

# Medicaid Managed Care Weekly

Issue 23

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## This Week - A Focus on Older Adults and People with Disabilities

### Community Meetings in Each ABD Medicaid Managed Care Region

ODJFS will hold regional informational meetings for service providers and community organizations currently

serving Medicaid consumers who are aged, blind or have a disability (also known as "ABD"). In particular, the forums will facilitate communication among ODJFS staff, Medicaid managed care plans (MCP), and boards and providers from each county's behavioral health and MR/DD systems. The first meeting was held on December 15th at Northcoast Behavioral Health Care in Northfield, Ohio for counties in the Northeast region. Additional information will be provided as more meetings are scheduled.

### CFC Medicaid Managed Care Expansion

Covered Families and Children (CFC) managed care membership reached approximately 956,000 on Dec. 1, 2006. Managed care enrollment is on target for a membership of 1 million consumers by January 2007.

### Managed Care Enrollment of ABD Consumers Continues in Northeast Region

As of Dec. 15, 2006, 953 ABD Medicaid consumers in the Northeast region voluntarily enrolled in MCPs. These consumers will receive services via managed care on Jan. 1, 2007. An additional 25,000 ABD consumers in the Northeast region will be enrolled by Feb. 1, 2007.

### Medicaid Staff Meet with Ohio Olmstead Task Force Members

On Friday December 8th, OHP staff met with Ohio Olmstead Task Force representatives to provide an overview of the planned arrangements for ABD consumers who will be enrolling into Medicaid Managed Care. Ohio Olmstead Task Force Representatives made a number of good observations about the expansion that are of particular concern to people with disabilities.

Examples of questions asked by Olmstead representatives included:

- Q.** What alternative communications methods are available for managed care consumers who need such assistance?  
**A.** Managed care plans (MCPs) intend to make enrollment and ongoing consumer information accessible via audio tape, CD, DVD, Internet or Braille formats.
- Q.** What requirements exist to ensure consumers with disabilities have reasonable access to providers' offices that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)?  
**A.** Although MCPs generally do not publish a listing of providers that are ADA compliant, members can receive assistance locating such providers from the MCPs' member services representatives.
- Q.** When an MCP develops a "transition to membership" plan for a consumer, how is the consumer involved in its development?  
**A.** MCPs are provided a detailed history of member-specific Medicaid fee-for-service utilization, which is used in conjunction with direct member involvement in the development of transition plans.

This meeting was the first of our expected ongoing dialogue to exchange information about the unique needs of the people with disabilities. A second meeting between OHP staff and of the Ohio Olmstead Task Force has been scheduled for Friday, January 26th.