

## NAME-Tag

“NAME Advocates Program Integrity For School Based Medicaid Reimbursement”

Volume 7 Issue 8

March/April 2012

**Special points of interest:**

- [Want to become a member of NAME?](#)
- [Parental Consent News](#)

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### President’s Corner

Dear NAME Members:

**In the NAME of Collaboration** . . . you no doubt recognize the tagline that has graced the footer of NAME letterhead for most of our nine-year existence. It is one of the most important values of our organization. Not only do we strive to facilitate interaction and networking among our members, but we are consciously and deliberately reaching out to other organizations with similar missions and visions to work on public policy that supports children’s health in education. Collaboration has become the method for getting things done with limited resources.

We can cite recent successful examples of NAME’s efforts to identify and develop relationships with organizations. New potential partners are the Center for School Mental Health, the Healthy Schools Campaign and the Trust for America’s Health. Each of these organizations has goals similar to NAME’s. Each provides us with an opportunity to plant a common seed that, if circumstances are right, may grow into mutually beneficial projects or activities—or more!

[<Click here to read the full article >](#)

Yours in good health, *Jane Reagan* (MI) & *Steven Wright* (NY)  
 President President-Elect

### 2012 Conference Update

#### NAME’s 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference



The 2012 Conference Committee has been very busy since the last NAMEtag update. We have selected our theme: **The Tides are Changing!**

We are in the process of securing general session presenters. At this time, Rhode Island Education and Medicaid state agency officials have agreed to welcome you on Wednesday 10/10/2012. Also, invitations to join us have been sent to the Regional and Federal CMS representatives.

Members of the Conference Committee met at the Biltmore Hotel in Providence Tuesday, March 6, 2012. We reviewed all the meeting spaces reserved for our conference and toured the guest room types available for your registrations. We sampled delicious regional cuisine to start selecting a menu for you. We also toured the city and other parts of the state so that we will be able to personalize your experience in Rhode Island.

The onsite logistics committee is finalizing the following:

- ◇ Local Charity for our Auction proceeds
- ◇ Reception location for Wednesday 10/10/2012
- ◇ Social event for Thursday 10/11/2012

Watch for our ‘Call for Presenters’ coming to your email soon!



*NAME-tag*

March/April 2012

NAME, Inc. would like to thank the following three companies for their generous support as a Gold Sponsor to the 9th Annual NAME Conference:

**Fairbanks LLC**

**Paradigm HealthCare Services**

**PCG Consulting Group**

*Where to find us*

[www.medicaidforeducation.org](http://www.medicaidforeducation.org)

Find us on Facebook 



Email: [info@medicaidforeducation.org](mailto:info@medicaidforeducation.org)

## News from the Regions 1-2-3

### News from Region Three -

#### **Washington School-Based Healthcare Program Eliminated, Reinstated** - *James Harvey (WA)*

As a result of Washington's budgetary constraints, the School-Based Healthcare Services (SBS) program was eliminated effective December 31, 2010. During the 2011 legislative session and budget making process, funds were allocated to reinstate the program effective July 1, 2011. Prior to program elimination, the SBS program was funded by state matching dollars put up by the Health Care Authority (HCA), the state Medicaid agency, and federal financial participation (FFP). Upon reinstatement, our state legislature changed the funding mechanism to require 60% of the match dollars to come from school districts while 40% would come from the HCA to pull down the FFP. The funding mechanism required that, for the first time, we contract with each school district individually. The reinstatement of the program also required our agency to submit a state plan amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), which was completed on September 28, 2011, and approved on December 16, 2011. [<Click here to read the full article>](#)

#### **Arizona State Plan Amendment Approved for Cost-Based Reconciliation** - *Melinda Hollinshead (AZ)*

In December 2011, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved Arizona's State Plan Amendment (SPA) for School Based Claiming Services (SBC) with an effective date of July 1, 2011. Arizona's SPA outlines a new reimbursement methodology for the SBC program that uses Cost Based Reconciliation (CBR) as the basis for reimbursement. Contracted LEAs will still be required to submit claims throughout the year and will continue to receive interim payments, but under the CBR methodology those payments will be reconciled against an annual cost report submitted by each LEA at the close of the state fiscal year. LEA costs will be apportioned using a methodology that incorporates data from a quarterly Random Moment Time Study as one of the calculation variables. [<Click here to read the full article>](#)

