



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF AHCCCS HIGHLIGHTS

**1965** – Congress enacts Medicaid.

**1981** – CMS approves an 1115 Demonstration Waiver establishing mandatory managed care and providing a vehicle for Arizona to join Medicaid. On Nov. 18, Gov. Bruce Babbitt signs Senate Bill 1001 into law establishing AHCCCS as a division of the Arizona Department of Health Services.

**1982** – On Oct. 1, Arizona creates a mandatory managed care Medicaid program as a two-year pilot project.

**1983** – Donald Schaller is named AHCCCS Director.

**1984** – AHCCCS becomes an independent state agency per Gov. Babbitt.

**1987** – Leonard Kirschner is named AHCCCS Director.

**1988** – The Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) program is implemented on Dec. 19, 1988 for people with developmental disabilities and Jan. 1, 1989 for those who are elderly or physically disabled.

Healthcare Group, a buy-in program for small employers, is established to administer health care services to small, uninsured businesses of up to 50 employees.

**1990** – The phase-in of behavioral health services begins.

**1991** – The PrePaid Medical Management Information System (PMMIS) becomes operational in March.

**1993** – Mabel Chen is named AHCCCS Director.

**1996** – Jack Kelly is named AHCCCS Director.

**1998** – Voter Protection Act (Prop 105) amends the State Constitution to protect the Arizona voters' Right to Referendum.

- Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement allocates \$100 million to Arizona.

**1999** – KidsCare (CHIP) begins Nov. 1.

- Phyllis Biedess is named AHCCCS Director.

**2000** – HAPA partnership with the State of Hawaii begins.

**2001** – Proposition 204 expands Arizona Medicaid to include Childless Adults up to 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

**2003** – Arizona establishes Health Insurance for Parents (HIFA), an eligibility program for parents of CHIP children with household income up to 100% of FPL.

- Anthony Rodgers is named AHCCCS Director.

- 2006** – Medicare Part D begins. AHCCCS health care plans become Medicare plans and one-third of dual members are aligned in the same plan for both Medicare and Medicaid.
- A Virtual Office option is added for AHCCCS staff who are able to work remotely.
- 2008** – During a national recession, AZ unemployment reaches 11.2%. AHCCCS adds 300,000 members.
- 2009** – The HIFA program is eliminated.
- Provider rates are reduced for FFY 2009, 2011, and 2012, affecting a broad range of services.
  - Health-E-Arizona Plus ([www.healtharizonaplus.gov](http://www.healtharizonaplus.gov)), a web-based eligibility system, launches.
  - Tom Betlach is named AHCCCS Director.
- 2010** – The Affordable Care Act is enacted nationally.
- Due to the recession, enrollment in KidsCare and other programs is frozen.
- 2011** – To decrease budget deficits, enrollment for Childless Adults, added by Proposition 204, is frozen. Between 2011 and 2012, new 1115 Waivers allow for the management of the AHCCCS program within available resources and create uncompensated care funding for hospitals, IHS/638 facilities, and KidsCare II.
- 2012** – State Legislature cuts 21.7% of AHCCCS budget.
- CMS approves the Safety Net Care Pool (SNCP) program designed to help hospitals manage the burden of uncompensated care costs. CMS approves supplemental payments to Indian Health Service and Tribal 638 Facilities to address the fiscal burden of uncompensated care for services provided to previously Medicaid-eligible adults.
  - A United States Supreme Court ruling establishes that Medicaid Expansion in the Affordable Care Act is a state option.
- 2013** – Governor Jan Brewer signs AHCCCS Restoration Plan to restore coverage for Childless Adults and to implement ACA Medicaid expansion.
- The SNCP program ends on Dec. 31 for most hospitals.
  - Childrens' Rehabilitative Services (CRS) is integrated under one contractor for children in acute and ALTCS plans.
- 2014** – Coverage for Childless Adults is restored and eligibility is expanded to 133% of FPL on January 1.
- Services for members with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI) designation who live in Maricopa County are integrated under a Regional Behavioral Health Authority.
- 2015** - AHCCCS becomes one of the first nine state agencies to implement the Arizona Management System.
- Services for members with an SMI designation, who live in counties other than Maricopa County, are integrated under three Regional Behavioral Health Authorities.

- 2016** – The Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services moves to AHCCCS.
- Enrollment in KidsCare re-opens. By October of this year, an additional 400,000 members are enrolled due to Proposition 204.
  - AHCCCS enters into intergovernmental agreements with five Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (TRBHA).
- 2017** – AHCCCS requests waiver approval to add work requirements for able-bodied members ages 19-49, as required by State statute.
- Targeted Investments Programs begins.
- 2018** – AHCCCS awards \$50 billion in AHCCCS Complete Care (ACC) contracts to seven MCOs, the largest procurement in state history. The contract change integrates health care services for the majority of members as of October 1, 2018.
- Jami Snyder is named AHCCCS Director.
- 2019** – ALTCS members with developmental disabilities transition into one of two integrated health care plans.
- 2020** – On March 13, the COVID-19 public health emergency begins.
- 86% of AHCCCS staff move to remote, at-home offices.
  - Throughout this year, AHCCCS requests approximately 50 temporary programmatic changes from CMS to address the pandemic.
  - Medicaid disenrollments are suspended during the pandemic; by year end, enrollment tops 2 million for the first time.
- 2021** – CMDP changes name to Department of Child Safety Comprehensive Health Plan (DCS CHP), with Mercy Care overseeing the program.
- CMS rescinds AHCCCS Works community engagement requirements approval.
  - CMS extends 2021-2026 1115 Waiver renewal by one year.
  - AHCCCS contracts with a Housing Administrator.
  - 70% of AHCCCS staff opt to move to permanent virtual office status; AHCCCS vacates the 701 E. Jefferson building.
- 2022** – AHCCCS celebrates its 40th anniversary.