

Testimony to the Kansas House Standing Committee on Children and Families

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Mr. Chairman and Committee Members.

My name is Susan Jarsulic and I live in Shawnee with my husband and adult disabled daughter Jayne.

I am very concerned that KanCare will turn into “KAN CAN’T”!

I have been reading a lot about the proposed Medicaid overhaul and I imagine all of you have heard that old phrase “figures don’t lie, liars figure”. For example, in the Section 1115 Concept Paper dated 1/26/2012 found on the KDHE website versus the KanCare Update presentation to the House Health and Human Services Committee dated 1/26/2012 also on the KDHE website, the authors of these documents can’t seem to agree on how many people attended the public forums held in the summer of 2011, was it one thousand or more than one thousand. Were there 1500 comments and recommendations or 1600 ideas? Did the web-based comment tool receive an additional 500 comments or 200 additional responses? If the policy makers can’t get this right, it concerns me that the figures quoted concerning Medicaid costs might be incorrect or at the very least, not based on much fact.

As for implementing new programs in Kansas Medicaid successfully and on time, we could revisit the move to force all individual care providers into a payroll agency; that one is called “Financial Management System” or FMS. This program was announced, delayed, announced, delayed, announced, delayed and finally implemented Nov 1 of 2011. I must admit I didn’t really mind all the delays because as an individual provider I was being paid \$12.04 per hour vs. the \$9.25 per hour I receive now. Exactly who received the benefit of that change?

The latest new program enacted by Kansas Medicaid is Authenticare, an automated time in/time out system (basically a time clock) for persons providing Personal Assistant Services. This system was not ready for prime time. It isn’t working the way it was supposed to. My Financial Management System (FMS) provider I was forced to sign up with had 2200 problem calls on the first day of implementation. Does that sound like a system that was ready? Authenticare start date was January 9 (the middle of anyone’s pay period) and for some providers, the date was moved to the following week. Just this week I spoke to my FMS provider and was told that the system isn’t working the way it was advertised; that the automated clock in/clock out feature isn’t communicating with the Medicaid system so everything has to be entered manually.

One last example; on January 31 I received my 1099 for providing supportive home care for my adult daughter and it was incorrect. Not only was my 1099 incorrect, but I have spoken with at least 5 other families whose providers received incorrect 1099s.

Based on the examples cited above, can you really believe that KanCare can be **SUCCESSFULLY** implemented for all of Kansas Medicaid on January 1, 2013?

Thank you for your time.