

Move2Health Equity - Access to Healthcare Action Team

September 17th, 2026 — Meeting Notes

- **Introductions**

- Kris Miller (UVA), Mary Stebbins (Director of Albemarle DSS), Erin Buchanan (Albemarle County DSS Benefits Coordinator), Jack Hoopaw (Population Health Social Worker), Gregg Winston (Co-Chair M2HE), Renee Kreiner (UVA Admin Ambulatory Clinics & Certified Medicaid Advocate), Hanna (M2HE)

- **Medicaid Updates:**

- 100,000 people have not paid premiums and have lost ACA coverage so now the ED is seeing an increase in people showing up with less than urgent needs and no health coverage
- Looking for organizations that offer volunteer opportunities for when those workforce development options come out
 - Potential for self reporting of volunteer hours that coordinate with the DSS system; the income limit won't change while the requirement is being implemented
- Definitions of medical frailty - Doctors worried about definitions and writing letters deeming medical frailty (with a lot of DSS eligibility folks making those calls without a lot of guidance)
 - Changes are going to hit single adults the hardest, those who are homeless and struggling with health issues that aren't defined by policy. Final guidance and regulations are still being written, so workers aren't able to provide guidance.
- Positive note: December 2026 renewals won't have to renew for another year
- From the DSS side, Medicaid changes feel more organized than SNAP & VA is trying to be as generous as possible.
- DSS Goal: Air on the side of the client, if there is something that can be done, do it
 - Eligibility workers, not ineligibility workers - trying to enroll people and get them a yes within policy

- **Medicaid Assistants Updates**

- The renewal and training process starts now. The eligibility starts now and need to be re-renewed on October 1, 2026.
 - M2HE supporting course trainings: Interactive in person session bringing together to build a shared understanding of the new Medicaid and SNAP
 - VCHF Sign up Now Courses (certificates/etc?) & Online courses for Medicaid Assistants

- Medicaid is strict about people applying on behalf of others (Erin is going to pull together some of the information about Medicaid Assister needs)
- Connecting people through referrals as the biggest issue right now; met with UVA, UVA physician group, UVA Health, and UVA Emergency Department
 - What is happening with folks in need of enrollment, coming to the ED without a PCP?
 - UVA ED: hires contractors (formerly: Elevate Program, currently: Change Healthcare)
 - Albemarle DSS to connect with Gregg & Katie Knight or senior worker at UVA ED or for inpatient and more for patients that are in need of Medicaid assistanceUVA Students & Volunteers
- Showing up at food distributions of public housing developments
- Potential for a paid medicaid assister via Virginia Healthcare Foundation & Cville Free Clinic as a host.
 - 20-25 medicaid applications; a small number for DSS but needs a direct channel
- **Rural Health Updates**
 - Partnering with BRHD, Free Clinic, and UVA ED & Global Health Unit providing free healthcare from 2-5pm at the Dunbar School (2425 Mountain Hill Rd) on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays through December; spread the word to folks in need of healthcare - providing AICs, blood pressure screenings, and more
 - Posting on the local facebook pages & connecting with churches, public library, grocery stores, and post offices, etc