

IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

An Update on the Proposed Work/Community Engagement Requirements for SoonerCare Members

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY UPDATE

In March 2017, the federal government granted states flexibility in their work requirements for Medicaid members. In October 2017, Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin formed a workgroup on work requirements, signing an executive order in March 2018 directing the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) to apply for a waiver that would allow the state to implement these changes. She also signed HB 2932, directing the agency to apply for the waiver so that gaining SoonerCare coverage is dependent upon documentation of certain education, skills training, work or job activities.

In an attempt to solicit community feedback, OHCA extended the public comment period from 30 days to nearly 90 days, opening on July 2, 2018, and closing on Sept. 30, 2018. Below is a summary of OHCA's efforts and results.



38

Statewide meetings with stakeholders and community members.



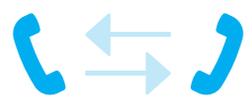
15

Public community meetings, including two public hearings.



16

Targeted meetings with sister agencies, advocacy groups, provider associations and nonprofit leaders.



7

Phone check-ins with state leadership.



Comments sent to a dedicated email address.



Comments submitted through the OHCA website.

KEY FINDINGS

Feedback received during our comment period centered around five areas:

- How can members find work?
- How can members find volunteer opportunities?
- Transportation may be a challenge for members.
- Reliable, consistent childcare may also be a challenge.
- Telecommunications access may not be reliable.



NEXT STEPS

- OHCA continues to gather comments throughout September.
- OHCA will submit the waiver application in October.
- After a 15-day completeness period, CMS will notify OHCA that the application is complete.
- CMS will then open a 30-day public comment period.
- Comments are then gathered during a 15-day period.
- Negotiations between OHCA and CMS begin.
- The application moves to CMS for a final decision. There is no deadline for this phase.
- If approved, OHCA will begin implementation procedures in February 2019.

