1:30 pm CALL TO ORDER - Linda Higgins, Hennepin County, Chair
- Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of February 2018 Minutes

1:45 pm Department of Health Update, Commissioner Jan Malcom
The Commissioner will give an overview of the agency’s activities related to transitioning to the next administration. She will also highlight some relevant public health policy issues for the committee to consider as members think ahead to discussing the HHS platform.

2:10 pm Department of Human Services Update, Commissioner Emily Piper (invited)
The Commissioner will give an overview of the agency’s activities related to transitioning to the next administration. She will also highlight some relevant human services policy issues for the committee to consider as members think ahead to discussing the HHS platform.

2:35 pm Behavioral Health Crisis Centers and Supportive Housing Bonding, Claire Wilson, Assistant Commissioner, DHS
The 2018 Legislature appropriated nearly $60 million in bond proceeds to be used toward the creation of behavioral health crisis centers and supportive housing for individuals with behavioral health needs. The bonding package was a priority of AMC during the 2018 Legislative Session. Projects will be selected through a Request for Proposal process which will begin Fall 2018. DHS and MHFA will give an overview of the project criteria and selection process and answer member questions.

3:00 pm BREAK

3:15 pm County-Based Purchasing, Steve Gottwalt, MACHP
AMC have followed and supported County-Based Purchasing since the plans were created in 1997. Steve Gottwalt is executive director
of the Minnesota Association of County Health Plans. He will give members an update on some of the changes on the horizon for CBPs and discuss with members what is next for the organizations.

3:45 pm  **Minnesota’s Health Care Access Fund and the Status of MinnesotaCare, Ahna Minge, MMB**

The Health Care Access fund helps support MinnesotaCare, Statewide Health Improvement Program, physician training, and other health and human service initiatives.

The pending sunset of the provider tax, a major source for the HCAF, will mean an uncertain future for the fund. This, along with federal cuts will also lead to an uncertain future for more than 80,000 Minnesotans are enrolled in MinnesotaCare.

Ahna Minge will give an update. Minge is an executive budget officer for the Minnesota Management and Budget Agency.

4:15 pm  **Announcements/New business**

4:30 pm  **Recess**
CALL TO ORDER - Linda Higgins, Hennepin County, Chair

Modernizing Human Services Systems (Presenters TBD)
State human services leaders in the state are aiming to transform how Minnesotans access and experience the human services system. This involves redesigning services and helping inform technology development. This update will highlight some of the ongoing work.

Update on PDM
DHS implemented Periodic Data Match for enrollees of Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare. The rollout in late July was considered a statewide field test.

Update from Local Public Health Association
LPHA will give a brief overview of the association’s policy priorities for 2019.

Update from Minnesota Association of County Social Services Administrators
MACSSA will give a brief overview of the association’s policy priorities for 2019.

Update from Minnesota Inter-County Association
MICA will give a brief overview of the association’s policy priorities for 2019.

Committee Discussion
The committee will break into small groups to consider HHS policy issues.

BREAK

AMC Platform Development
The policy committee will discuss and finalize the priority HHS issues.

ADJOURN

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE DURING THE MEETING.
AMC unites Minnesota’s counties to achieve public service excellence.

AMC strives to preserve local control so that counties have the flexibility to address the most pressing needs of their communities.

AMC supports state budget solutions that avoid adding or shifting a disproportionate burden to counties through cost shifts, cost shares and unfunded mandates.

AMC believes that funding for county-administered services should be commensurate with the level of service or results deemed acceptable.
Chemical Use and Abuse

Alcohol and Other Drugs

- AMC supports use of the chemical dependency treatment fund for prevention and treatment strategies supported by evidence-based practice.
- AMC supports adequate state financing and other resources to counties to address chemical dependency, including integrated models of treatment.
- AMC supports alcohol tax increases to more closely reflect the health and public safety costs related to alcohol and other drug abuse (including prescription and over-the-counter drugs) and alcohol and drug-related injuries. Additional state funding is needed for counties to continue to work in key areas of chemical dependency prevention, screening, treatment and aftercare, probation supervision and detoxification services.
- AMC supports state funding for mandated detoxification services.
- AMC supports the implementation and enforcement of statewide policies that restrict the production, sale and possession of illegal synthetic drugs.
- AMC supports state and local policies that prevent underage alcohol and tobacco consumption.

Child Safety and Well Being

AMC supports state resources to assure that all children are safe and supported in permanent living situations.

