



An association of resources and advocacy for children, youth and families

www.aspiremn.org

January 4, 2019

FIRST FRIDAY – updates and ideas to share

[Governor-elect Walz names Senator Tony Lourey as the new DHS Commissioner](#)

Senator Lourey, former Senate Health and Human Services Finance chair, was named on January 3 as the incoming administration's designated Commissioner of the Department of Human Services. We look forward to partnering with incoming Commissioner Lourey and appreciate his knowledge and commitment to serving children, youth and families, one of the hallmarks of his leadership.

AspireMN January Member Meeting – Last chance to register!

- Registration, agenda and hotel info can be found at <https://www.aspiremn.org/>
- When: January 10 and 11.
- Where: **NEW VENUE!** Delta Hotels Marriot in NE Minneapolis (1330 Industrial Blvd NE, Minneapolis)
- The AspireMN Board of Directors encourages all staff in member organizational leadership with interest in health care payment and innovation to attend the panel Thursday Jan 10, 2-4 pm titled "Integrated Health Partnerships, Accountable Care Organizations, and why it matters for the field."

MN LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Key Dates for the 2019 Legislative Session

- Session starts January 8 and has a constitutionally required adjournment date of May 20, 2019.

- April 13 through April 22 is the Easter/Passover break for legislators. You are encouraged to invite your legislators for site visits during this time period.
- AspireMN will host legislative update calls every other week, starting **Monday, January 14th from 9:00 to 9:15 am.** (Subsequent calls will be January 28, February 11, etc.) **Dial: 641-715-3200 and then code: 323654#**

Contact your legislators!

Please reach out to your legislators and wish them welcome to the new session, share key legislative priorities with them, and let them know that you would like to be a resource for them. All House committees have new leadership, please see if your legislators are on the new HHS Committees. Below you will see the new members of the two Health and Human Services committees.

Health and Human Services Finance

District	Name	Community
26A	Rep. Liebling (Chair)	Rochester
56B	Rep. Mann (Vice Chair)	Lakeville
41B	Rep. Kunesh-Podein	New Brighton
65A	Rep. Moran	St. Paul
7B	Rep. Olson	Duluth
44B	Rep. Acomb	Minnetonka
56A	Rep. Cantrell	Savage
7A	Rep. Schultz	Duluth
60A	Rep. Loeffler	Minneapolis
57A	Rep. Bierman	Apple Valley
51B	Rep. Halverson	Eagan
60B	Rep. Noor	Minneapolis
22A	Rep. Schomacker	Luverne
30A	Rep. Zerwas	Elk River
22B	Rep. Hamilton	Mountain Lake
21A	Rep. Haley	Red Wing
17B	Rep. Baker	Willmar
8B	Rep. Franson	Alexandria
18B	Rep. Gruenhagen	Glencoe
23B	Rep. Munson	Lake Crystal

Health and Human Services Policy

District	Name	Community
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65A	Rep. Moran (Chair)	St. Paul
33B	Rep. Morrison (Vice Chair)	Deephaven
56B	Rep. Mann	Lakeville
34B	Rep. Bahner	Maple Grove
43A	Rep. Fischer	Maplewood
49A	Rep. Edelson	Edina
60A	Rep. Loeffler	Minneapolis
45B	Rep. Freiberg	Golden Valley
26A	Rep. Liebling	Rochester
7A	Rep. Schultz	Duluth
64B	Rep. Pinto	St. Paul
14A	Rep. Kiel (L)	St. Cloud
55B	Rep. Albright	Prior Lake
34A	Rep. Robbins	Maple Grove
32B	Rep. Neu	North Branch
26B	Rep. Pierson	Stewartville
22A	Rep. Schomacker	Luverne
12A	Rep. Backer	Browns Valley

[Click here to see all new House committees.](#)

[And here for the Senate committees.](#)

[2019 AspireMN Legislative Agenda](#) (It's linked on the AspireMN homepage under the Member Meeting info.)

Your organization is invited to contribute to Minnesota Management and Budget's FFPSA implementation survey.

You may have already received this important survey from Pete Bernardy (Minnesota Management and Budget), but if not, here is a brief synopsis and contact info for Pete Bernardy:

MMB is supporting state and legislative leaders to review existing capacity and practice as we examine opportunities (and challenges) to come in implementing Family First Prevention Services Act in the coming years. Contact peter.bernardy@state.mn.us if you have not yet received the survey.

From DHS: Changes to the Minnesota Health Care Programs Provider Website

The following update was made to the MHCP Provider Manual: Early Intensive Development and Behavioral Intervention (EIDBI) Benefit – [EIDBI Billing Grid \(PDF\)](#) – Added information that details the number of hours a clinician can provide for individual intervention EIDBI services.

Mental Health Rates Study

DHS has submitted a final report to the Legislature regarding mental health reimbursement rates. AspireMN member involvement in this process was fundamental and allowed us to form the basis for our *Say Yes & Invest* initiative, which will seek a rate increase and establish a rate methodology for the future. Here is the report:

- [Department of Human Services Legislative Report – Study of Mental Health Reimbursement – October 2018](#)

FEDERAL UPDATES

***This is Medicaid* statement on the Health Care Provider Tax**

In December, the *This is Medicaid* coalition distributed their official statement supporting the “continuation of the health care provider tax, or timely implementation of a reasonable and sustainable alternative, to maintain the Health Care Access Fund.” [You can read it here.](#)

Additionally, *This is Medicaid* is circulating a [sign-on letter](#) to repeal the sunset of the Health Care Provider Tax. Please sign your organization to this letter if appropriate.

Federal Government Shut-down – implications for health-related initiatives

From Shefali Luthra via Kaiser Health News: “Congress has already passed five of its major appropriations bills, funding about three-fourths of the federal government, including the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Veterans Affairs. But seven bills are outstanding — including those that fund the Interior, Agriculture and Justice

departments — and that puts the squeeze on some important health-related initiatives...” [Read more here.](#)

Feinstein and Rubio Draft Legislation to Extend Child Welfare Waivers

“The draft legislation would permit states and counties that currently have waivers to Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, the entitlement that pays for foster care and adoption, to keep those in place until 2021.” [Read the full article here.](#)

FIELD-RELATED UPDATES

American Public Media’s Mental Health Initiative, *Call to Mind*, publishes a newsletter. You can subscribe here: https://cloud.connect.americanpublicmedia.org/calltomind_subscribe