



## Child Health Advisory Committee

### Minutes

November 17, 2022 · 9:00 a.m. – 10:13 a.m. · Zoom Only

**Call to order:** 9:05 a.m.

**Zoom:** Lucas Harder, Mitch Mathis, Dave Oberembt, Mike Motley, Elaine Prewitt, Jerri Clark, Cheria McDonald, Paula Rawls, Bala Simon, Josh Phelps, Carmel Perry, Tammie Works **Absent:** Carole Garner, Rosa Hatch, Ray Samaniego, Ashten Black **Vacant:** Arkansas Department of Health

**Staff:** Shannon Borchert, Shy Whitley

**Guests:** Lisa Mundy, Ariel Rogers, Julie McLaughlin, David Ballard, Nellie Caldwell, Nell Smith, Rose Page

**Review of September minutes:** P. Rawls moved to approve the minutes as amended; J. Clark seconded motion; motion carried.

**Act 1220 & Coordinated School Health Reports-** L. Harder moved to accept the reports, P. Rawls seconded motion. Motion carried.

**Act 1220 Coordinator Report:** School Health & Wellness Reporting was due October 1, 2022. No data to report on submission rate currently.

**Coordinated School Health Report:** Commissioner's Memo [LS-23-026](#) provided registration & content information for the Quarterly State meeting: November 9, 2022, via Zoom. Content covered Resiliency for All training; trauma-invested practices, social-emotional learning, and PBIS; and effective climate assessment.

- 177 attendees, 91 LEAs represented, 14 North Little Rock Wellness Committee members participated in person (135 virtual attendees)
- 6 priority district leads met in-person
- 22 State Agency personnel/School Health partners

The School Health Coalition met November 9, 2022, following the Coordinated School Health quarterly meeting. The coordinators from the 6 priority school districts presented updates to the coalition members.

### Old Business

[Final Rules – DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index for Age Assessment Protocols in Arkansas Public Schools.](#)

**DESE Recommendations to Rules Presenter update** (Jerri Clark): no update available currently.

**Development of Recommendations after adjournment;** subcommittees as follows:

- Wellness Training: P. Rawls, \*C. Tucker, G. Williams
- Physical Activity: L. Harder, S. Engle, B. Simon, \*L. Mundy, \*A. Rogers
- Mental Health: M. Motley, L. Alexander, M. Kinnison, J. Clark, C. McDonald
- Child Nutrition: C. Garner, P. Casey, J. Phelps, E. Prewitt, T. Works, D. Oberembt



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#### New Business

**Nell Smith, Arkansas Department of Human Services, TEFRA:** Slides at the end of minutes.

**Election of Vice-chair:** M. Motley moved to nominate Carole Garner as vice-chair. P. Casey seconded motion. Motion carried. (Nomination will be accepted/denied in next meeting).

**Act 1220/CHAC Report:** Committee will have any additional edits sent to S. Borchert by Monday, November 21, 2022. Committee requested all CHAC developed documents referenced in the report be added as appendices. P. Rawls moved to accept the report with revisions; J. Clark seconded motion. Motion carried.

#### Member Updates:

Mike Motley (Arkansas Center for Health Improvement): The BMI state report is in the technical edit phase and expected to be published by December.

Mitch Mathis (ShapeAR): The Summer Conference registration information can be found [here](#).

**Adjourn (subcommittees will meet immediately following adjournment):** M. Motley moved to adjourn; J. Phelps seconded motion. Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

**TEFRA:  
Annual Public Forum**





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#### Purpose of This Public Forum

- TEFRA (The Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act) operates as a section 1115 demonstration waiver.
- Federal waiver regulations require an annual public forum to solicit comments on the progress of the demonstration waiver.
- Public will have an opportunity to provide comments.
- Forum summary will be included in quarterly and annual reports to CMS.



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#### Purpose of This Public Forum

- Arkansas's TEFRA's current waiver expires December 31, 2022.
- Arkansas is applying to renew our waiver for five years
- Due to a Backlog of Waiver applications that are being reviewed CMS has extended our existing TEFRA Waiver for one year with an expected approval of our application coming in the near future.



