



School Medicaid Advisory Committee  
 January 27, 2025  
 9:00 am-noon

Join ZoomGov Meeting: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1600697921>

Members:									
	April Harrison	X	Ashleigh Walters		Chris Moore	X	Creighton Helms		Cynthia Branger Munoz
X	Elsa Flores	X	Eryn Womack		Joe Leykam	X	Kelle Hildebrandt	X	Kelly Coates
X	Kim Giansante	X	Landon Braden	X	Leanne Mixa Bettin	X	Lisa Ledson		
X	Sarah Foster	X	Stacy Michaelson	X	Wendy Niskanen		Willis Homann		

Also Present:									
X	Shelby Parks	X	Jennifer Dundon	X	Lasa Baxter	X	Jennifer Smith		Aimee Elliott
X	Allyson McNeill	X	Rusha Grinstead	X	Jeremy Ford	X	Lisa Eisenberg	X	Courtney Sevey

Agenda Item	Discussion
<p><b>Welcome, Opening, and Housekeeping (10 minutes)</b> Shelby Parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Welcome and Opening Remarks</li> <li>● Icebreaker               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is one thing you wish people knew about School Medicaid?</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Meeting Norms and Parking Lot</li> <li>● Review Agenda</li> </ul>	<p><b>Shelby Parks shared the welcome and opening remarks.</b></p> <p>Members put their answers to the icebreaker question into the chat.</p>
<p><b>Proposed Charter Update: Confirmation (5 minutes)</b> Jennifer Dundon</p>	<p><b>Jennifer Dundon shared confirmation that there was no feedback, and the updated charter will be put on ODE's webpage.</b></p> <p>No comments or questions.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation to add QMHA/QMHP to SBHS billing (20 minutes)</b> Rusha Grinstead</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss OHA Memo</li> <li>● Clarify difference between QMHA/QMHP discussion</li> <li>● Discuss QMHA/QMHP SBEAR recommendation from SMAC</li> </ul>	<p><b>Rusha Grinstead shared information about behavioral health.</b></p> <p><b>OHA Memo Non-Licensed Behavioral Health Providers and Medicaid Billing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Courtney Sevey shared link to Memo that was shared on 1/16/25, <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/OHP/Announcements/Intern-Associate-Billing0125.pdf">https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/OHP/Announcements/Intern-Associate-Billing0125.pdf</a></li> <li>● Memo refers to two specific providers Board Registered Associates and Mental Health Interns</li> </ul>



Wendy Niskanen: Question and clarification around the reason for the memo. If quality control is the reason for the memo, is the hurdle to ensure quality and is receiving the Certificate of Approval in order to bill? The whole reason for the memo, of removing the ability to bill is to ensure quality is upheld, and they would need to get a COA in order to bill. Behavioral health agency vs. School district. Seeking clarification that this memo says that they cannot bill SBHS because they do not have a COA. Expressed concern around losing the opportunity to bill and also understands as a School Nursing Provider that taking roles on and training without a standard there are quality control issues. Voiced out that there does need to be quality control and concern around the inability to bill for SBHS.

- Rusha Grinstead: Conversation around school settings and COA. Clarified that yes, they need to be part of an organization with a COA. Schools are currently not a setting where a COA is applicable, and OHA is looking in to how to increase access to more behavioral health providers in a school setting. The school specific setting, and the work that we are needed to do before the policy goes into effect that is addressed in the memo.

Questions from chat:

- Lisa Ledson asked for an example of behavioral health agency.
  - Rusha Grinstead: County community mental health programs are all behavioral health agencies. In Oregon, if you are a provider that is providing BH services and employs both license and non-license then you are required to enroll as a provider that has a COA from OHA and must abide by 309 rules, and 410 rules for billing.

#### **SBEAR**

Rusha Grinstead asked for clarification on who worked on the SBEAR. Joe Leykam did the bulk and others had eyes on before submittal.

Internally looking for understanding the situation, what is the background, or what the policy has been and or the impact. Section to consider is equity of policy, and what is the assessment or impact of the policy and why partners need a change in the policy. And what is the recommendation for change.

