

**Members in Attendance:**

- Silma Navarro: Fontana USD
- Karen Cloutman: San Diego USD
- Karen Tinker: San Diego USD
- Margie Bobe: Los Angeles USD
- Cathy Bennett: Sac City USD
- Patricia Eaton: Chula Vista USD
- Tiffany Ward: MBT
- Jeremy Ford: Oakland USD
- Jacquelyn Arion: Compton USD
- Paula Villescaz: Assembly Health Committee
- Chuck Muirhead: AFI Advisors
- Mary Cahill: San Diego LGA
- Dawn Bray: Beaumont USD
- Lydia Bourne: CSNO
- Christine Wilhite: Butte COE
- Andrea McNeill: Ventura USD
- Frank Biehl: Practi-Cal
- Rose Uranga: Veritam Inc.
- Tanya Perry: Bear Valley USD
- Roberta Stephens: MBT
- Whitney Knight: Palm Springs USD
- Tracy Cole: Natomas USD
- Sherry Purcell: Los Angeles USD
- Tony Carillo: Palm Springs USD
- Janice DiCroce: San Diego LGA
- Maria Thomas: CSBA
- Hansine Fisher: HFA
- Patti McIntyre: Leader Services
- Karen Hall: Corona/Norco USD
- Jennifer Kottke: Rowland USD
- Jayne Mills: Palm Springs USD
- Donna Ross: Oceanside USD
- Marin COE
- John Mendoza: DHCS
- Tony Teresi: DHCS

**Questions Asked Re: RMTS (document with questions attached)**

1. DHCS will speak with LECs/LGAs to obtain the data points requested. They will reach out to co-chairs within 48 hours and provide a timeline for the work group.
2. July 7<sup>th</sup> is a workgroup meeting. During this meeting DHCS will be working diligently to improve relationships with all agencies. Once this workgroup meeting is over, DHCS plans to define a date/time for an in person stakeholder meeting. An email blast will be sent out when that date has been established.
3. The revised plan was submitted to CMS on June 16, 2014. They have not yet received any feedback regarding this plan. Since this meeting, CMS forwarded correspondence conditionally approving the SMAA plan. The CMS letter is posted on the DHCS SMAA website.
4. Feedback received will be shared via DHCS website. The letter was posted on July 3, 2014.
5. DHCS advises: do not execute any RMTS contracts until CMS approves SMAA manual.
  - a. Comment: There is a disadvantage to LEAs not having information/not being able to sign contracts. Schools need to know the costs so that they may budget for the school year and contracts can not be signed until costs have been established.
6. The breakdown of costs with PCG in terms of LEC vs LGA is information that DHCS does not have. They will work with LECs and LGAs to obtain this information. DHCS doesn't have direct

contact with PCG; the final cost will be determined on the approved manual. Currently there is a “range of costs” that is being looked at.

- a. Question: In the RFP, what were the qualifying “range of costs”?
    - i. DHCS did not have an answer.
  - b. Question: Do you foresee an increase in the PCG costs due to the recent change in the manual eliminating consortiums?
    - i. Answer from DHCS: yes, DHCS seems to think that is possible; more will be discussed during the July 7<sup>th</sup> workgroup meeting.
7. Question: DHCS has oversight of the program which includes the contracts. Why don't they know about the costs and the terms of the contract with PCG?
- a. There are currently no restrictions for the LEA for contracting invoice work; the restrictions are on coding vendors. DHCS will go back to section 6-27 regarding LEA Coordinator language
  - b. Question: Changes to vendor language: As part of the response to a question about the LEA Coordinators, Tony stated that there have been many changes made to the vendor language.

**Questions asked re: RTC (document with questions attached)**

1. Update on workplan: The SMAA Unit, several managers, and a group of volunteers from within the Safety Net Financing Division is working mandatory overtime.
2. Status of claims: 1400-1500 invoices have been reviewed as of last data check.
  - a. Of those reviewed, approximately 65% have been conditionally denied.
    - i. DHCS wants to see LEAs be more successful in providing stronger justifications.
  - b. DHCS is definitely concerned about the 65%. That is why they have posted samples and guidelines on their websites as well as have been making calls and sending emails to LECs/LGAs to discuss.
  - c. Question: What are the criteria for the conditional denials?
    - i. Conditional denials are different for each district; the invoices will be partially denied unless changes are made within the 14 day period. Individual letters with specific changes will be sent to LEAs for compliance. LEAs have 14 days to comply from the date the email was sent.
      1. Emails are going to LECs/LGAs before they are passed on to LEAs. What happens if LECs/LGAs fail to send the correspondence?
      2. DHCS insists that contact has been made to all regions/counties that this issue impacts.
      3. Comment: 14 day timeline for response at a time when schools in CA are closed is not reasonable. John seemed to hear us that this may be an unreasonable timeline given school calendars. DHCS will make efforts to be flexible to address situations such as this one, however it still has to move forward to accommodate the September 30, 2014, deadline imposed by CMS.

- d. Question: Is there a way for LEAs to find out directly that they are conditionally denied? It would seem to be more efficient then to have to find out from LEC/LGA first.
    - i. DHCS does not have it set up for the LEAs to find out directly on the website. It is a 'good idea' and they will discuss internally whether something can be done to post more specific information on the SMAA website.
  - e. No ability of LEAs to even know which of their claims have been submitted (except through LECs/LGAs)/ DHCS has no current process for notifying LEAs about notifying schools about invoice status (except through LECs/LGAs)
  - f. Question: What should LEA expectations be in finding out the status of invoices?
  - g. Comment: Who is paying for the overtime and temporary staff during the RTC review process? Ultimately, LEAs are paying for DHCS staff and LEAs will be charged more due to the elimination of consortiums and the PCG contract
3. The RTC deadline set by CMS for completion date is September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- a. Comment: The CMS 64 deadline for DHCS to be reimbursed is September 30. At one point we heard they needed to process 6500 invoices. Does that mean they have completed 20% in the past year and will do the other 80% in the next 3 months?
4. The challenge for DHCS Accounting has been that June has been an extremely busy month. They are hoping for checks to be cut beginning in July 2014.
- a. Question: How many RTCs have been reviewed by CMS?
    - i. CMS comes in each week for 3-5 hours and reviews a sample of RTC claims.
  - b. Question: How many claiming units turned in RTCs?
  - c. Question: Has any data been looked at in terms of how many schools dropped out of MAA and why?
    - i. No. From the DHCS perspective this has not been something that has been discussed or look at.
  - d. Question: Can schools partner with neighboring LGAs?
    - i. DHCS is unsure. They will go back to check guidelines regarding crossing county lines. They will discuss with their legal department and get back to us.
  - e. Question re: Share Point Invoices: How would LEAs know if theirs was not received?
    - i. DHCS issues quarterly reports to LECs and LGAs with invoice statuses.
  - f. Comment: Sharepoint has not been operational and is not available to LEAs only LECs and LGAs. LEAs have been required to re-do in paper and thus move to the back of the line for processing.
  - g. Comment: DHCS position that SMAA funds should be considered "supplemental" and as such should not be considered as covering salaries for staff that claim SMAA hours. There is an issue with this and some confusion with the LEA Billing Option program. Districts that are challenged with lack of services (in unincorporated areas) and increased family needs have utilized SMAA funding for support staff such as health providers.
  - h. Comment: Districts have no idea these invoices aren't being received.
    - i. DHCS suggested logging on and verifying if data has been submitted.

1. Problem is – LEAs do not have access to this information. Only LECs and LGAs do. LEAs have no recourse if LECs and LGAs aren't sharing information.

DRAFT