

N A M E

National Alliance for Medicaid in Education, Inc.

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"NAME Bridges Medicaid and Education to Promote Integrity in School Based Health"

The President's Corner

It is my pleasure to share with our members U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius' announcement that CMS will rescind its School-based Services Rule 2287-F! [CMS memo](#). In addition, on June 17, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) wrote a letter to State Medicaid Directors providing guidance on the implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The first of a series, this letter outlines information on the temporary increases of states' Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) over the next two fiscal years. NAME will watch for further guidance from CMS in the weeks ahead, and provide clarification on complex and seemingly contradictory information and policies. **That is why you turn to NAME.** — Amy Edwards, NAME President

Meeting with Cindy Mann, Director of the Centers for Medicaid and State Operations

Thanks to the efforts of Bruce Hunter and Mary Kusler from the American Association of School Administrators (AASA), NAME, LEAnet and AASA participated in a meeting on July 6th in Washington, DC with Cindy Mann and eight other CMS representatives. We are grateful to Director Mann for taking an hour out of her busy schedule one month into her CMS leadership role to sit down with our small group to discuss School-Based Medicaid. The meeting began with Mary Kusler expressing our appreciation for the administration's decision to rescind 2287-F that would have prevented schools from obtaining reimbursement for administrative and transportation services. Director Mann's opening comments centered on the importance of the relationship between schools and health care and the need to determine the most appropriate and effective ways for schools to work with CMS. We discussed some of the current stumbling blocks that affect public schools' ability to obtain Medicaid reimbursement, such as clinicians' credentials, third party liability, free care, parental consent, and other related issues. We expressed our appreciation regarding CMS participation in the NAME conferences over the last several years and our hope this will continue. The meeting concluded with a consensus that this was the beginning of a critical dialog.

From the Website Committee: Same NAME, New Face

The long awaited switch to a new website page is scheduled for sometime in late July. Several tests will have been completed but the real test is when the actual switch is made. Then some additional time and patience will be needed to address the expected unpredictable technical problems. The new software is more user friendly, allows for more creativity in the design, and most importantly, it gives NAME greater capabilities for gathering and organizing its constantly growing information and resources. Your feedback is important. Please use the contact function on the website to let us know of any problems and if you have any suggestions for further development of the website, making it increasingly reflective of the NAME's membership needs.

In the Media

"The secretary should focus intently on the dropout factories, the relatively small number of schools that produce so many of the nation's dropouts. Efforts at especially difficult schools will need to include social service and community outreach programs..." [A bold new vision](#). "Many programs for infants and toddlers with special needs probably wouldn't have survived the 2009-10 school year without the education-stimulus funds..... While research has found that such early intervention helps children, states have been narrowing their definition of children who qualify, the CEC has found." [Early childhood](#). "North Range in the mid-1990s began the program for children who had suffered abuse or neglect. The decrease in funding began three years ago when a change in Medicaid rules resulted in decreased per-child reimbursements." [Decreased reimbursements](#). "I can't imagine not having the stimulus money right now because we wouldn't be able to do any of this," said Nicole Noll, who drives the mobile health clinic to the teen homeless shelter and rural elementary schools." [Stimulus benefits](#). "The budget cuts will be especially painful for struggling schools such as Richmond High School, where more than half of its 1,700 students are English learners and three-quarters are considered poor. The East Bay area school has failed to meet academic standards set by the federal No Child Left Behind Act for more than four years." [Painful options](#). "We conclude that IDEA authorizes reimbursement for the cost of private special education services when a school district fails to provide a FAPE and the private school placement is appropriate, regardless of whether the child previously received special education or related services through the public school" . [Supreme Court ruling](#). "So due to limits on how the new federal stimulus money can be spent, the additional money means many districts may wind up maintaining or improving services for some students while cutting programs for others." [Funding restrictions](#). "Records must be connected in a way that allows for a meaningful exchange of a patient's health information with other providers who care for the patient. Simply having electronic records does not qualify providers for the incentive payments." [Health information's future](#).

Save the Date: NAME 2009 Annual Conference, San Diego, Ca. Date: October 14-16, 2009

"Surfing the Waves of Medicaid in Education", a "classic" 2009 Annual NAME Conference is shaping up. The Program Schedule is looking to be ["da bomb"](#). The topics include audits, cost based rates, data exchange, ethics, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, health care reform, outreach, positive behavior supports, school nursing, school based clinics, staff morale and motivation, the future of health information technology and much more. Keep yourself updated by frequently checking the developing conference schedule on the NAME website at: <http://www.medicaidforeducation.org/pdf/SurferDudelandingpage.pdf>.

Now more than ever! If not now, then when; if not NAME, than who?