OHA seeking clarification on background section:



- If there have been challenges from QMHA/QMHP specifically in the school setting, please highlight those more (is it because of an absence from this specific provider or because of absence from access to certain services)
  - Work force issue vs. access
- Equity section: data is helpful to solidify and demonstrate the engagement with community and provider partners
  - Information from SMAC, provide who everyone is representing in your organizations or community
  - what is the data you have noticed in your community and school because of this policy
- Assessment section: Data on whether there are schools who are looking to higher QMHAs/QMHPs
  - How they are interpreting this will increase assess for students
  - How many schools or school districts that need more access to QMHAs/QMHPs vs. More general access to mental health services
- Recommendation is clear and that it is coming from SMAC members. Rasha suggested, if SMAC members are comfortable with it, to state the representation from the members such as associations and education agencies or associations and which entities the members represent.

Stacy Michaelson: Addressed the challenges there are to communicating the specific number of QMHAs/QMHPs needed in the state because they are only allowed in certain sectors. Potential for faulty data when decreasing the number of potential positions based on what is needed on where they are allowed. Does not know how many EAs have QMHAs are on staff who can bill, MESD has a few. Expressed that it is frustrating to have folks who are able to bill and working with students and who are unable to bill right now unless the change is made. Data would be qualitative and anecdotal, and expressed the difficulty of acquiring data.

Rasha Grinstead: data would be helpful in support of the SBEAR and assessment section and asked if ESDs and SDs could provide information on who would be hiring QMHAs/QMHPs.

Stacy Michaelson expressed it might be easier to get it from ESDs instead of SDs due to size. Volunteered to seek out data.

Questions and or comments from chat:



Kelle Hildebrandt: Can work on getting the data from ESDs.

Stacy Michaelson: The folks we have on staff don't bill anywhere because they aren't associated with an outside agency. It would be easier to have quality control in a school setting, if we were officially allowing those folks to bill in a school setting. OHA could put training requirements in place as a condition of having folks in the school setting. I believe some of MESD's staff doing re-engagement work with youth who haven't been in school for a while are also QMHP/As.

Leanne Mixa Bettin: Suggested looking at specific case studies for how mental and behavioral health is provided in those settings, such as Recovery Schools and Social Emotional Learning Schools. Look at services that are being provided in these settings and how to bill. Look at an array of providers and what their license types are. Examples are helpful.

Leanne Mixa Bettin shared a link in the chat:

<https://www.oregon.gov/ode/learning-options/schooltypes/recoveryschools/pages/default.aspx>

Eryn Womack: Question about if a student is on an IEP and receiving behavioral health or mental health services from one of the addressed provider types, and the district doesn't engage those services on the IEP, how does that work for other education agencies.

- Lisa Ledson seconded this question.

Rusha Grinstead followed up with the feedback she provided while walking through the SBEAR can put track change comments on the document and will share back with the group. Expresses thanks for the engagement and strong collaboration.

Stacy Michaelson: Question about process and timeline for the SBEAR.

- Rusha Grinstead said she will get it back in a week, and the sooner SMAC works on it the better so OHA can map out policies and pathways for Medicaid.

Leanne Mixa Bettin: Followed up on timeline of SBEAR, that Rusha will share the document to the whole group including those who were not in attendance.

- Jennifer Dundon confirmed.

Leanne Mixa Bettin: Question about additional billable providers in behavioral health such as BCBAs, and are these practitioners' part of the QMHAs/QMHPs conversation. What is the full list of



who is approved to bill and there is concern about which practitioners are being missed.

- Jennifer Dundon shared that she will bring this to the State Team meetings for follow-up with OHA.

Eryn Womack: shared a link [MHACBO](#)

Leanne Mixa Bettin: Asked if there is a list of Social Emotional Schools and schools specific for Mental and Behavioral health.

- Jennifer Dundon to ask internally if ODE has specific data collection for this.

Wendy Niskanen: Provided information that her district has a therapeutic environment and billing Medicaid, not School Medicaid and as a district nurse providing services suggested to ask those therapeutic services about who is providing services.

