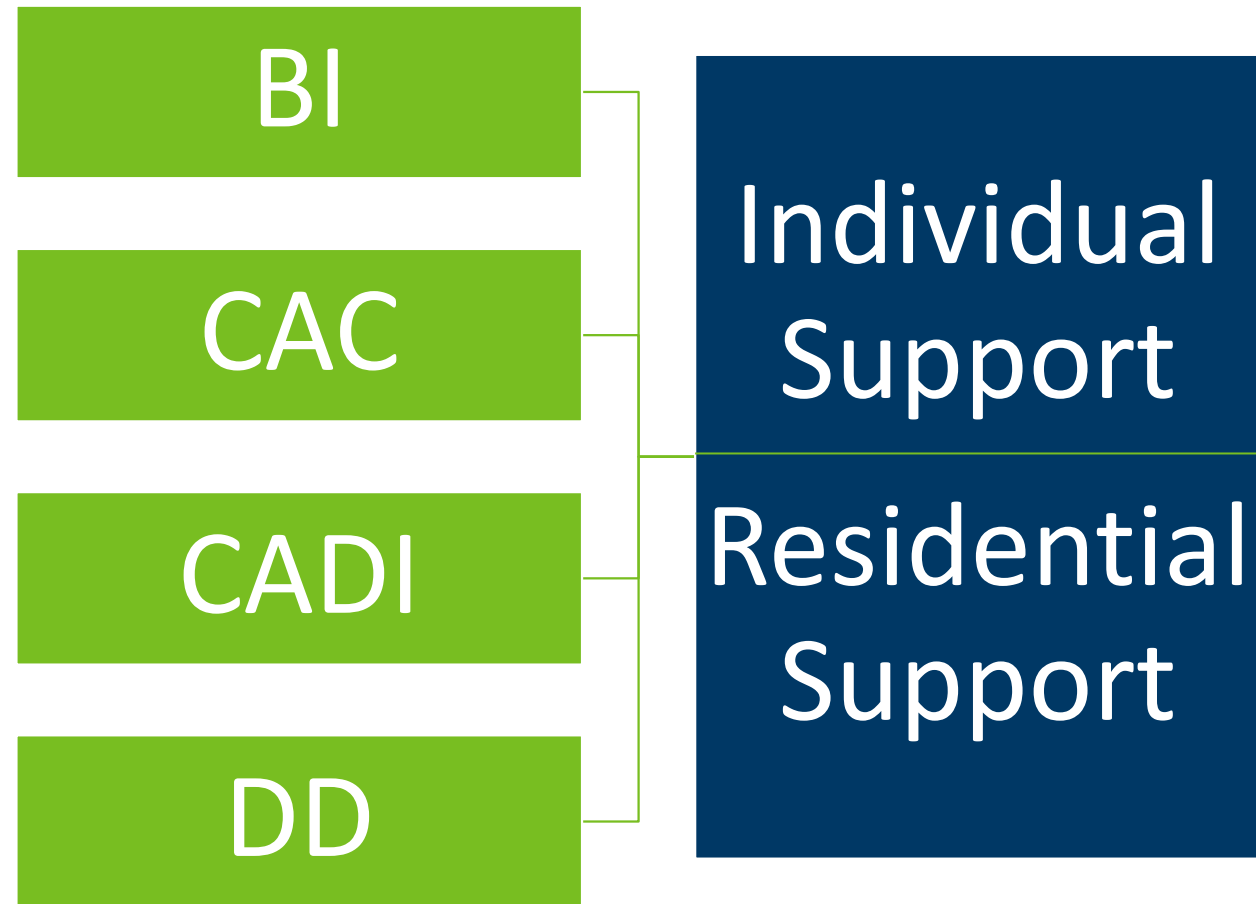
A known and
transparent
budget based on a
person's needs

Increase flexibility
to self-direct

Goals of Waiver Reimagine:

- Make the system easy to navigate
- Support greater choice and control
- Provide transparent, easy and accessible information about supports, services and budgets
- Empower people to choose who supports them
- Provide support according to need
- Support people with disabilities to self-direct their services and supports
- Provide consistent funding for services throughout Minnesota.

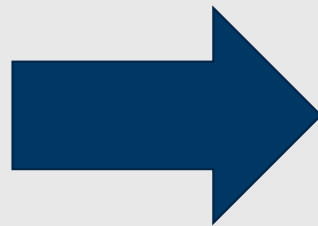
Waiver Reimagine Phase 2: Reshaping the waivers



Current & individual budgeting methodology

Current budget methodology

- 87+ budgeting methods across lead agencies
- Amount of funds available to a person is unclear before support planning
- Which county you live in can determine your budget amount
- Self-direction has its own funding methodology



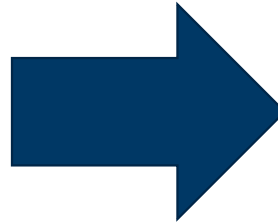
Individual budget methodology

- One budgeting method
- Amount of budget known before support planning
- Budget amount is based on your individual needs
- Self-direction shares the same methodology

Online Waiver Support Planning Tool

Current online resources

- People must go through their lead agency case manager or other advocates to get copies of their assessments or service plans
- Lack of public and understandable information about disability waiver services for those planning their lives



Online Waiver Support Planning Tool

- Access to their personal information in an understandable format available instantly online
- Empowered with information before planning their services and supports
- Able to learn about new services, living options, and help them self-direct and manage their services

Community First Services and Supports (CFSS)

- Community First Services and Supports (CFSS) is the re-design of the PCA program
- CFSS gives people more choice, control, flexibility, and support
 - Provides a choice between an agency and budget models Allows for the permanent ability to pay parents of minors and spouses for personal care services
 - Allow people to purchase goods and services to replace human assistance
 - Adds a new service, consultation services, to assist people to build their support plans and make informed choices about the services and supports available

Discussion

- What questions do you have about Waiver reimagine and or Disability Services at DHS?
- What excites you about Waiver Reimagine?
- What concerns do you have about Waiver Reimagine ?



Public Comment

- Please state your name, organization (if relevant) and any conflicts of interest
- Please limit comments to approximately 2 minutes
- Written comments can be submitted to msac.dhs@state.mn.us



Next Meeting



Tuesday, August 8, 2023

12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Remote option

Thank You

Medicaid Services Advisory Committee

Department of Human Services

msac.dhs@state.mn.us