



FSSA Update

FEBRUARY 2018



2018 Healthy Indiana Plan renewal

Alongside Governor Eric J. Holcomb and the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, Alex Azar, FSSA Secretary Dr. Jennifer Walthall announced last week that the state of Indiana will continue operating the Healthy Indiana Plan through 2020. As HIP, Indiana's innovative alternative to traditional Medicaid, enters its 11th year of operation, several enhancements are being made to help improve the overall health and well-being of its more than 400,000 members:

(L-R) HHS Secretary Alex Azar, Governor Holcomb and Dr. Jennifer Walthall brief media members at Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Hospital on February 2 about the Healthy Indiana Plan renewal

Substance Use Disorder treatment

- Adds new benefits and approximately \$80 million a year for substance use disorder treatment for members struggling with addictions. The enhancements will also result in greater access to addiction treatment providers.
- These benefits will be available for anyone on Medicaid, not just HIP members.

Simplified administration

- Simplified POWER Account amounts
- Pregnant members will stay in HIP when pregnant and move into HIP Maternity instead of having to leave HIP for another program temporarily. As previously, there are enhanced benefits and no cost sharing for expecting mothers.
- POWER Accounts, deductibles and members' health plan choices are now done according to the calendar year for all members.

Supports meaningful employment and community engagement

- To help ensure Indiana has a healthy workforce, starting in 2019 participation in the Gateway to Work program will be required for some HIP members.
- Gateway to Work helps connect HIP members with job training and search assistance, or other education, community engagement or work opportunities.
 - > Unless they fall into one of several exempt categories, such as being medically frail, pregnant, in treatment for substance use or having a child younger than school age to take care of, HIP members will be required to work, go to school, volunteer or participate in other qualifying activities up to 20 hours a week for at least eight months in a calendar year.

Increased emphasis on tobacco cessation

- Increases efforts to help members stop smoking and using tobacco by offering new and enhanced incentives to encourage use of cessation medications and treatments.

The new waiver period is already underway and will run through December 31, 2020. Details, including the press release, a video of the press conference, quick facts and questions-and-answers are available on the HIP website, [here](#).

NDI transformation underway

2018 will be a transformative year for the state psychiatric hospital system, as plans to transition to the NeuroDiagnostic Institute (NDI) are finalized.

Along with construction, many discussions are underway regarding the building signage, playground equipment, furniture, fixtures and equipment. In mid-November, a furniture fair was conducted for the staff at Larue Carter Memorial Hospital and other agency leadership, so potential furniture that will go inside the NDI could be evaluated. Manufacturers that specialize in furniture specifically designed for use in behavioral health facilities had several pieces on display. This furniture is designed with safety in mind first and foremost. Pieces like chairs tend to be heavy enough so they can't be picked up and thrown, for example, and smaller pieces can be weighted down with sand.