**State Level Updates (15 minutes) OHA and ODE**

- SBHS 2025 Engagement Plan (Lisa Eisenberg)
- ODE Updated Documents (Jennifer Dundon)
- OHA Updated Documents (Lasa Baxter)
- OHA Policy and Projects (Jennifer Smith)
  - Grant Reporting and Data Sharing
  - MMIS and Procedure Codes/Billing Matrix

**Lisa Eisenberg shared SBHS 2025 Engagement Plan**

**SBHS 2025 Engagement Plan**

Eryn Womack: Expressed thanks for presenting this information. Question about what number of students in the state the graphic represents.

- Lisa Eisenberg: School districts enrolled in the SBHS Medicaid program represent 50.7 percent of the total student population and 51.4 percent of the FRL participation in the state.

Stacy Michaelson: Context on ESD enrollment, and since it is a newer change with being able to bill and enroll, what are the nuances versus a district being enrolled. Keep in mind that there may be some caveats with ESDs being enrolled.

- Lisa Eisenberg: This information is represented by enrollment data. These numbers do not reflect current enrollment numbers, nor does it reflect the current enrollment types.
- Jennifer Dundon: The number is likely the EI/ECSE contractors' enrollment.

Stacy Michaelson: Comment around timing of summer engagements and how the information can be provided a bit late as education agencies are starting their year.

- Lisa Eisenberg: Please feel free to share ideas about timing.

Comments from the chat:

Sarah Foster: My experience is also the same as Stacy Michaelson's here at our ESD.



Kelle Hildebrandt: Suggested connecting.

Landon Braden: Question about the regional cohorts and what are the outcomes of the cohorts. Supportive of this effort and advocating for the geographic regions of the cohorts.

- Lisa Eisenberg: The team is working on the goal and outcomes that are expected from the cohorts. Participants in the learning cohorts will gain a deeper understanding of SBHS Medicaid program at the EA level. Taking the steps from knowing the program to implementing.

Leanne Mixa Bettin: Sarah Foster and Leanne have started the ESD School Medicaid Collaborative and first meeting was held on 1/23/25. The idea is that it is collaboration of ESDs to discuss School Medicaid initiatives and happy to share a topic bank and research. Space to continue learning and discussing School Medicaid. 18 different people registered for it and ESD representation. Will continue to share information.

- Jennifer Dundon asked if it would be okay to share this information to others. Leanne confirmed and will send the invitation out to be shared.

Wendy Niskanen: Expressed the great planning in the group. Question about if OHA could put together some information about what EHR's are and what it means to be interoperable. Could OHA do a deep dive with examples and there is no information being presented that will allow what it will look like. Voiced that the conversation will move forward, and providers will be documenting twice and not having time to document what is according to their licensure. What is the move to advance the work that is being billed for. Expressed concern over the workforce crisis. EHR and documentation need to work with SIS, billing software, and special education software. Suggested a separate meeting to define what EHR is with examples and the importance of an EHR. Concerns around the work and workload of health professionals.

- Lisa Eisenberg said that it is a helpful comment and will be brought back to the team to address questions and needs. Asked for clarification on how it can contribute to the engagement plan.
- Shelby Parks commented that Wendy Niskanen's comment will be added to the parking lot document to be addressed separately.

Question or comment from chat:



