

THE COORDINATING CENTER

INSPIRED SOLUTIONS

## **REM Services**

Nichole Walsh, MHA, BSN, RN, CPN, CCM Clinical Care Coordinator

October 24, 2019

# **Topics of Discussion**

- REM- Rare and Expensive Case Management
  - Eligibility
  - Services
  - Referrals





### **Rare and Expensive Case Management Program (REM)**

• A fee for service Medicaid program that provides medical benefits for individuals with qualifying medical conditions.





# History of the REM Program

• Began in 1997

THE COORDINATING CENTER INSPIRED SOLUTIONS

- Started when medical assistance recipients began enrolling in MCOs for their medical care
- Carve out of the MCO program for specific diagnoses
- Managed by Maryland Department of Health (MDH)



## **Purpose of the REM Program**

• The purpose of the REM Program is to ensure that recipients with rare diagnoses have access to high quality, medially appropriate health care services in a cost effective setting outside of a managed care organization.





## **Medical Criteria for REM**

- Must have specific ICD10 code diagnosis
- These diagnoses were originally those that were a rare occurrence (< 300/ year)
- Current diagnosis list includes diagnoses that aren't as rare, such as Cerebral Palsy
- Diagnoses are typically long term and expensive to treat

INSPIRED SOLUTIONS



## **Financial Criteria**

- Must be categorically eligible for community Medical Assistance
  - Poverty Level
  - Affordable Care Act- Exchange
  - SSI- Supplemental Security Income
  - MCHP- Maryland Children's Health Program
- OR enrolled in a Medical Assistance Home and Community Based Options Waiver
  - Autism Waiver
  - DDA Waivers
  - Community Options Waiver



## **Additional Criteria for REM**

#### • Age

- Each diagnosis has an age range
  - $\circ$  0-12 months (inconclusive HIV)
  - $\circ$  0-3  $\,$  T-E fistula, esophageal atresia and/or stenosis
  - $\,\circ\,$  0-5  $\,$  myoclonus, nose anomaly, pancreas anomaly, at resia of large intestines
  - $\circ$  0-10 other anomalies of digestive system, multiple congenital anomalies
  - $\circ$  0-15 Hirschsprung's
  - $\circ$  0-20 HIV, Diplegia, Renal failure (no dialysis), cleft lip/palate
  - $\circ$  21-64 chronic renal failure with dialysis, cerebral palsy
  - $\circ$  1-64 dependence on respirator
  - All others are 0-1, 0-20, or 0-64



# **Services Available Through REM**

- State Plan Services
  - Nursing Care (<21yr)</li>
  - Pharmacy
  - DME
  - DMS
  - Physician Visits
  - Diagnostics
  - Hospitalization
  - EPSDT Services

- REM Optional Services
  - Nursing Care (>21yr)
  - Home Health Aid Services
  - Nutritional Supplement and Counseling
  - Physician's participation in multidisciplinary meetings
  - Dental
  - Chiropractic Services
  - OT, SLP



### **Care Management**

- In addition to state plan and optional services, REM participants receive care management services from a nurse or social worker
- Assist participants with managing their care
  - Provide direction to obtain appropriate services
  - Assist with transition from hospital back to home
  - Assist with obtaining alternative funding
  - Assist with tracking of necessary equipment
  - Attend clinic appointments, school meetings, etc. as an advocate for participants
  - Site visits and required contacts based on Level of Care
  - Contact with Physicians, DSS, and other providers



### **Referral Process for REM**

- REM Intake 1-800-565-8190
- REM application completed by primary or specialty physician
- Documentation criteria for each diagnosis
- Agreement by family to participate- voluntary program
- Assignment to The Coordinating Center for care management
- Typically, REM does not begin until the child is in the community



### **Termination of REM Services**

- Lose MA eligibility
   A eligibility
   Refer to MW or have private insurance
- Move out of state
   MA program in new state
- Hospitalized > 30 days in a long term care facility
- Inpatient care under Institutional MA



## **REM by the Numbers**

Current enrollees

2018 Applications Received
753

**4300** 

2018 Applications Accepted
540



## **The Coordinating Center...**

- Is the largest independent care coordination organization in Maryland and serves 10,000 individuals annually
  - (REM, CFC, WISH, Model Waiver, Autism Waiver programs)
- Has been rooted in the community for more than three decades
- Employs more than 300 highly qualified licensed nurses, certified social workers, community health workers, housing specialists, and supports planners



### **Questions?**

