OFFICE OF FAMILIES AND CHILDREN
Families and Children Letter FCL #26

To: Directors, Public Children Services Agencies
Administrators, Title IV-E Courts

From: Jeffery Van Deusen, Deputy Director
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Date: May 11, 2022

Subject: Launching OhioRISE and the Next Generation of Ohio Medicaid Managed Care

Background
The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) is launching our Next Generation of Managed Care with the start of OhioRISE on July 1, 2022. ODM is implementing the Next Generation program in stages to avoid unnecessary disruption and confusion for members and to reduce burdens on our service providers. The staggered approach remains true to the Next Generation vision – to ensure we keep our focus on the individuals we serve, honor members' choice, and provide continuity in the provision of members’ care. The Next Generation of Ohio Medicaid program will be implemented in three stages:

- Stage 1: On July 1, 2022, OhioRISE will begin providing specialized services, which will help children and youth with behavioral health needs and help coordinate care for those who receive care across multiple systems.
- Stage 2: In October 2022, Centralized Provider Credentialing will begin which will reduce administrative burden on providers. Also, the Single Pharmacy Benefit Manager (SPBM) will begin providing pharmacy services across all managed care plans and members.
Stage 3: In the last few months of 2022, ODM will finish implementing the Next Generation program with **all seven Next Generation managed care plans** beginning to provide healthcare coverage, along with launching additional improvements to streamline the process of claims and prior authorization submission for providers.

The Next Generation program aims to better support children and youth served by the Medicaid program, including youth in the custody of public children’s services agencies (PCSAs) and Title IV-E Courts, adopted youth, and emancipated youth.

**OhioRISE**

As a key component of the Next Generation program, OhioRISE will create new opportunities to better serve kids involved with the child protection system. OhioRISE is a specialized managed care program that will provide behavioral health services to children involved in multiple state systems who have complex behavioral health needs. Aetna Better Health of Ohio serves as the single statewide OhioRISE managed care plan.

OhioRISE aims to shift the system of care and keep more kids and families together by creating new access to in-home and community-based services for children with the most complex behavioral health challenges. The OhioRISE program’s child and family-centric delivery system recognizes the need to specialize services and support for this unique group of children and families. OhioRISE will feature care coordination and both new and enhanced behavioral health services targeted toward this population and will offer a new Medicaid waiver program that will help families prevent custody relinquishment. Aetna is partnering with ODM, ODJFS, other sister state agencies, providers, families, and other stakeholders to develop and implement new and enhanced services.

Beginning on July 1, 2022, OhioRISE enrollees will receive their behavioral health benefits through Aetna Better Health of Ohio and their physical health services through a separate managed care organization (MCO) or Medicaid fee-for-service (FFS). With the staggered approach to implementing the Next Generation of Ohio Medicaid, OhioRISE members will receive physical health services through their current MCO until the remaining Next Generation program begins later this year or will maintain FFS coverage for physical health care throughout the transition.

Aetna will work collaboratively with Ohio Medicaid’s current MCOs (Buckeye, CareSource, Molina, Anthem/Paramount, and United Healthcare) to care for children / youth who are enrolled in both OhioRISE and managed care. Aetna and the MCOs have been working for nearly a year to ensure OhioRISE and managed care benefits are integrated around a child / youth and their family / caregivers. Together, all parties will share information using current
systems and supported by information provided by ODM’s Medicaid Information Technology System (MITS).

OhioRISE in Ohio SACWIS
OFC and ODM are collaborating on implementing SACWIS changes and data exchange to support the Next Generation Medicaid program.

To support the launch of OhioRISE, treatment history from SACWIS and Medicaid data are being used to pre-identify eligible Medicaid children / youth who will automatically enroll in the program on July 1. Children and youth who will be automatically enrolled will have recently received one of the following types of care:

- **On or after January 1, 2022**: Inpatient psychiatric and/or substance use disorder services or out of state psychiatric residential treatment facility services.
- **On or after April 1, 2022**: Intensive home-based treatment, care at an Intermediate Care Facility / Intellectual Developmental Disability with an intensive behavioral support rate add-on, or care in a developmental center while under age 18, or a CANS assessment entered in the CANS IT system indicating OhioRISE eligibility.
- **On or after May 1, 2022**: Substance use disorder residential treatment, or services from a children’s residential center or residential parenting facility while in Title IV-E agency custody.

After the July 1, 2022, implementation, agencies should consider identifying other children who might be eligible for and benefit from the coordinated behavioral health focused service offered by OhioRISE, and then request a CANS assessment through the youth’s MCO or a local Care Management Entity (CME) to help determine if the child is eligible for OhioRISE enrollment. Children and youth who are admitted for an inpatient hospitalization with a primary mental health or substance use disorder diagnosis, as well as those admitted to a PRTF, will also be eligible to enroll in OhioRISE.

Ohio SACWIS has been updated to reflect the new OhioRISE managed care plan, Aetna.

- OhioRISE - Aetna will not be a selection in the Managed Care Plan dropdown in Ohio SACWIS, as ODM must determine if a youth is eligible for OhioRISE and enroll eligible youth in the program.
- ODM will send the OhioRISE span to Ohio SACWIS for children found eligible.
- The plan will display in the Managed Care Plan grid as “OhioRISE – Aetna.”

OhioRISE Trainings
In preparation for the launch of OhioRISE, ODM is providing a series of trainings and office hours to support agency implementation needs. The OhioRISE trainings include 4 modules.
and an upcoming training specific to the needs of PCSAs and Title IV-E Courts which is scheduled for June 3, 2022, 9:00am – 11:00am. To register for the OhioRISE Public Children Service Agency Training session, please use this link. Following the training, ODM and ODJFS will hold open office hours to address any additional questions on June 17, 11:00 – 12:00 via Microsoft Teams. Please use this link to join at the time of the meeting.

Details and recordings of past and future modules, stakeholder trainings, ODM office hours, and resources regarding OhioRISE can be accessed at: OhioRISE Community and Provider Training | Ohio Medicaid Managed Care.

**Additional Information about the Next Generation of Managed Care**
In the coming weeks and months, ODJFS and ODM will share additional information about implementing the second and third stages of the Next Generation program. For now, the most important thing to know is that Ohio Medicaid members, including children and youth served by your agencies, will not lose healthcare coverage or benefits due to the Next Generation program implementation. We look forward to partnering with you to ensure kids in your care get access to the Medicaid services they need.

**Contacts**
Please send any questions regarding the Next Generation of Ohio Managed Care to OFC at JFS_Medicaid_TA@jfs.ohio.gov or ODM at OhioRISE@medicaid.ohio.gov.