

NAMEtag

March 2015

President’s Corner

I don’t know what to call this time of year... *Winger? Sprinter?* Whatever you call it or wherever you are in the nation, I hope you are enjoying it.

My year as NAME President has reached its midpoint already. Some of the progress and tasks accomplished to date by our incredible organization include:

- The NAME Board has approved a new contract for Executive Director, John Hill, for another year.
- The 2015 Conference Committee is working diligently on preparing you for this year’s new schedule: the Conference is October 4-7, which is *Sunday afternoon through Wednesday noon*. Look for more details in the coming months, including information on the new program design that provides you with superb professional development, less breakouts and nuggets and twice the usual number of general sessions. Mark your calendar for Baltimore, October 4-7, 2015.
- NAME hosted two national conference calls . In November 2014, we presented a session on audits of our programs, and in February 2015 we highlighted the Affordable Care Act.
- We are working to update and complete our Policies and Procedures Manuals which assures NAME continues to be a smoothly running organization no matter who your leaders are.
- Two big changes that will affect you include NAME annual elections will be held earlier than usual—in May this year. Another change: we are now conducting a national search for the Annual Conference Committee Chair for the 2017 Conference. The ideal candidate is a voting member, preferably (but not essential) from Region 2, and willing to lead the team to produce one of the most important services NAME offers: educating our members. See more details about both of these big changes elsewhere in the NAMEtag.

I find all this activity to be exciting and believe it proves NAME is looking toward the future as we grow. We continue to be the organization that is nationally recognized and respected for our work.

As I begin the second half of the year (which ends during the Conference in Baltimore in October), I am pleased to see these projects come closer to completion with the anticipation of more to come. I am honored and proud to be a leader of all the members and the Leadership Team of this terrific organization.

Rena Steyaert (MT)
 President
rsteyaert@mt.gov

In This Issue

	Page
President’s Corner	1
From the Hill	2
NAME News	3
National Webinar	4
News from the Region	5
Conference	6

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www.MedicaidForEducation.org

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info@MedicaidForEducation.org

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From
the Hill

John Hill, Executive Director

NAME State Affiliates

Over the past couple of years various members have inquired about the feasibility of creating state level "NAME-like" organizations, or state chapters of NAME. Since its chartering, NAME has encouraged collaboration among all stakeholders, including those at the federal, state, and local level, to achieve our mission of increasing program integrity and fulfilling our vision of having policy reflect the vital link between health and education. While NAME strives to be a voice for school-based Medicaid services across the country, Medicaid, as you know, creates state-specific issues that must be identified and resolved at the state or local levels.

At NAME, we are currently aware of a number of states around the country that have existing multi-stakeholder work groups to problem solve issues related to school-based Medicaid. Michigan, for example, has a work group that meets on a quarterly basis. NAME members in the states of Texas and Ohio have also recently shared their plans with us for forming state level stakeholder organizations to focus on school-based Medicaid and I, in fact, have just returned home from a series of face-to-face conversations with our Texan members and a growing group of interested stakeholders. The NAME Board of Directors is eager to explore how the creation of state affiliates might meet both NAME's organizational goals and also the goals of various state-level organizations. As such, the NAME Membership Committee has created a small subcommittee to explore how to best implement the idea of state-level NAME Affiliates.

While the subcommittee's work is still in process, it seems clear from talking with some of our strategic partners about their affiliate programs (e.g.; Council of Administrators of Special Education - CASE), that state-level affiliates would need to meet certain criteria and that the NAME organization itself would also need to make a clear set of commitments to our affiliates. While there is not currently any intention to create legally-linked organizations, we will need mechanisms to ensure that NAME and state-level affiliates are working for similar purposes; namely (pun *intended*), to promote collaboration, information sharing, professional development and program integrity among *all* stakeholders of Medicaid in Education.

NAME envisions that any state-level affiliates would obtain their own not-for-profit status and function as an independent organization with a written letter of agreement between the state organization and NAME. We imagine, for example, to reflect the collaborative intentions of NAME, that state-level boards of directors for each state would need to include a broad base of stakeholders including LEA's, vendors, state professional organizations, and parent advocacy organizations. We believe state boards should also include state Medicaid and state education staff whenever possible, either as members or ex-officio members.