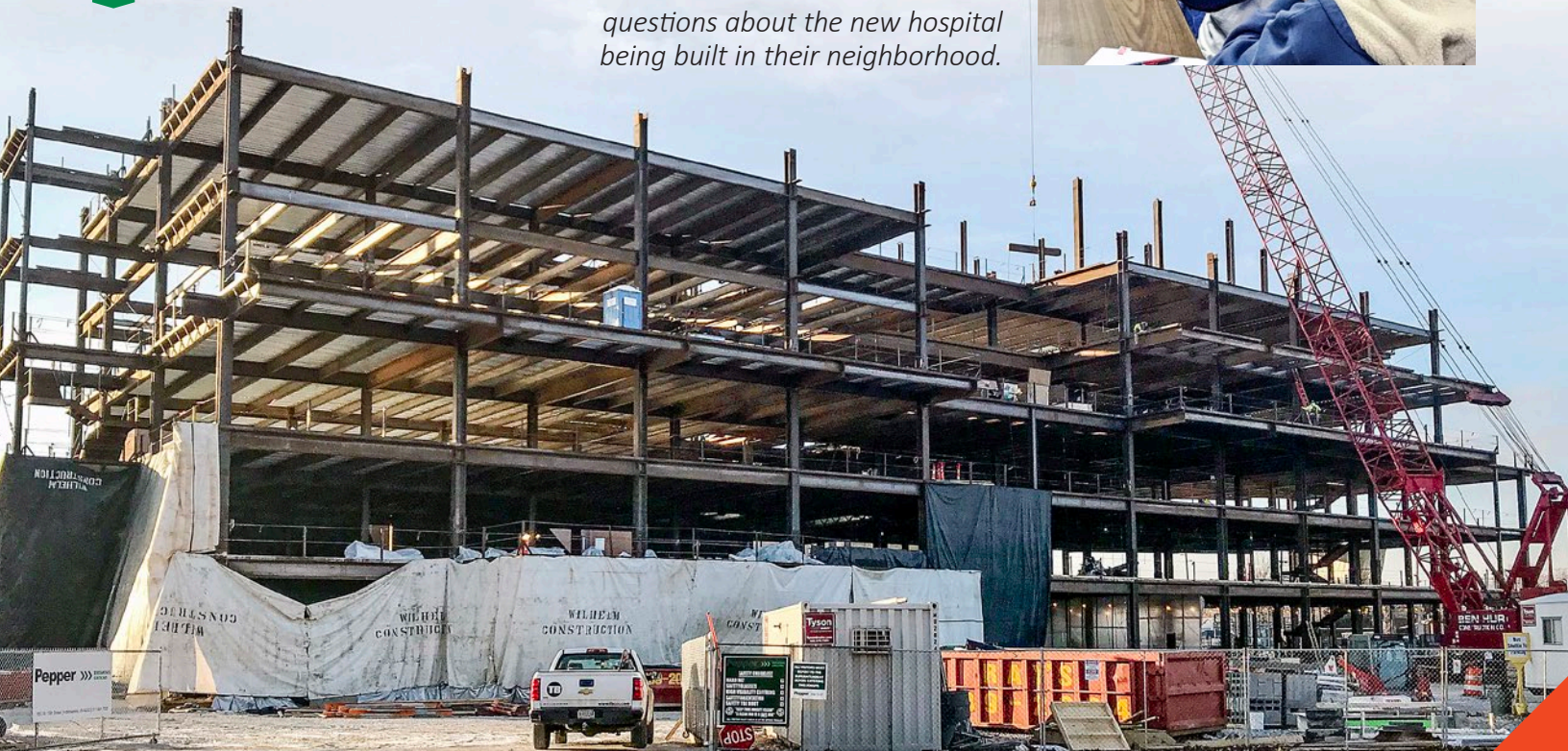


Staff tested the furniture in a very hands-on manner.

Staff who attended could test the furniture in a very hands-on manner and provided evaluations for the team that will make final selections. Also available to see and feel were samples of the building materials and decorations that will go into the various parts of the hospital.

Steel construction of the tower is well underway, with the top floors' steel erection currently in process.

In January, Jerry Sheward, M.D., NDI superintendent and chief medical officer, visited the Community Heights Neighborhood Association to answer their questions about the new hospital being built in their neighborhood.

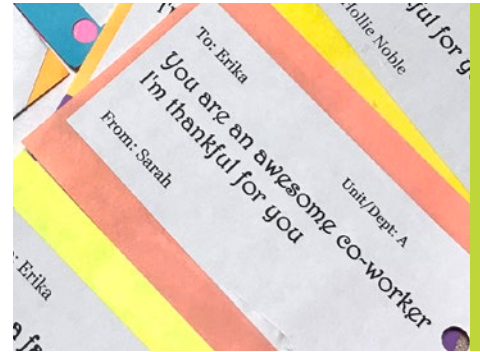


Disability Determination Bureau helps Puerto Rico



The special projects employee events committee raised \$1,353 to help fellow DDB employees in Puerto Rico.

The Disability Determination Bureau has a special projects employee events committee, which initiates fundraisers and other events throughout the year for DDB staff. After the devastation in Puerto Rico caused by Hurricane Maria last September, the committee voted to initiate a fundraiser to help their fellow DDB counterparts in Puerto Rico, as their office was completely destroyed. Like Indiana, the Social Security Administration contracts with the Territory of Puerto Rico to process Social Security Disability claims for island residents. The committee raised \$1,353 through donations and selling candygrams for a dollar, with notes of appreciation, which were delivered to staff in the building. With assistance from the SSA's New York Regional Office, DDB was able to make contact with the Puerto Rican staff, and the funds were sent at the end of December.



