

# Monthly Director's Report to Board of Social Services



December 2019

Submitted by:  
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~ Many Henderson County agencies are joining NCCARE360, the first statewide coordinated network that unites health care and human services organizations. A shared technology platform will allow for a coordinated, community-oriented, person centered approach for delivering care in NC. NCCARE360 allows providers to electronically connect those with identified needs to community resources and allows for a feedback loop on the outcome of that connection. Community-based organizations, health plans, health systems and governmental agencies will create a statewide coordinated network. NCCARE360 will be statewide by the end of 2020.

~ In early December the Trump administration gave final approval to a rule that will remove nearly 700,000 people from the federal food-stamp program by strictly enforcing federal work requirements. This rule change will not cause North Carolina citizens to lose food stamps. In 2015 the NC General Assembly required NC DHHS to withdraw any pending request for waivers that would impact time limits established by federal law for food and nutrition benefits for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWD's). Since that time NC has imposed work requirements on ABAWD's. ABAWD's cannot receive food stamps for more than 3 months during a 36-month period without working for 20 or more hours per week or participating in a work program. Two additional rules are pending approval, one of the rules would eliminate one million children from automatic eligibility for free or reduced-price school meals.

~ Medicaid Managed Care: 900,000 notices will be sent to Medicaid beneficiaries between December 6th and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The notice will explain that:

- 1) Medicaid benefits will stay the same as they have been
- 2) This change is because of state budget issues
- 3) That beneficiaries do not need to choose a health plan at this time
- 4) The move to new health plans is on hold
- 5) Health plan choices that have been made will be saved but when Medicaid health plans restart you can choose a different plan

~ On Monday night, December 2, 2019 I presented to the Henderson County Board of Commissioners (HCBOC) on Non-Emergent Medicaid Transportation (NEMT). This presentation was in response to concerns voiced by a NEMT vendor at the HCBOC meeting on November 20, 2019. The presentation is enclosed.

**Employees of the Month:** The December Employees of the Month list is attached.