How Does Someone Apply for Medicaid Benefits?

Did you know that there are **SIX** ways an individual can apply for **Medicaid benefits** in the State of Ohio? Regardless of the source, the application is processed in the same manner, but with some methods the application may not be received by the agency timely.

The traditional application, the **JFS 7200** is a four-page application which can be submitted to the agency in person, via mail, email or fax. This application can also be used to apply for SNAP or TANF benefits. The application has check boxes on the top for the application to indicate the program for which the form has been submitted. The second paper application is the **ODM 7216**, commonly referred to as the CPA (Combined Programs Application) which can only be used to apply for all Medicaid programs.

With the advent of the **Affordable Care Act**, states were required to accept telephone applications. The Collabor8 Call Center was the first group in the State of Ohio to take these calls and process the applications. Originally, this application process was completed for anyone in the state. The current version of the state Call Center will verify the caller’s address and county of residence and funnel the call to the correct county or shared services Call Center. Collabor8 case managers complete a telephone interview, request any necessary verification documents, and the application is processed.

There are **two online websites** where an individual may apply for Medicaid. The state website, [https://benefits.ohio.gov/](https://benefits.ohio.gov/) allows customers to apply for Medicaid, as well as SNAP and TANF. The Public Assistance screeners check the portal daily for applications which are submitted online. The application must be completed in its entirety and submitted. If the individual completing the application stops part way through, the application will not be referred until it is finished. If someone applies for Medicaid through the Federal Marketplace, at [https://www.healthcare.gov/](https://www.healthcare.gov/) it could take days, weeks, or even months, for the application to be routed to the agency for processing. The system first looks to see if the applicant appears to be eligible for Medicaid based upon reported income and will refer the application to be processed. If reported income appears to exceed the income standards, the options for private insurance through the Marketplace are provided.

Applications for individuals who applied during the Open Enrollment period (November 1, 2019 through December 15, 2019) are currently being referred to counties for processing. Some applications from November were just received last week.

**Finally**, applications are referred from the Social Security Administration for Medicare recipients who might be eligible for the agency to pay their Medicare deductible and/or premium through the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) or Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary (SLMB) programs. Again, this is a process which crosses over several computer programs and it may take a month or more for the referral to be received. With this referral, the applicant has not made a specific request for payment, so often does not even know that the referral has been made. Last week applications from September and October were received for processing.

Once an application is received, there are multiple programs explored and eligibility standards which are used to determine if the individual qualifies for assistance. Two requests, ten days apart, must be made for any required verification documents, but attempts must be made to verify information electronically before requesting verification from the applicant. **The agency attempts to determine eligibility within 30 days of the application date. In the month of December 2019, there were 12,094 Medicaid recipients in Sandusky County.**
Sandusky County Children Services implemented the 30 Days to Family Program this summer, taking their first case in July. 30 Days to Family is an intense short-term intervention developed by the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition to:

1) Increase the number of children placed with relatives when they enter the foster care system.
2) Ensure natural and community supports are in place to promote stability for the child.

The goal of the program is to locate placement, back up placement and as many natural supports as possible within 30 days of taking custody. The specialist is required to find no fewer than 80 family members per case.

Sandusky County has had 4, 30 Days to Family cases since the onset of the program. The 30 Days specialist has located 467 family members for 5 children. Four of the children have been successfully placed with family. The fifth child is awaiting placement through another state.

Fun Fact -
The 2020 Census is required by the Constitution, and the United States has counted its population every 10 years since 1790.

Together, we can ensure that our community receives the resources it needs.
There was SharePoint training for each division and we all learned a little bit more of what SharePoint is all about. Again, once we get used to navigating through the site, we will be allowed to use Microsoft Teams. Teams allows us to send messages thru “channels” which would be our divisions and the entire agency. So instead of emailing Health Insurance info from the county, we can post it to a Health Insurance channel. You can look at it if you want to. You can set up alerts to notify you of updates. You can also ask questions to the group or individuals. There is some really neat stuff that we will be able to do soon since we have SharePoint. There is a comments section at the bottom of each Home page or please let me know of any comments.

Also, in the works is talking to Northwoods and the State so we can scan documents into SharePoint instead of C8. Most categories have been covered by EDMS, but there are still a few programs we have that we would like to scan and save to SharePoint.

All SETS users will now be required to digitally complete and sign a 7014 page which has been added to MyOhio. This should take the place of the yearly FIT training. All users will need to sign into MyOhio, go to My Workspace and then Applications for their yearly Attestation as well.

SACWIS was added to MyOhio. To get into SACWIS and APS, all you need to do is to sign into MyOhio, click on the My Workspace tab, Applications and you will see SACWIS and ODAPS.

The state is digitizing our Computer access forms (7078). This is the form we all sign when we first start and anytime we need access to anything on the state computer system.

Our paging system was replaced, and they even found the issue with the OMJ speakers. We can now hear pages at the OMJ Center!

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Judi Simon retired from the agency on November 30, 2019.