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#### TEFRA Overview

- Medicaid program that helps families with children, younger than 19 years old, who have a disability and receive care in their homes rather than an institution.
- The TEFRA program can help pay for the cost of those services for eligible children.
- Families pay a premium on a sliding scale, depending on the parent/guardian's income.



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## Are We Eligible for TEFRA Coverage?

Approval for the TEFRA program is based these three criteria:

1. Financial Eligibility
2. Disability
3. Medical Necessity



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## Disability Requirement

- Child must meet the Social Security Administration's (SSA) definition of disabled.
- If the child has received Supplemental Security Income (SSI) within one year prior to applying for TEFRA and continues to have the disability but lost the SSI benefits because of an increase in his or her parents' income, the child may still qualify for TEFRA.



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## Disability Requirement

- If SSA has not established a disability, then the DHS Medical Review Team (MRT) will review the child's medical records to establish whether the child has a disability.
- Disability determinations are made by using the Social Security Administrations guidelines.
- MRT requests a form asking to identify the child's physician and other health care providers.
- MRT reviews medical records provided by the child's health care providers to make the disability decision.



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#### Medical Necessity and Appropriateness of Care Requirement

- The child must have a medical condition that would require institutional placement.
- Medical necessity is also based on services that improve or maintain a child's health or prevent a child's health from getting worse.



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#### Medical Necessity and Appropriateness of Care Requirement

- After the child is determined disabled, the TEFRA Committee then determines what appropriate medical services need to be provided and if those would be available to the child in the home.
- Estimated cost of the care cannot exceed the estimated cost of care for the child in an institution.



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#### Financial Requirement

- Child cannot have personal income that exceeds the Long-Term Care Medicaid limit of \$2,523.
- Child cannot have countable resources that exceed \$2,000.
- Parent/guardian's income and resources are not used to determine financial eligibility of the child.



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2021 TEFRA Enrollment Summary

In 2021, there were a total of **6,089** TEFRA Enrollees.



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Health Care Quality, Outcomes and Access

Participants were asked to rate their satisfaction with the following on a scale from 0 (“worst possible”) to 10 (“best possible”).

	2021	2020	2019
Health care professional	9.20	9.22	9.17
Health care	9.14	9.01	8.98
Treatment or counseling	8.42	8.41	8.11
TEFRA program	8.18	8.43	8.22
Customer service	6.59	6.90	5.89
Application process	7.21	7.30	7.30



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TEFRA Changes

- Creation of TEFRA Procedure Manual
- Customer Service Improvements
- TEFRA Interested Parties List



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## How do I contact TEFRA?

General TEFRA Information?

TEFRA Payment Information?

Application Status and Eligibility?

Medical Claim Status?



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## General TEFRA Information

800-482-5431 or  
800-482-8988

General TEFRA Information  
can be provided through  
AFMC.  
1-855-372-1084



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## TEFRA Payment Unit

If you have TEFRA billing or invoice questions, please call the TEFRA Premium Unit at 1-866-239-9938.



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#### Application Status and Eligibility

- <https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services/medical-services/healthcare-programs/tefra/tefra-important-phone-numbers/>
- Access [arkansas.gov](https://arkansas.gov), log into your account and review your child's application status online.



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#### Medical Claim Status

800-482-5431 or  
800-482-8988

Medical Claim  
Status for members  
or providers can be  
provided by AFMC.



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#### Comments and Questions

- Comments and questions can be:
  - ✓ Submitted to [larry.ballard@dhs.Arkansas.gov](mailto:larry.ballard@dhs.Arkansas.gov)  
or
  - ✓ Mailed to Larry Ballard, Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services, 700 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72203  
or
  - ✓ Expressed during the public comment portion of this meeting



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**Public Comment**

We want to hear from you!



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**Contact Us**

Larry David Ballard

[Larry.ballard@dhs.Arkansas.gov](mailto:Larry.ballard@dhs.Arkansas.gov)



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**We Care. We Act. We Change Lives.**



**ARKANSAS  
DEPARTMENT OF  
HUMAN  
SERVICES**



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**Next meeting:** Thursday, December 15, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Zoom Meeting Only

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/96682665672> Meeting ID: **966 8266 5672**

One tap mobile +13126266799,,96682665672# US (Chicago)