Child Safety

- AMC supports stable, adequate state funding for child safety and well-being, distributed to counties on the basis of performance. This funding is intended to:
  - Prevent child abuse and neglect;
  - Allow caseworkers to have manageable caseloads so adequate assessment and services can be provided to meet the safety needs of children;
  - Whenever possible, taking into consideration the child’s safety and well-being, maintain children in their own homes;
  - Keep children in safe, permanent living situations whenever possible;
  - Continue family relationships; and
  - Assure that parents have enhanced capacity to provide for children’s needs.
  - Support school educational stability for foster children and county-involved youth by stabilizing their access to transportation supports when they are placed in settings outside of their original school districts

- AMC supports the policy that all child placement orders issued by tribal courts become the financial responsibility of the state.

Child Support

- AMC supports adequate state funding to counties to fulfill their child support responsibilities to offset federal funding reductions.
- AMC supports simplifying the administration of child support services to reduce court costs and improve efficiency.
Children’s and Family Health

AMC supports stable, flexible state funding and public policy to support healthy families.

Maternal and Child Health
- AMC supports additional state funding for county-delivered maternal and child health services, such as evidence-based home visiting programs and fetal alcohol syndrome prevention initiatives.

Systems
- AMC supports state funding for locally-based collaborative activities among counties, schools, cities, and other local organizations to promote healthy families.
- AMC supports state funding to counties and other organizations to eliminate health disparities in Minnesota’s ethnic, racial, refugee, and low-income populations, many of who have lower health status than other Minnesotans (including interpreter services, strategies to improve health care access, and workforce training).
- AMC supports funding for collaborations that work across systems to eliminate health inequities.
- AMC supports state fiscal strategies to reduce dependence on public funding for long term care, such as expanding availability of long-term care insurance and extending look-back periods for assets for medical assistance.
- AMC supports federal funding for the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) grant as well as continuation of adjunctive eligibility for WIC programs.

Tobacco and Youth Risk
- AMC supports continued state funding to counties to prevent tobacco use and other youth risk behavior.
- AMC supports legislation that would provide stricter regulation of e-cigarettes statewide such as requiring e-cigarette stores and “vapor lounges” to be licensed as tobacco retailers, and/or updating indoor air laws to cover e-cigarettes.

Community Health

AMC supports stable, flexible state funding and public policy to improve and maintain healthy communities.
- AMC supports the statewide health improvement program or other forms of funding to counties for health promotion efforts to prevent chronic disease throughout the life span.
- AMC supports state funding for home and community-based care.
- AMC supports the Clean Indoor Air Act.
- AMC supports planning, zoning and funding efforts to create “livable and sustainable communities” that encourage physical activity and other healthy lifestyle behaviors.
- AMC supports increased resources for development of programs, partnerships, monitoring and data collection systems, and other initiatives to prevent and reduce violence.
- AMC supports increasing the tobacco tax and expanding it to tobacco related products in order to support prevention and health-related costs of tobacco use.
Disease Prevention and Health Protection

AMC supports state financial resources and public policy to protect the public from communicable disease and promote healthy behaviors to prevent chronic disease.

Emergency Preparedness
- AMC supports increased state funding and authority for state and local governments to plan and prepare together for public health and other emergencies or disasters that impact the state.
- AMC supports restoration of federal funding to local public health for emergency preparedness and response.

Infectious Disease
- AMC supports policies and funding to ensure that all people in Minnesota are immunized against communicable diseases.
- AMC supports funding and authority for county public health departments to investigate and respond to infectious disease cases, such as active and latent tuberculosis, through monitoring, directly observed therapy, care coordination and treatment, and use of telehealth.
- AMC supports the use of scientific evidence as a basis for agency action and other decision-making about vaccine safety and other health practices.

Environmental Health
- AMC supports the authority of all counties to locally operate a food, beverage, and lodging establishment program supported by a locally determined fee structure.
- AMC supports a financing structure for core state environmental health activities that is sufficient to ensure that the state can effectively provide oversight, technical support, and information to counties and local food beverage and lodging establishments and is based on an appropriate fee structure.
- AMC supports policies and funding that promote early intervention to remove lead hazards, and other Healthy Homes hazards, before children are exposed, including legislation that would enable counties to obtain Medical Assistance reimbursement for lead risk assessments and asthma prevention and treatment interventions.

Public Health Infrastructure
- AMC supports restoring and increasing flexible funding for essential local public health services through the local public health grant.
- AMC supports providing state funding and authority for a state-local public health information system.

