

NAMEtag

January 2015

"NAME Advocates Program Integrity For School Based Medicaid Reimbursement" Volume 10 Issue 1

President's Corner



Season's Greetings to Everyone: hope you were able to take the time to enjoy the recent holidays with friends and family.

NAME is embarking on another terrific year in 2015. I am honored and thrilled to be your President. I work with an outstanding group of people, not only those serving on the Board of Directors and NAME committees, but our Executive Director, members and *friends* of NAME. Together we make NAME the organization that it is: sharing a vision that public policies value children's health as essential for learning.

The Board has renewed the contract with Executive Director John Hill, whose first contract began in April 2014. His new contract is for the full calendar year. Together with your dedicated Board of Directors, NAME will continue to communicate with you about relevant issues and work toward solutions with our federal partners. I urge you to stay abreast of issues this year using NAME's website, the NAME-Tag, your regional representatives on the Board of Directors and national conference calls.

I am also excited that the 2015 Annual Conference will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, starting on October 4. I urge you to seek approval and make plans to attend, as it will be another great educational and networking event with professional development opportunities that we expect will feature federal partners attending and participating. The 2016 Annual Conference is even more exciting for me. As its Chair, I am hosting it in my home State of MONTANA: *Land of the BIG SKY*.

Traditionally, the NAME Annual Conference has been chaired by the Immediate Past President. The Board of Directors is analyzing this practice, so please stay tuned for its decision about appointing the 2017 Conference Chairperson.

NAME's President Elect, Tracy Brunner (IN), and I wish you a remarkable New Year. We hope that great things will happen in the world of program integrity for School Based Medicaid Reimbursement. I wish you a happy and healthy NEW YEAR.

Rena Steyaert (MT)
 President
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 **Where to find Us:**
www.MedicaidForEducation.org

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*From
the Hill*

John Hill, Executive Director

Collaborating with Federal Partners

On November 24, 2014, I had the opportunity to meet with representatives from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in Baltimore, Maryland. NAME requested the meeting on the belief that, by working together, CMS and NAME can partner to achieve shared objectives, and more importantly, improve the health and well-being of individuals we both serve. I am happy to report that the conversation went very well and I found CMS staff helpful and responsive.

The discussions during this first meeting of the business year focused on time study notification and response times; allowable administrative claiming activities; and CMS' participation in the 2015 NAME Annual Conference in October in Baltimore. CMS staff and NAME representatives will continue to have discussions, as well as explore other topics of mutual interest. It is important we recognize this is a collaborative discussion that will evolve over time.

Our next meeting has been scheduled for January 14, 2015.

What do you think? Contact me with your thoughts and suggestions.

(317) 902-5446 or john.hill@MedicaidForEducation.org



Visit with Luann Purcell, CASE Executive Director at the CASE office in Georgia

NAME Sponsors

NAME, Inc. would like to thank the following Gold Sponsor companies for their generous support to the 12th Annual NAME Conference:

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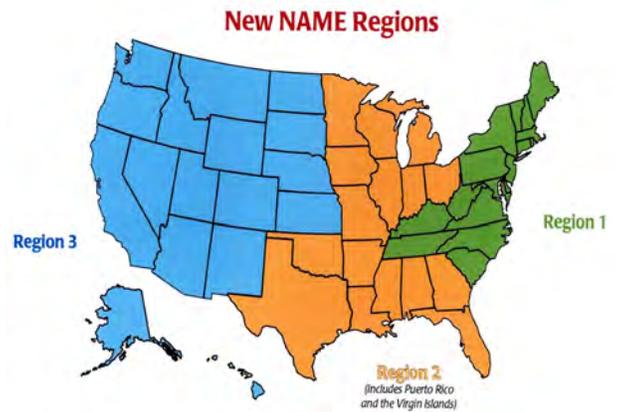


University of Massachusetts
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News from the Regions

Region 1 States: *Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia*



Greetings from Region 1

Thank you to the 86 Region 1 members (75% of the Region 1 members) who attended the 2014 NAME Conference in Niagara Falls. We were pleasantly surprised to see and interact with members from 16 of the 18 states in the region represented at the Conference. The Town Hall meetings led to some very robust and candid conversations regarding Medicaid and our role in education. We appreciate the opportunity serve you, and to learn from your vast experiences as we all grow together.

In our Town Hall meetings, there was a great deal of discussion about the recent audit reports from the federal Office of the Inspector General (OIG), and the evolving landscape of Medicaid State Plan amendments. We discovered that because of the OIG review, New York State had been subjected to the interruption of billing; was required to revise their Medicaid State Plan and retrain school district staff . While these are huge tasks for one state to undertake, the ability to continue to receive Medicaid reimbursement that sustains the many programs needed by children and students is a desirable outcome and reward.

Since the 2014 Conference adjourned, the political landscape of the nation changed as a result of the November elections. Our Region remains concerned about what the changes in Congress will mean for Medicaid billing by school districts, covered services, and the sustainability of the Affordable Care Act. We hope to be able to shed some light on these issues soon and determine what the next steps may be for many in the Region. We are currently making plans to host a regional conference call on these topics. The tentative date to host this discussion is Tuesday, February 10th. We will send details by direct email to all members of NAME. Mark your calendars!!

