

Medicaid Expansion Monthly Updates

Month: March 2024

Report Date: 4/15/2024

Recruitment Efforts:

- As of 4/11/24 Economic Services currently has 1 vacant IMC III Long Term Care positions in Adult Medicaid due to a recent resignation. We also have 1 Vacant IMC I in F&C and an IMC II in F&C.

Onboarding/New Hires:

- Economic Services currently has 21 IMCs in training. 9 with less than 6 months experience and 11 with less than 12 month's experience.
- Medicaid Expansion Program functionality was programmed into NC Fast 10/28/23.
- Medicaid Expansion policy was effective 12/1/23.
- The influx of applications appears to be leveling. Rutherford shifted six caseworkers to manage the current pending applications. Rutherford was able to reallocate staff to manage the influx of applications because the state extending Medicaid for Children's (MIC) cases, therefore eliminating the need to complete a redetermination on targeted groups. The state is anticipating the extension of these cases to cease in December of this year. Our current challenge is in Adult Medicaid. We have been able to shift some workers temporarily to assist in problematic areas in making efforts to become timely. Over half of Adult's IMCs are in training. We're also contracting with a couple seasoned workers in our Long-Term Care program due to vacancies and this area being the most complex of any Medicaid program.
- The state continues to mention another waiver to extend cases below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level including Adult Medicaid cases for 12 months. The state recognizes the capacity issues within the counties and the expected impact of the Medicaid Expansion Program and is advocating for waivers and more automation to assist the counties. The state reported this month the counties will hopefully see some relief from this waiver in May or June due to NC Fast system changes.
- Rutherford County continues to receive a steady number of applications from the Federal Marketplace, In-Person, ePass and Walk In's. **AS of 4/4/24 compared to 3/6/23, we have had an increase of 222% pending applications in our MAGI program which houses Medicaid Expansion. All applications pending in Medicaid is an increase of 57%. Which includes MAGI and Non-MAGI.**

Program Growth:

- The state's projection of individuals anticipated to be eligible for Medicaid Expansion in Rutherford County is over 4,000.
- **As of 4/15/2024 the Medicaid Expansion Dashboard shows an increase to 3,150 MXP recipients. Almost 78% of our original estimated goal.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dee Hunt, Director