State Affiliates are one potential strategy to ensure that, together, we provide the leadership necessary to access Medicaid reimbursement for school-based services and activities and facilitate networking among agencies, organizations, and professionals interested in supporting the provision of school-based health services as essential to learning.

Additional information will be coming as the concept for state affiliates develops further. If your state is interested in organizing a NAME-affiliated group, please let me know. Also, as always, if you have questions I can help with or suggestions about how we can better serve you or your state, please contact me at

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

NAME Sponsors

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

Gold Sponsors:

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NAME Elections Are Coming SOON!!

Shannon Huska (CO), Nominating Committee Member

The NAME leadership team has changed the timing of elections from the fall to the spring to provide for a smooth transition and permit more knowledge sharing between elected Board members. Rather than election results being announced at the annual membership meeting, elections this year are in **May, 2015**. Please consider nominating yourself or another qualified candidate for one of the following Board positions open seats for the 2015 election:

- **President Elect** (must represent a State Education or State Medicaid agency, and serves 1-year terms as President Elect, then President, then Immediate Past President; Immediate Past President is no longer required to serve as Conference Committee Chair)
- **Region 1 – Local Education Agency Representative**
- **Region 2 – State Education Agency Representative**
- **Region 2 – Local Education Agency Representative**
- **Region 3 – State Medicaid Agency Representative**
- **At Large – State Education Agency Representative**

Board members, other than officers, serve a 3-year term and their responsibilities include: attendance at monthly Board meetings teleconferences; in-person attendance at the Board meeting and annual Long Range Planning meeting immediately following the NAME conference; in-person attendance at one Strategic Planning Meeting held every 3 years; and participation on one of the NAME committees. Some financial assistance may be available for conference and annual/triennial planning meeting-related travel.

Applications can be found on the NAME members-only section of the website here: <http://medicaidforeducation.org/members/committees/nominating-committee> .

Applications will be accepted from any NAME member in good standing through **April 8, 2015**. To submit your application or if you have any questions please contact NAME Nominating Committee Chair Tracy Brunner at tbrunner@doe.in.gov.

NAME Seeks

2017 Conference Committee Chair

Are you a NAME voting member? Do you possess strong organizational and meeting planning skills? Would you like to share those skills with NAME members?

NAME is seeking a volunteer Chair for the fall 2017 Annual Conference Committee. The Annual Conference is the most high-profile benefit NAME delivers its members. **Deadline to apply is March 31, 2015.**

More information about the description of work and application process are on the NAME members-only section of the website:

<http://medicaidforeducation.org/members/news-members-only>



Want to be a member of
NAME?

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

Find us on Facebook 

NAME invites you to a national webinar: ***Connecting Kids to Health Care Coverage***

March 30, 2015 – 1:00pm to 2:00pm ET

The National Alliance for Medicaid in Education (NAME) Governmental Affairs & Public Relations Committee, in collaboration with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) *Connecting Kids to Coverage* initiative, is sponsoring a national webinar on Monday, March 30, 2015 from 1:00pm to 2:00pm Eastern time. The purpose is to discuss ways NAME members and other interested parties can engage in the Campaign and remind families that enrollment in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is open *year-round*.

The webinar will cover the following topics:

- The importance of school-based outreach in reaching families eligible for Medicaid and CHIP.
- An overview of the Connecting Kids to Coverage National Campaign and how you can help eligible families enroll for health care coverage.
- Ways you can get involved and obtain available resources to help spread the word about free and low-cost health insurance, including:
 - * Customizable print materials
 - * Web videos
 - * Social media tools – graphics and pre-written posts
 - * Template articles for local newsletters, blogs and other publications
- There will also be an opportunity for Q&A and discussion on other resources that may help you in your outreach and enrollment assistance efforts

To register for this FREE webinar, use this link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6111521399020839938>

If you have questions, contact NAME Governmental Affairs and Public Relations Committee Chair Amy Edwards (Amy.Edwards@doe.virginia.gov)

Update from the Education and Research Committee

Laurie Ray (NC), Committee Chair

While some may challenge this conclusion, it is clear the Education and Research Committee (E&R) is the *hardest working* committee in NAME! The E & R Committee was successful this fall in recruiting smart, fun members of NAME to join our ranks. (The Committee is 24 members strong!!). There is much work to be done so we are organized into subcommittees and workgroups. If you are interested in suggesting work for E&R that will assist us accomplish our work, please contact me: laurie_ray@med.unc.edu (919-636-1827).