Economic Self-Sufficiency

AMC supports state funding and policy to strengthen the public safety net for those unable to work and to remove disincentives that discourage able-bodied people from achieving self-sufficiency.

Affordable Housing
- AMC supports repeal of policies requiring counties to count housing subsidies as income.
- AMC supports development of affordable housing options for low-income people.
- AMC supports providing state funding for counties to assure supportive services within housing options as a way to prevent homelessness.
Child Care

- AMC supports child care policies that assist parents to maintain employment by assuring access to high quality, safe child care.
- AMC supports restoring eligibility for child care for low and moderate income families.
- AMC supports a state process to determine eligibility for child care assistance that is simple and easy for families, providers, and counties to navigate.
- AMC supports state funding and immunity protection for county responsibilities in licensing in child care establishments.
- AMC supports the state assuming responsibility for child care background checks.
- AMC supports additional state funding to address the waitlist for child care support for eligible families.

Income Supports/Work Readiness

- AMC supports state funding to counties and other organizations to eliminate employment disparities in Minnesota’s ethnic, racial, refugee, and low-income populations, including to support interpreter services, and language education strategies to improve access to employment services and workforce training, and for capacity building to assist small and diverse businesses to achieve equitable access to public and private business opportunities.
- AMC supports exceptions from the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) work participation requirements for individuals who have demonstrated inability to work due to physical or mental disability, time spent completing their education, or serving as a caregiver for disabled family members.
- AMC supports requirements to verify eligibility for public programs based on citizenship as long as these processes do not result in substantial additional administrative burdens for counties.
- AMC supports general fund support for the Minnesota Youth Program, which provides work experience and academic enrichment activities to economically disadvantaged and at-risk youth and opposes the counting of that income against MFIP support calculations.
- AMC supports funding for family stabilization services sufficient to enable all counties to provide case management, payment monitoring, and initiation for eligible clients, as required by law.
- AMC supports funding for supportive work programs to provide hard-to-employ MFIP recipients with paid work experience.
- AMC supports changes to state law to protect counties from being required to make indemnity payments to unpaid work experience participants in work readiness programs.
- AMC supports innovations to simplifying the process of determining eligibility for and enrollment in income support programs.
- AMC supports individual access to high quality employment training that leads to greater self-sufficiency and that improves the overall skill level and productivity of the workforce.

Health Care Financing, Access and Quality

AMC supports assuring the opportunity for all Minnesotans to be healthy and supports public health activities that prevent disease and disability and promote health for the whole population. AMC supports health care for all Minnesotans that adds value by improving quality and patient satisfaction; decreasing medical errors, cost, and waste; and maximizing return on investment. Counties shall be a key stakeholder in any proposal that transfers county administrative or program delivery roles to new entities such as tribal governments, non-profits, or the private sector.
New Health Care Delivery Systems & Health Care Homes

- AMC supports allowing counties or county-based purchasing plans to propose, implement and participate in new care delivery and payment demonstration projects for Minnesota Health Care Programs. AMC supports authorizing the county to designate the rural coordinated care delivery system project that will operate a demonstration project in a rural area if there are multiple competing proposals or projects serving the same geographic area.

- AMC supports requiring provider-sponsored Minnesota Health Care Program demonstration projects to partner with counties so that health care services are coordinated with local county services affecting patients’ health, such as public health, social services, mental health, housing and other services.

- AMC supports the funding necessary for the Minnesota Eligibility Technology System (METS) to function properly and reliably, and alleviate excessive burdens on tax payers and improve services provided to customers.

- AMC supports certification of health care homes throughout Minnesota that:
  
  1. Ensure multiple options for certification so that providers in all parts of the state are able to participate;
  2. Expand the types of providers and teams eligible to serve as a health care home or care coordinator; and
  3. Provide collaboration of care across public and private sectors and coordination between medical and non-medical services.

County-Based Purchasing

- AMC supports expanding county-based health care purchasing to additional populations and geographic areas through either a single plan approach or a model where competition is required by federal law, by following federal requirements whereby county-based purchasing competes with only one additional health plan for counties that fall within Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

- AMC supports default assignment of enrollees to the county-based purchasing plan if an enrollee does not make a choice of health plan.

- AMC supports the formation of locally controlled health plans to serve as an alternative to large statewide and national health insurance plans to give consumers and employers additional health plan choices.

Dental

- AMC supports state funding for a sustainable model for dental care for low-income people.

