

April 8, 2026 Care Management Committee Zoom Meeting

Meeting summary

Quick recap

The Care Management Committee met to review the PCMH program status and receive a comprehensive overview of the Husky Dental Program. Laura Demeyer (CHNCT) presented PCMH program data showing 124 participants with 555 sites and 2,553 providers as of March 31, 2026, noting a stable practice count but declining sites post-COVID due to practice consolidations. The committee discussed quality improvement engagement rates and asked questions about provider attribution decreases and measure results. Kate Parker-Reilly and her team from Benecare presented a detailed overview of the HUSKY Dental Program, covering historical context, benefit structures, and current challenges including a significant decline in provider network participation since 2021. The conversation ended with discussions about prioritizing HR-1 work requirements implementation and scheduling a follow-up meeting to complete the dental program presentation and address urgent policy concerns.

Next steps

- [Kate Parker-Reilly \(and team\): Return to present the remainder of the HUSKY Dental Program presentation at the next \(May\) meeting, focusing on the data and utilization trends, pending confirmation of availability.](#)
- [Bill Halsey \(DSS\): Take back the question of whether individual PCMH practice performance data \(2024 results\) can be shared with the committee, and report back on the feasibility, including any prior FOIA precedents.](#)
- [Chairs \(Representative Comey, Representative Dathan\) and DSS: Coordinate scheduling of subcommittee and/or special meetings focused on H.R.-1 work requirements and related communications and ensure DSS is prepared to present on this topic at the May meeting.](#)
- [Chairs \(Representative Comey, Representative Dathan\) and DSS: Develop and propose a plan for efficient and comprehensive coverage of both dental program data and H.R. 1 implementation issues, including possible subcommittee formation and agenda structuring for upcoming meetings.](#)

Summary

Care Management Committee Meeting Overview

The Care Management Committee meeting, chaired by State Representative Robin Comey, began with introductions and technical set-up adjustments due to a time change. The meeting started with a PCMH program status update presentation by Laura Demeyer.

PCMH Program Status Update

Laura presented the PCMH program status as of March 31st, 2026, reporting 124 program participants with 555 sites and 2,553 providers. The program saw 7 new practice sites and 4 new providers added, with 54.6% of total Husky Health population attributed to PCMH practices. The team discussed quality improvement engagement, with 81 out of 93 contacted PCMH practices engaging at an 87% rate and noted that 37 out of 47 PCMH measures showed improvement in 2024. Steven Colangelo raised concerns about the delay in receiving practice-level quality results, which Dr. Larry Magras explained was part of the MCQA process and would not be available until June 2026 after NCQA validation.

Husky Health Dental Program Overview

Kate Parker-Riley, Executive Director of Benecare Dental Plans and leader of the Connecticut Dental Health Partnership, presented a comprehensive overview of the HUSKY Health Dental Benefit Program to Representative Comey and Dathan. She outlined the program's evolution from a fragmented system in the 1980s and 2000s to the current structure, highlighting key inflection points including the landmark Carr v. Wilson-Cocher lawsuit and the establishment of CTDHP as an administrative service organization. The presentation covered the program's current benefits, which include 257 billable codes ranging from preventive care to orthodontia, and emphasized the importance of functional dentistry in restoring form and function of teeth, mouth, and jaw.

Connecticut Medicaid Dental Reimbursement Rates

Kate provided a historical overview of dental reimbursement rates in Connecticut's Medicaid system, explaining how children's rates were benchmarked to private insurance in 2007 and later reduced in 2015, while adult rates were set at half the children's rates in 2007 and reduced further in 2018 with an annual \$1,000 benefit cap. She noted that current adult rates are about 66% of children's rates and are among the lowest compared to other states, with DSS planning to raise adult rates this year. Kate also described Benecare's role as the administrative service organization under contract with DSS, emphasizing their team's commitment to providing human-centered service to Medicaid members and providers.

CTDHP Member Support Strategies

Awilda Maldonado presented CTDHP's approach to supporting members beyond coverage, focusing on access, engagement, and ongoing care. She explained how the member service call center provides bilingual support and helps connect members to care, with higher-risk members receiving targeted outreach. Awilda also described the oral health navigation team, which includes community health workers and social workers who support members throughout their care journey, addressing various barriers to care. Jessica McMullin then discussed CTDHP's efforts to support medical providers, highlighting the ABC program that trains medical professionals on oral health services for

children ages 0-6 and the performance improvement scorecard used to track providers' oral health service rates.

Benecare Dental Network Decline

Kate presented Benecare's dental network services and provider trends, highlighting their community engagement efforts, provider recruitment activities, and innovative partnerships. She noted a concerning decline in network enrollment, with providers decreasing from 2,378 in January 2021 to 1,972 in January 2026, and locations declining from 992 to 875 over the same period. The meeting was cut short, with Rep Dathan and Robin requesting that Kate return to complete her presentation at a future May meeting to allow for a full discussion of the comprehensive data.

Dental Provider Participation Concerns

The committee discussed concerns about declining dental provider participation and utilization rates in HUSKY Medicaid, with Steven noting a 20% drop in dentists and 15% decrease in utilization since 2021. The group agreed to prioritize work requirements implementation under HR1, with Ellen Andrews and Karen Siegel raising concerns about the timeline and need for immediate action on communications. The committee decided to create a subcommittee focused specifically on HR-1 implementation, while acknowledging the importance of continuing to address dental issues. The next meeting was scheduled for May 13 at 10 a.m., though Kate's availability may need to be confirmed due to a medical dental integration conference.

From Kate Parker-Reilly, CT Dental Health Partnership:

To register for the Dental Health Utilization Dashboard: [CTDHP](#)

Reports: [Reports - HUSKY Dental](#)