Here is evidence of everything we have been doing and plan to accomplish this year:

- **Biennial National School Based Services Survey Subcommittee develops**, administers, analyzes and disseminates the biennial survey to all 50 states. The 2013 Survey report is being finalized, proofed and approved. The subcommittee is beginning work on developing the 2015 Survey.
- **Research Subcommittee publishes needed information**. This subcommittee prepares data and information from the 2013 Survey report for publication. We are looking to expand our efforts into research. Do you have an idea we could use? Is there needed information we should pursue in future surveys? Please let us know your thoughts.
- **Lucky 21 Workgroup develops a Lucky 21 publication with the NAME partner the Council of Administrators of Special Education-CASE**. This is a document like a 'frequently asked questions' (FAQ) with the 21 most common questions and answers about our Medicaid school based services programs. The work we are doing now is in the early stages— to develop the format and then content for this publication.
- **Medicaid Reimbursement Fact Sheet Subcommittee** develops a Fact Sheet to provide basic understanding of school-based Medicaid claiming and methodologies. Final edits on the Fact Sheet are being completed.
- **The Education Subcommittee is seeking topics**, issues and speakers for NAME's upcoming and future Annual Conferences. What do you want to hear? Who is a great presenter we need to invite? Get in touch with Stacie Martin (SMartin@ksde.org) with your suggestions.

News from the Regions

Region 2 States: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, Wisconsin



Greetings from your NAME Region 2 Representatives!

Did you know NAME has a list of all members on the website? You may also find a listing of many state Medicaid school based services (SBS) program websites. We have begun to update the Region 2 states SBS resource links on the NAME website. You never know when you may want to contact a neighbor to see how they interpret/train/update/communicate with their state's stakeholders. We want to make your networking as easy as possible.

The list of Region 2 contacts can be found by logging into the NAME Members only section> click on Regional News and Information: <http://medicaidforeducation.org/members/regional-news-and-information>

NAME's webpage of State Medicaid and Education Resources can be found by logging into the NAME Members only section> click on View Links and Online Resources> State Medicaid and Education Resources: <http://medicaidforeducation.org/members/view-links-and-online-resources/state-medicaid-and-education-resources>

If you find that we've listed any information incorrectly, please let us know and we will correct it. If you have information for a state where no website is listed, please share that information with us. And, as usual, don't hesitate to contact any NAME member when you need a helping hand. We are here to serve and collaborate.

For those of us who have been shivering a lot this cold winter, remember: Spring is coming!

Region 2 Representatives on the NAME Board of Directors,

Jim Donoghue (IA)
Education

Kevin Bauer (MI)
Medicaid

Kathy Merry (MI)
Local Education Agency

Jennifer Haase (MI)
LEA at-Large

Region2@MedicaidforEducation.org

News from the 2015 Conference Committee



Mark Smith, (OH) Conference Chair and Teresa Pastore (MA) Conference Vice Chair

Land ho! We are a mere SIX MONTHS from the opening of our Annual Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, at the beautiful Marriot Inner Harbor Renaissance Hotel, which is right smack in the middle of Baltimore's Inner Harbor! The theme for this year is, *A Rising Tide Raises All Ships*, and we are preparing a Conference program that looks to be one of great promise.

Baltimore is also the 'hometown' of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and is just a train ride from Washington, D.C. We believe selecting our venue to be close to CMS and the federal Department of Education (USED) offices, will result in a program with more national leaders from both Medicaid and Education, than in past Conferences. We also are *charting a course* to give our attendees access to our nation's capital during your free time.

Stay tuned in the coming months as we provide additional details on the NAME website regarding Conference hotel registration, preliminary program, the Anysia Drumheller Memorial 5k Run/Walk and the Call for Sponsors.

The Committee plans to exceed NAME's past Conferences by bringing you pertinent and usable information and opportunities for discussion and networking. ...So join us as we *set course* for October 4-7, 2015. We will **See you by the Bay!**