Financing, Administration and Systems

- AMC supports state and federal investments in technology modernization at the Departments of Health and Human Services. These investments will improve the efficiency of county staff that enter information into the systems and enhance customer service.

- AMC supports legislation that would require field tests of any new technology system prior to statewide implementation.

- AMC supports maintaining health insurance coverage for low income Minnesotans. AMC opposes approaches that result in cost shifts or funding reductions to counties to cover these populations.

- AMC supports solutions that better integrate health care and social services to reduce costs and improve health outcomes, including the implementation and full funding of demonstration projects.

- AMC supports state funding for county uncompensated care costs.

- AMC supports adequate state funding to cover the cost of county administrative functions in Minnesota Health Care Programs.

- AMC supports state policy to allow for seamless enrollment and continuation in Minnesota Health Care Programs (e.g., MA and MinnesotaCare).

- AMC supports simplifying the process of determining and redetermining eligibility for and enrollment in Minnesota Health Care Programs.
AMC supports continued funding and authority for the county roles of network development and service integration for special populations, such as the elderly, disabled, and mentally ill, who receive services through Minnesota Health Care Programs as these populations are moved to a managed care model.

AMC supports state and federal funding to cover county costs of administering the new MnCHOICES assessment process. AMC also supports strong and clear collaboration with counties as the system moves from final development to implementation.

AMC supports maximizing federal revenues to support Minnesota’s health care programs.

**Mental Health**

AMC supports state policy and financing to assure a full range of mental health services that: promote mental health, prevent mental health problems, treat mental health conditions, and allow people with mental health conditions to function as effectively as possible in the community.

**Civil Commitment**

- AMC supports state assumption of the cost of hold orders for sex and alcohol offenders and other people awaiting civil commitment.
- AMC opposes the requirement that counties share the cost of civil commitment of sex offenders and supports comprehensive reform to the current policies in order to reduce the cost of civil commitment, including a review of the commitment process, while maintaining an adequate level of protection for the public. AMC also supports strong and clear collaboration with counties for offender release programs.
- AMC opposes cost shifts to local governments for sex offenders released from the Minnesota Sex Offender Program (MSOP).

**Mental Health System Reform**

AMC supports state mental health reforms that include the following components:
- Integration of physical, mental health and social services (including housing and employment) for children and adults with mental health problems;
- Coordination of mental health services with other county systems such as child protection and criminal justice;
- Partnerships between counties and managed care organizations that effectively align funding, authority, responsibility, risk, and reward;
- State funding to assure services for uninsured and underinsured;
- State funding for prevention, screening, and earlier intervention of mental health problems, especially targeted to newborn and early childhood services;
- Flexibility in dedica ting local tax dollars for mental health in relation to other social services; and
- Continuation of the state safety net for people with severe mental health problems.

AMC supports a review of the state adult and children’s mental health acts to clarify appropriate county responsibilities.

**Suicide**

- AMC supports all efforts working toward the goal of zero suicides in Minnesota.
- AMC supports funding for a state office of suicide prevention.
Vulnerable People

AMC supports state resources and public policy to protect vulnerable people from harm.

Disabled and Elderly Populations

- AMC supports state policy and financing strategies to support county roles in providing or assuring health and social services and care integration for people with physical, mental, or developmental disabilities.
- AMC supports financing and authority for counties to conduct vulnerable adult investigations.
- AMC supports funding for county services, including administering the MnChoices assessment, to ensure that the vulnerable elderly and disabled populations are served in cost-effective, appropriate settings and at home or in the community whenever possible.

Financing and Systems

- AMC supports repealing county cost shares for people on Medical Assistance in nursing homes, intermediate care facilities, and institutes for mentally disabled.
- AMC supports repealing county cost shares for people in regional treatment centers and 16-bed hospital facilities.
- AMC supports financing strategies to support activities at the local government level to assure that people with physical, mental or developmental disabilities receive social supports to live at the maximum level of independence.
- AMC supports clarifying and fully funding counties' roles in service delivery for long term care and continuing care services, especially in the areas of quality assurance, assessment/reassessment and provider network development.
- AMC supports aligning licensing regulatory authority with the enforcement and investigative obligation for adult protection reports. AMC supports exempting county lead investigative agencies from responsibility to investigate reports from facilities licensed by the state Department of Human Services or Department of Health.

Victims of Human Trafficking

- AMC supports the expansion and implementation of the Safe Harbor Law ensuring that victims of human trafficking are treated as victims under the law.