Janet Quaintance worked her last day here on January 9th but her official retirement date is April 30, 2020.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6534</td>
<td>The number of users who utilized the agency website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17,132</td>
<td>The number of pageviews on the agency website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>The average number of calls placed to the CSEA call center per day in December.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>175</td>
<td>The number of customers seen at the CSEA front desk. They also took in $42,225.11 in the month of December.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$37,603.44</td>
<td>The amount seized in bank accounts in the last quarter of 2019 in CSEA, hopefully making a merrier Christmas for many of our children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>The number of individuals enrolled since July 1, 2019 for On-the-Job training contracts that will net area employers over $102,000.00!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>225</td>
<td>The number of job seekers in attendance at the 46 Employer of the Day events!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2276</td>
<td>The number of Children Services intake calls about abuse and neglect in 2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>The number of Children Services finalized adoptions in 2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$6,904,247</td>
<td>The amount of SNAP issued for 2019. SNAP issuance for 2018 $6,901,737.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4755</td>
<td>The number of individuals who received SNAP benefits in 2019.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>The number of calls placed to The Language Line for interpretations in December 2019, for a total of 289 minutes. Languages were Spanish, Nepali, Somali, Mandarin, Russian and Arabic.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHILD SUPPORT
By Krista Hovis

Happy Winter, everyone! I hope you all survived the holiday season relatively unscathed. As the calendar has flipped to a new year the Child Support Awareness Committee is discussing new and fun ways to raise funds for our various outreach projects. One of the big ideas last year was to raffle off a Coach purse and wallet, which were provided by Kerri Moyer. Congratulations to Bethany Wilburn on winning MY purse! Whatever. (Just kidding, Bethany. Sort of.)

Anyway, while selling the tickets for the raffle some people wondered what we do with the money we raise. That’s a good question, since it’s not necessarily obvious to others in the building. As has been mentioned in previous articles we in CSEA are trying to improve our public image and make people see how likable we are. It’s a tall order, so we are doing nice things to get our name and faces out there in a more positive light. Some of those outreach projects require money in order for us to fully participate.

The big event that most people know about is Child Support Awareness Month in August. We decorated the front doors of the agency and gave kids who came in a chance to win prizes, including candy and kites. We also purchased chalk, bouncy balls and bubbles. Since Child Support Awareness Month happens to coincide with our county fair, we also purchased chip clips, pens and small toys to give away at the fair booth.

Another event we attended in 2019 was the Storybook Festival. That was held earlier in the year. We handed out superballs while there, did crafts and played games with the kids.

In October we had a booth at Spooktacular at Terra. Dori and Brenda manned the booth. Hundreds of children came through the event. We bought multiple large bags of candy for this. Within the agency we raffled off a fall gift basket.

CSEA participated in a new event in December—the Community Christmas Tree. Various agencies were invited to provide an ornament for the large Christmas tree at the corner of Front and State Streets. We designed and constructed a custom CSEA ornament with the house and key Child Support logo. It turned out beautifully, but money was needed for the supplies to build it. We raffled off our annual Christmas gift basket in December as well.

While some of the items we use for our raffles are donated, it doesn’t include everything. The tickets we use for raffles and 50/50, paint, markers, other decorating supplies...they all cost money. Not everything we do with the funds we raise are obvious, but they are put to good use. Rest assured when you support our fund raisers the money is being used appropriately. The committee is getting ready to discuss our events for this year. A soup day is potentially in the works. Keep your eyes open for how you can continue to support us and our community outreach efforts!
Workforce Development
By: Suzy Cole

If you remember from the October issue, we spoke about the resume contest we were having. That contest ended 10-31-19. The person who helped job seekers complete the most resumes in October 2019 was Renee Livas! Renee helped 55 people complete a resume in October. She received a $25 gift card. Congratulations Renee!

On October 17th we held an Employer Meet and Greet here in the OMJ Center. It was held from 7:45 to 9:00. Roughly 20 Sandusky County employers attended to learn more about our services, as well as about 5 other division employees were in attendance. Trisha Foos spoke to the attendees about the services we offer and went through a PowerPoint presentation. We look forward to this being an annual event.

On October 15, 2019 ODJFS conducted a child care monitoring of the Publicly Funded Child Care providers that we oversee. GLCAP has the contract and we monitor that contract. The findings were very minute and required minimal corrections that had no impact on the children in their care. This is great news! Good job GLCAP!

One of the many items we track over here is how many job seekers obtain employment. When job seekers come in, we always ask that when they are hired, to let us know. In 2019 we had 320 job seekers report back that they had gotten employment. The average wage of these jobs combined was $13.46 per hour. Please note that this is not everyone who has obtained employment. We get these numbers from the job seekers that have reported back to us, those who attend our Employer of the Day events who are hired on the spot, OJT’s that we do and our WIOA enrollees.

4th QUARTER 2019 ANNIVERSARIES

**OCTOBER**
LISA MULLHOLAND – 19 YEARS
ANGELA WHEELER – 5 YEARS
CHASTITY MINOR – 4 YEARS

**NOVEMBER**
NANCY GROVE – 26 YEARS
LORI HAMPSHIRE – 21 YEARS
ANGELA FEASEL – 6 YEARS
KORRIN DURBIN – 5 YEARS
TRISHA FOOS – 1 YEAR
SUE EWING – 1 YEAR

**DECEMBER**
DAVI ANDERSON – 14 YEARS
JACKIE EDOMDS – 5 YEARS

SAVE THE DATES

APRIL 23, 2020 – TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY – DETAILS TO COME!

MAY 5, 2020 – CINCO DE MAYO TACO TUESDAY CELEBRATION