	<p>Landon Braden: Guidance is extremely important. I think we also need to be flexible as it may look different from region to region base off need, services and speed of innovation.</p> <p><b>Shelby Parks presented the updated documents from ODE and OHA.</b> No comments or questions.</p> <p><b>Jennifer Smith provided State-level updates on Grant Reporting and Data Sharing</b></p> <p>Questions or comments from chat: Kim Giansante: I have been asking for specific training for the different providers.</p> <p>Landon Braden: Guidance is extremely important. I think we also need to be flexible as it may look different from region to region base off need, services and speed of innovation.</p> <p>Stacy Michaelson: Commenting on what districts need for next year. They will need to get parent consent and how EAs store that in their systems. Confirm that OHA is working on the statewide consent form. Clarified and asked if ODE is working on parent consent forms and for services outside of the IEP and where do EAs store it and will there be a template. Stacy suggested connecting to help address where EAs can store the parent consent form in the SIS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jennifer Dundon provided information on parent consent forms. The consent forms were updated in 2023 to reflect billing for IDEA and Non-IDEA specific for school districts and EI/ECSE programs. The form that is located on ODEs webpage is for Non-IDEA and IDEA services. The updated one will include all education agencies, both IDEA and non-IDEA, and have a placeholder for the different billing partnerships that are now allowable. The forms have been approved and are currently being translated into other languages. A list serv message will go out once the translations are complete and they have been posted to ODE’s website.</li> </ul>
<b>Break (15 minutes)</b>	
<p><b>SBHS OAR Update Sub-Committee Group (45 minutes)</b> Jennifer Dundon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share proposed work plan</li> <li>Request volunteers</li> </ul>	<p><b>Jennifer Dundon presented on SBHS OAR Update Sub-Committee</b></p> <p>Leanne Mixa Bettin: Confirmed the purpose of the group and wanting to know what SMAC can do.</p>



- Jennifer Dundon confirmed that it is a sub-committee for members of SMAC for School Psychologists, and the other work group is for school counselors and school social workers. It will be led by SMAC members on the sub-committee.

Leanne Mixa Bettin: Commented that this would be statewide for School Psychologist for TSPC and who would be the best people and have access. What information already exists that can be used.

- Jennifer Dundon clarified that ODE and OHA are meeting with TSPC to discuss prior to rule update and during rule update. Will reach out to members of SMAC not in attendance today and send the workplan with the details.

Stacy Michaelson: Question about the specific scope of the group, providing input on the OARs or cross walking on what it looks like.

- Jennifer Dundon clarified that this is phase 1 and a gathering of information on how services are being provided, supervised, and documented in schools. We want to capture the complete picture. This information will be used to inform the rules as well as training and implementation needs.

Questions or comments from chat:

Stacy Michaelson: Normally I would offer to assist, but I have very limited capacity with the legislative session.

**EA Created Document Sharing (45 minutes)**

Lasa Baxter

- OHA to discuss inquiries for state-level documents in support of the Medicaid expansion

**Lasa Baxter shared Document Sharing**

Ashleigh Walters offered to share EI/ECSE documents for programs to consider and how best to share them.

- Lasa Baxter stated to share to her email

Jennifer Dundon shared that ODE is working on the OER Platform to possibly have a space to share documents.

Questions or comments from chat:

Landon Braden: Happy to share mine.

Stacy Michaelson: I don't want to over-promise, but I can check in with our OSBA team to see if we could assist with a template if needed





	<p>Kelle Hildebrandt: I can provide a google drive for sharing documents through OAESD</p> <p>Leanne Mixa Bettin: Followed up on Stacy Michaelson’s comment and sought clarification on if OSBA are the entity to create templates for policies. Wanted to know if there needs to be another subgroup for contract template and MOU examples. It is a barrier to bill if there is not an agreement in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stacy Michaelson said yes, not sure about capacity right now. Offered to have a conversation with the team about templates and legal services is one service OSBA provides to districts. If others could share their templates, then she can share with the team to see about next steps.</li> </ul> <p>Lasa Baxter to share guidance document: <a href="#">Medicaid Expansion: New Services, Provider Types, and Practitioners</a></p>
<p><b>Next Steps and Closing (5 minutes)</b></p> <p>Shelby Parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify action items</li> <li>Next meeting is on April 28, 2025</li> <li>Please send topics to Shelby Parks, <a href="mailto:shelby.parks@ode.oregon.gov">shelby.parks@ode.oregon.gov</a>, by April 11, 2025</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action Items:</b></p> <p>Rusha Grinstead to share SBEAR to SMAC members</p> <p>Jennifer Smith followed up with links to <a href="#">OHP Fee For Service Fee Schedule</a> and <a href="#">Current Behavioral Health Fee Schedule</a>.</p> <p>Jennifer Dundon to share with the group if ODE collects data for behavior- and Social Emotional-specific schools/classrooms.</p> <p>Shelby Parks to share out slide deck and meeting notes.</p>