Notes of appreciation were delivered to DDB staff.



Morgan County DFR holiday clothing drive

Morgan County DFR staff held a clothing and household item drive for the Desert Rose Foundation. The foundation is a local nonprofit whose mission is to provide transitional shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, as well as the services needed to break the cycle of abuse in families.



2017 Indiana State Employees' Community Campaign (SECC)

The results are in for the 2017 SECC campaign, and FSSA had another outstanding year, with the highest staff participation ever and the second highest pledge amount! Thank you to everyone that participated this year.



2017 SECC Results

Area	Total 2017	Staff Participation
Administration	\$33,193.54	31%
Division of Mental Health and Addiction	\$3,878.00	49%
Early Child Learning	\$1,469.00	27%
Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center	\$1,300.00	11%
Evansville State Hospital	\$14,064.30	37%
Madison State Hospital	\$8,363.50	5%
Logansport State Hospital	\$16,175.70	37%
Richmond State Hospital	\$7,358.00	24%
Larue Carter Memorial Hospital	\$5,142.50	18%
Division of Disability and Rehabilitation Services	\$14,648.10	31%
Division of Family Resources	\$43,758.20	39%
Division of Aging	\$2,933.00	72%
Medicaid Policy and Planning	\$13,506.00	75%
GOAL	\$165,000.00	
TOTAL	\$165,789.84	32%

Lottie Cook receives inaugural FSSA Secretary's Health Impact Award

In December, Lottie Cook, superintendent of Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center, announced her retirement after 34 years of state service. As part of her retirement ceremony, Dr. Walthall awarded Lottie the first FSSA Secretary's Health Impact Award, which highlights the outstanding dedication of individuals to the health improvement of Hoosiers.



Dr. Walthall's all-staff presentation

Dr. Walthall recently hosted her second all-agency address to staff members at the Government Center Auditorium. Her presentation "The Sixth Pillar," is available by clicking [here](#) and the PowerPoint is available on The Hub.

Logansport presents Rob Clover with "Citizen of the Week" Award

Mayor Dave Kitchell of Logansport presented Rob Clover with the "Citizen of the Week" award. Rob is leaving his superintendent duties at Logansport State Hospital to assume the role of superintendent at Larue Carter Memorial Hospital.



Five Questions



Name: Ian Ragains

Title: Waiver service coordinator

Education: Hanover College,
Bachelor of Arts in Kinesiology
and Integrative Physiology

Career Highlights: I began working for FSSA in the fall of 2015 as an intake coordinator for the Bureau of Developmental Disability Services. Since that time, I have also worked as a coordinator with supported-group living and currently hold the waiver coordinator position.

1 What attracted you to a career here at FSSA?

It was sort of a chance encounter that led me here. After college, I was working at a waiver provider and a new individual moved into the home I was working in. A BDDS staff began to make visits to the home for that client and after some time she suggested that I apply to a position that recently became available in her office. The opportunity to work for BDDS proved to be well worth it. (Thanks, Krista!)

2 What gives you a sense of accomplishment professionally?

I really enjoy working with different teams to help solve the problems they encounter, knowing that each resolution is positively impacting someone's life. Nearly every issue that I am involved with is different from the next, so thinking outside of the box and engaging the teams to problem-solve is interesting. It allows me to learn and take those experiences on to the next case. I know I'm getting better at what I do every day.

3 What do you want FSSA workers to know about the work you're doing?

I frequently am working as a crisis manager to help different waiver teams ensure the welfare and safety of the individuals we serve and advocate for. From time to time, I will coordinate with other agencies like Adult Protective Services,

Department of Child Services, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department and others, depending on the circumstances. I also enjoy working closely with my coworkers and am always happy to lend a hand where I can, whenever I can.

4 What is the best advice you can offer, based on your years of experience?

Take advantage of every opportunity you have to learn from those around you. We work with many talented people who each bring a different perspective to the job.

5 What about your background might your coworkers find surprising?

I have an eclectic taste with the things I do in my free time. I am an avid outdoorsman and enjoy minimalist camping, hiking, fishing and kayaking. I also enjoy singing and participating in musicals and plays with my local community theater. I have been involved in over 20 shows since my first back in 2006. Most recently I played Lancelot in "Spamalot," and am currently in rehearsals for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," as Judah.

