

**LIT Connections**  
**January 24, 2024**

*I define connection as the energy that exists between people when they feel seen, heard, and valued; when they can give and receive without judgement; and when they derive sustenance and strength from the relationship. ~ Brene Brown*



**Present:** Cheryle Wilcox, Alicia Hanrahan, Cheryl Huntley, Jessica Coleman, Heather Wilson, Beth Sausville, Amy Lincoln Moore, Heidi Conley, Olivia Gaudreau, Laurie Mulhern, Crystal Bennett, Kheya Ganguly, Deb Forret, Marlene Wein, Diane Bugbee

**Topics:**

- **Private Insurance and Provision of Services:**
  - Some folks have a hard time getting lists of programs, and they are often not the right lists to meet particular youths treatment needs
  - Alicia – spoke about greater input for the school districts and discrepancies in pay differences
  - Hard when the school isn't involved in the process to place the child from the beginning, This is coming up a lot more
  - Laurie M and Cheryle both brought up some issues with the payer of last resort or secondary insurances.
  - VT could require insurers to cover higher levels of care.
  - Not sure what happened as it seemed like coverage was better in the past
  - Financial cap may be preventing some currently from accessing
  - ? what about SSI – dependent on disability and income
  - SSI- not fast process, lots of over informational requirements

- **CSP Meetings for Students in Independent Schools- by parent choice.**
  - What happens when a youth goes to an independent school and there is an Act 264 meeting?
  - Determining LEA when the parents place the student can be tricky. Is it the town where the school is or is the LEA from the school district where the parents reside?
  - The ideal would be that both LEA's go to the CSP.
  - Maybe helpful to remind them that services/Money are not being asked for but rather collaboration.
  - If you can only get one LEA to agree to attend it should probably be the LEA from the district where the school is located.
  - Students placed by family choice are not entitled to IEP services.
  - What if the student goes to a school that has school choice?
    - Those students are entitled to tuition and so the school district where they come from (the home school of record) is the LEA.
  - Alicia Hanrahan at Agency of Education is happy to provide consultation.

**Using Google Docs for CSP meetings:**

- Shared that one special educator put the CSP into google docs and then shares the link with everyone attending so everyone can see the document filled out in real time.
- Some discussion about the security of sharing via google docs but this is likely the responsibility of the schools and agencies sharing.

- **H. 721 An Act Relating to Expanding Access to Medicaid and Dr. Dynasaur:**

- A comprehensive Medicaid expansion bill that includes (among other things) an increase to provider reimbursement, setting VT Medicaid reimbursement to 125% of Medicare rates for health care services and 125% of commercial rates for dental. The bill also increases removes the need for a mental health diagnosis to receive services if they meet certain life experience conditions (such as having a parent incarcerated or a death of a parent).

- **SSI and SSDI:**

- Income eligibility information can be found here:  
[https://info.healthconnect.vermont.gov/sites/vhc/files/doc\\_library/2023%20MCA%20FPL%20Chart.pdf](https://info.healthconnect.vermont.gov/sites/vhc/files/doc_library/2023%20MCA%20FPL%20Chart.pdf)

- **Katie Beckett Insurance: resources and information from Deb Forrett at Children with Special Health Needs:**

- Disabled Children's Home Care (DCHC) is a route to Medicaid for children up to 19 years old with a long-term disability or medical complexity whose families don't qualify financially for Dr Dynasaur and have a high level of care. The child is subject to financial eligibility and cannot have more than \$2000 in assets.  
application. For more information, please see this [DCHC Fact Sheet](#).
- The three main applications forms are:

- 205 All Med, includes household financial information, must include all household members.
  - For households with more than 2 people, if using the paper form, you can print pages 5-7 and fill out for each additional household member
  - You can now complete the 205 All Med form online at [my.vermont.gov](http://my.vermont.gov)
    - The additional forms are not available online and will be mailed to you
- 211-C Disability Social Report- This summarizes medical and educational history
- 212D- Release for Disability Determination Services to request medical records

Additional forms/documentation to be considered (this is encouraged because it can streamline the process)

- SSA Function Report- If not submitted with the rest of the application, it will be sent by Disability Determination Services (DDS) to fill out later.
- Copies of IEPs and evaluations if available
- Copies of financial documents **only for child applying** if applicable (example: statement of savings account that is in the child's name)
- If requesting retroactive coverage (up to 90 days), please include the 202A form.

Once complete, make copies for yourself. The application gets mailed to (unless you've already applied online).

**Vermont Health Connect, 280 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671-8100**

Application decisions can take up to 90 days or more.

If you would like Children with Special Health Needs to track the application:

- Fill out Appendix A on the 205 All Med, Authorized Representative
- Fill out DDS release
- Send us a copy of the application and DDS release

Also, there is a [webinar](#) and [Fact Sheet](#) about filling out the application forms that were done by Betty Morse from CSHN.