#### **Montana Invited to Work with Center for School Mental Health** - *Rena Steyaert (MT)*

In the past year, Montana has been invited to work with the Center for School Mental Health from the University Of Maryland School Of Medicine in an effort to advance School Mental Health Programs. There are 16 other states working on these efforts including: Colorado, Minnesota, Vermont, Hawaii, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Maryland, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah and West Virginia. The Center for School Mental Health holds annual nationwide conferences in affiliation with the IDEA Partnership, which is funded by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and sponsored by National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE). [<Click here to read the full article>](#)

## Committee News

### **NAME Needs YOU!**

*Nomination Committee, Steven Wright (NY)*

Attention potential leaders and voting members of NAME! It is never too early to consider submitting your name or that of another for an officer or director position on the NAME Board of Directors. Elections for the 2012/13 NAME Board of Directors will occur at the annual NAME Membership Meeting in October following the 2012 NAME conference in Providence, Rhode Island. Please look for additional information on elections in future issues of NAMEtag.

### **Parental Consent Update**

*Governmental Affairs Committee, John Hill (OH)*

NAME continues to monitor issues related to parental consent at the federal level. Please continue to check the NAME website for updates. Our goal is to keep our membership informed on this important issue.

## In the Media

*Communications Committee, Larry Charny (NY)*

Holding the mirror up to recent Medicaid and special education issues covered by the media – cause for reflection among our membership.

- ◇ ["We wanted to help because 36 percent of Medicaid-eligible students are not receiving dental care"..."](#)
- ◇ ["If we don't stand up for our children, then we don't stand for much"...](#)

To read this story and other stories 'In the Media' [<click here>](#)



## Cathy Griffin Transitions to New Role

Founding NAME member and past NAME President Cathy Griffin, formerly with the Minnesota Department of Education, has recently accepted a new role at Minnesota's Department of Human Services. Cathy's roots are in the human services sector, and she will be working in the MnCHOICE program to help assure people with developmental disabilities have their needs assessed properly. We congratulate Cathy on her new role, but her new role will take her away from direct involvement in the NAME organization. Her impact has been profound and she will be sorely missed by her many friends and colleagues here at NAME.

We all wish Cathy the very best, and we salute the legacy she leaves with NAME. Simply put, NAME would not be the organization it is today without Cathy. She has worked tirelessly on behalf of our organization, and she was instrumental in bringing NAME into being, in fostering it through its early years, and in cementing its place as a lead organization in promoting the cause of Medicaid in schools. While Cathy has great enthusiasm, energy, and enormous organizational talents, Cathy's greatest asset is her compassion for others and her complete willingness to give of herself.

*Just a few of the words of gratitude shared about Cathy:*

-  Cathy, because of your diligence, NAME's biennial surveys have been used to sway some very critical rulings. You have been invaluable in assuring NAME's information portrays integrity. Thank you for your guidance. -- *Becky Stoddard, Kentucky*
-  The first time I met Cathy was the 1<sup>st</sup> NAME conference I attended . . . she was so full of energy and excitement about the organization and that helped me feel a little more comfortable . . . it was easy to want to become a part of NAME. I have learned so much from her, and I will miss the friendship and knowledge she has. She was a giant asset to NAME and I valued her guidance immensely. -- *Rena Steyaert, Montana*
-  It's been a pleasure working with Cathy, I have learned so much from her. She is such a valuable asset to the NAME Board and Leadership team. Her personality always brought 'sunshine' to the conversation or project we were working on and I will miss her as a friend and a colleague. -- *Cathy Bennett, California*
-  I had been in my role only three months when I met Cathy and her enthusiastic spirit, warm welcome and deep knowledge helped me to quickly feel like I wanted to belong to this organization. I have seen those same qualities in every encounter with Cathy since - whether on the phone or in person. I probably am only now realizing my appreciation of her and her work. -- *Jim Donoghue, Iowa*
-  Thanks to you and your co-founders, it looks like NAME is here to stay – we'll miss your energy, commitment and friendly smile! -- *Tracy Brunner, Indiana*
-  Cathy has never stopped giving her heart and soul to NAME. She was elected President in 2005, and has served in so many roles. Cathy's devotion to NAME allows us to call her its true Mother. She has been active for 10 years on many committees, recruits members, mentors and nurtures them, shares information and analyses willingly, has not feared speaking truth to power or raising tough questions or challenging accepted wisdom.

Cathy, I am honored to have worked so closely with you, cherish our friendship and am delighted you have taken on a new job that challenges you, utilizes your skills, and serves so many people in Minnesota. I have learned patience, perfection, persistence and a little bit of partying from you over the past 10 years. Godspeed in this new chapter in your career, and we'll see you at all the future NAME Conferences, I know! -- *Current NAME President Jane Reagan, Michigan*