

# Next Generation of Ohio Medicaid Managed Care

## ▶ What is Medicaid Managed Care?

It's a better way of paying for health care services. Instead of the old "fee for service" model, which paid according to the volume of procedures or services performed, managed care pays according to the value of the care — rewarding better health outcomes. We do this with strategies such as focusing on preventative care and encouraging relationships with primary care providers rather than relying on emergency department visits.

Ohio Medicaid has been transitioning to managed care over the past two decades; now, 90% of Medicaid recipients are enrolled in a managed care plan:

- 2.8 million in regular Medicaid managed care plans.
- 150,000, eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare, through MyCare Ohio.

## ▶ Benefits beyond the savings:

Just like employer-provided insurance, Medicaid managed care plans charge a fixed monthly premium per member to cover all medical needs. This provides:

- Budget predictability for the state.
- Care coordination for members.
- Connecting members to health and wellness programs and community resources.
- Opportunities to partner with providers for better outcomes.

**Savings from Medicaid Managed Care:  
\$4.1 billion to \$5.4 billion every biennium**

## ▶ Ohio's Next Generation of Medicaid Managed Care

In 2019, the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) set out to redesign Medicaid managed care to better meet public health goals and address health inequities. Components of the plan include:

- Redesigned managed care plans.
- OhioRISE, a specialized managed care program for youths with complex, multisystem behavioral health needs.
- A single pharmacy benefit manager.
- Centralized credentialing.
- A fiscal intermediary to handle all provider claims and prior authorization requests and allow easier analysis of claims activity.

## ▶ What are the Next Generation plans required to do?

- Practice population health management principles, including care coordination, to address health inequities and improve outcomes.
- Invest a portion of the after-tax underwriting margin in programs to improve local community health outcomes.
- Ease administrative burden for providers with timelier and more accurate notifications.
- Increase transparency and access to data for accountability of quality improvement projects.
- Improve coordination among the managed care plans, OhioRISE and the single pharmacy benefit manager.

## ▶ Innovative Collaborations are Already Happening

Collaboration among managed care plans to improve health outcomes for the Ohioans they collectively service is a key principle of the Next Generation, but this work was underway well before 2023.

- COVID-19 Vaccination: Through 2021, urged by Gov. Mike DeWine to “do more” to improve the low vaccination rate of Ohio Medicaid members, the managed care plans partnered with ODM, providers and community partners to create the “Vax on the Spot” campaign. By the end of 2021, the program vaccinated more than 1 million Medicaid members — doubling the Medicaid vaccination rate so that it was close to that of Ohioans in general. Savings as of August 2021 (after only a few months): 1,696 Medicaid hospitalizations avoided, saving taxpayers \$23.2 million. (SOURCE: Center for Community Solutions).
- Other Community Investments by Medicaid Managed Care Plans Since 2022:
  - \$13 million to **Ronald McDonald House of Dayton Capital Campaign** to enable holistic, wraparound services that support family-centered care and help improve health outcomes for pediatric patients.
  - \$4.7 million to **Groundwork Ohio** to develop and launch **The Center for Family Voice**, a first-of-its-kind, collaborative approach to improving maternal and child health and development outcomes for pregnant women and children.
  - \$975,000 to **Columbus Speech & Hearing Center’s Early Identification and Intervention Program** for children up to age 5, approximately one-third of whom are from low-income Black or multiracial families.
  - \$700,000 to **Laura’s Home/New Horizons Transitional Housing project**, which will provide stable and affordable housing to women and children fighting homelessness in the Cleveland area.
  - \$5 million to **Wellness on Wheels** for comprehensive, culturally sensitive women’s health and prenatal services in southeast Ohio.
  - \$400,000 to **Special Skills Sports Camps** to provide sports fantasy camp experiences designed and adapted for the special needs community in 40 (and growing) Ohio counties.
  - \$220,000 to the **Star House Toledo**, which will provide drop-in centers and other social services support to youth ages 14-24 who are experiencing homelessness.

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