As we move into 2015, we hope to see many of you at the NAME Conference in Baltimore (Region 1!), Maryland on October 4-7, 2015. Since the Conference is being held a short distance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) headquarters, we hope to see and hear in person from some of our partners at CMS. This is a golden opportunity for NAME to move forward in collaboration with CMS. We hope you will be able to attend.

May you and your family have a spectacular and safe holiday season!

As always, please feel free to contact any of us at: Region1@MedicaidforEducation.org with any questions, ideas, or just to say "hi!"

Region 1 Representatives on the NAME Board of Directors,

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News from the 2015 Conference Committee

Mark Smith (OH) Chair;

Teresa Pastore (MA), Vice-Chair

The 2015 Conference Committee has already begun work to make the upcoming Conference in Baltimore the best ever held!

We are currently seeking speakers from NAME's strategic partners. And just as importantly, we have tentatively secured a 'large contingent' of speakers from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to join us at the Conference, which is CMS's 'hometown'. A big part of selecting Baltimore was to maximize our ability to bring Medicaid and Special Education leaders from CMS, OSERS and OSEP into direct contact with all of our Conference attendees.

The Conference theme is 'A Rising Tide Raises All Ships.' What better theme for a Conference that will be held at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel (<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bwish-renaissance-baltimore-harborplace-hotel/>) which is a stone's throw from the offices of NAME's federal partners, CMS, and a quick train ride for partners at OSERs and OSEP in Washington, DC.

In addition to educational sessions in the form of nuggets and breakouts, we will host our 3rd Annual 5k fundraiser for the Anysia Drumheller Memorial Scholarship; a welcome reception; possible evening outings that give you opportunities to see and enjoy the best views of Baltimore; and perhaps an outing to Washington, DC where participants may take in the beauty of the national monuments. We will continue to update you with 2015 Conference details on the NAME Annual Conference web page.

Please stay tuned!

13th Annual NAME Conference
October 4th-7th 2015

A Rising Tide Raises all Ships

Baltimore, Maryland
NAME
National Alliance for Medicaid in Education, Inc.

Recap: The 12th Annual NAME Conference

By Steven Wright (NY) and Kelly Gicobbi (NY) Conference Co-Chairs

For a wonderful recap of the successful 12th Annual NAME Conference, along with access to posted conference material;

Log into the NAME website Members Only section and click on the [Annual Conference – 2014 Niagara Falls, NY](#)

News Article:

School-Based Health Care Services Approval from CMS to add IDEA Part C to the Program

Jim Harvey (WA), SBHS Program Manager, Community Services
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The Washington State School-Based Health Care Services (SBHS) program reimburses school districts for health care-related services provided to Medicaid-eligible children ages three to twenty-one enrolled in Special Education. Services provided address the physical and/or mental disabilities of the child and must be included in the child's current Individualized Education Plan (IEP). These services are known as Part B services.

In June 2014, a state plan amendment (SPA) was submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to add the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C services, commonly known as "early intervention" services for children birth to two years of age. The scope of SBHS services remains the same (e.g., nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy and counseling) but is now expanded to cover younger children. The paramount focus for adding Part C with Part B is to:

- Enhance the development of infants and toddlers with disabilities to be successful in school;
- Enhance the capacity of families to meet their child's developmental needs; and
- Allow districts to draw down additional federal Medicaid reimbursement.

In September 2014, HCA's SBHS program received approval from the federal CMS to add Part C services to the current SBHS program. The SPA was approved by CMS within just three months from the date of submission—a record for this program! All participating school districts will now be allowed to receive Medicaid reimbursement for both Part B and/or Part C health-care-related services. To receive reimbursement, Part B services must be prescribed in the child's current IEP, while Part C services must be prescribed in an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

The SBHS program will send contract amendments to all participating school districts. The goal is to have all contract amendments executed and updated in HCA's contract databases by the end of 2014. Once contract amendments are executed, districts will be allowed to draw down the additional federal monies for related expenditures incurred starting July 1, 2014.

Over the next several months, additional positive updates and changes will take place within the SBHS program. Changes necessary as part of the process to add Part C to the SBHS program will require additional WAC revisions, updates to the Medicaid Provider Guide (MPG), and on-going training for participating and newly contracted school districts (e.g., interactive videoconferences with health care providers). HCA anticipates the rollout process will take approximately one year. According to the Washington State's Department of Early Learning (DEL), a small handful of participating districts around Washington serving approximately 300 children under Part C will now have an opportunity to receive reimbursement for direct health-care-related services.

In the Media: Links to News from Around the Country

*Larry Charny (NC),
Communications
Committee*

Information on Special Education, Medicaid and their points of intersection are dynamic and complex can be found on the NAME webpage under :

"Keep Informed> In the Media"

The articles intend to provide a portal to the most recent information, from a variety of news outlets, covering a wide range of issues relevant to members of NAME.

We now embrace the immediacy of Facebook as an efficient means to share news and links with members and colleagues, but many schools and agencies still do not allow access to Facebook. So we continue to share in as many formats as possible.

To find a variety of links to articles we think will be of interest <[Click Here](#)>

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NAME?**

<[Click Here](#)> to bring you to
the NAME webpage for
online registration
information .