

The following is text from an email received from DHS

This email is an update on our transition to a new Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). As you may know, the current MMIS system, our legacy system, is 30 years old. After a competitive bidding process, HP Enterprise Services (HPE) was awarded the contract to build the new MMIS Core system. Like the current system, the new MMIS Core system will handle billing for Arkansas Medicaid. Originally, DHS and HPE planned for the new system to “go live” at the end of May. Our most important consideration in building and launching the new MMIS is to ensure we have a smooth and seamless transition from the existing legacy system. The providers in our state rely on a fast turnaround of claims for payment, and we recognize how critical those processes are, especially for our smaller providers. You will hear over the next few days that DHS and HPE are working together to determine a new go live date that will be smooth for our providers and put Medicaid operations at the least risk.

Given the size and scope of this project, DHS has contingency plans that involve adding functionality to the existing legacy system by July 1 so that it can continue to be used until we are ready to move to the new MMIS Core system. We have begun implementing those contingency plans today. Those plans include adding functionality that allow us to continue to move forward with our transformation efforts in the areas of Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities services, as well as Long-term Services and Supports. We are excited about these transformation efforts.

Because we are getting closer to launching the new system, DHS Director Cindy Gillespie has asked Surgeon General Greg Bledsoe to pull together a few providers who can serve as an informal advisory group for DHS/HPE. This group will serve as a sort of “sounding board” for go live. Though the transition may be longer than we’d anticipated, we believe the additional time will ensure a smooth transition so that we don’t have disruptions in payments to providers or in services for beneficiaries.

If you have any questions on MMIS transitioning, please reach out to myself or Tami Harlan in Arkansas Medicaid at [tami.harlan@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:tami.harlan@dhs.arkansas.gov).

Also, DDS and BH will begin a series of public meetings to discuss transformation efforts and the PASSE model on Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 pm at the St. Vincent Hospital Main Auditorium. We will meet every Monday in April. More information will be provided soon regarding call in information and agenda items.



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