



YouthCare

YouthCare Overview:

YouthCare, operated solely by IlliniCare Health, is a specialized HealthChoice Illinois model of care designed to improve the overall health outcomes for current and former DCFS youth.

Designed by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services, the Department of Child and Family Services, and IlliniCare Health, YouthCare will build on the existing DCFS health service system to include the consent process, HealthWorks, comprehensive assessments and care planning to partner in improving the overall safety, wellbeing and permanency of these youth.

YouthCare includes a comprehensive clinical and care coordination approach, evidence-based training and education for stakeholders and providers, as well as integration and collaboration with the existing child welfare and health care system.

Continuity of Care Period:

The continuity of care approach is designed to prevent disruption in care. It is our goal that children and youth remain with their current providers, receiving their current treatment.

In an effort to reach every provider currently serving the current and former DCFS youth population, we are receiving input from foster parents, adoptive parents, case workers and other stakeholders, identifying providers the child/youth is currently seeing. We will then conduct outreach to contract those providers if they are not currently in the YouthCare network build. The YouthCare network is a separate network from the overall IlliniCare Health Provider Network. As we work through this process, IlliniCare Health has expanded the required 90 days of Continuity of Care to 180 days.

Path to Implementation:

When implementing a new product or health plan, there are a variety of pre-implementation, implementation and ongoing activities that occur. These components include expansive internal and external efforts.

For the program specifically, there are two overarching components: 1) the programs for the children/youth and families being covered; and 2) provider contracting, partnerships and claims payment.

Here is a short list of some of the primary activities occurring prior to go-live, and during the transition to steady operations.

Two (2) Core Overarching Areas	For Children/Youth, IlliniCare Health...	For Providers, IlliniCare Health...
	Provides Care Coordination for children/youth.	Outreach to providers (individually, as a group or a facility).
	Offers support to foster parents, adoptive parents, kinship families, youth, case workers, POS agencies, and residential providers.	Set providers up for claims payment post February 2020.
	Participates in, or facilitates clinical staffings, multi-disciplinary team meetings or integrated care team meetings for all children/youth as appropriate/	Coordinates care planning with provider.
	Implements specialized health care coordination teams for IDD, Kinship families, medically complex, transgender youth, etc.	Provides access to training on evidence based interventions (including CEUs and CMEs).
	Coordinates care planning with DCFS, hospitals, residential provider, case workers, caregivers, etc.	Develops partnership for pilot programs and gap filling in the local health systems.

Key Dates:

YouthCare will be implemented in two phases:

- November 1 – Soft launch of Care Coordination for DCFS Youth in Care
- February 1 – Official Go-live with paying claims as well as the onboarding of approximately 19k Former Youth in Care.

November 1 – Soft Launch:

November 1, 2019, IlliniCare YouthCare staff will begin outreach and connection with the 17k youth in care. DCFS has provided seven (7) lists of priority target populations. These include:

- Priority 1: Inpatient Beyond Medical Necessity (BMN)
- Priority 2: Inpatient
- Priority 3: Residential placement
- Priority 4: Medically Complex
- Priority 5: Nurse Referrals for Assessment
- Priority 6: Specialized Foster Care
- Priority 7: DJJ Involvement

These seven subpopulations comprise approximately 4,800 children/youth in out of home care.

During the months of November, December and January, YouthCare Health Care Coordinators will begin outreach to the Authorized Representatives designated by DCFS. Each Health Care Coordinator will begin with a health risk screening designed to learn about the child/youth, providers and needs.

Over November, December and January, the YouthCare team will:

- Continue to contract providers
- Load provider rosters and set up for payment
- Host additional Town Hall meetings
- Attend foster and adoptive parent meetings
- Meet with individual hospital systems and provider groups to learn about needs and concerns
- Complete the YouthCare Provider Directory, a separate network from the overall IlliniCare Health Provider Network.

February 1 – Go-Live:

February 1, 2019, IlliniCare YouthCare staff will begin outreach and connection with the approximately 19k former youth in care.

Additionally, IlliniCare will begin paying the claims for providers serving the YouthCare Population.

The 180-day Continuity of Care period will begin.

We will continue with town halls, orientations, and meetings with providers and stakeholders through the life of the program.

What this means for you:

- 1) As a hospital system, group provider or independent practitioner, this means that you may receive a call from the YouthCare Health Care coordinator to discuss one of your patients.
- 2) For services rendered prior to February 1, 2020, bill using the process you are currently using.
- 3) For services rendered on or after February 1, 2020, bill claims to IlliniCare Health.
- 4) For children/youth in psych hospitals, we will invite you to staffings and/or request you invite us to staffings. Our discharge planners will be working closely with the case workers, you and others to identify supports for placements upon discharge.
- 5) If you have not heard from an IlliniCare representative, please reach out to us. We want you to continue seeing your DCFS patients. We are happy to offer a network of providers who serve only the YouthCare population.
- 6) Communicate with your front line staff, business offices, satellite locations, etc. about YouthCare, so that everyone from the medical team to the scheduling team is aware of this new DCFS Health Plan.

An important note:

There are two (2) IlliniCare Health networks: 1) the existing network for HealthChoice Illinois; and 2) the YouthCare network that is currently in development.

For questions or to contract: 844-289-2264

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