**Regional Autism Assistance Program (RAP) Expert Panel Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 22, 2023**

**9:00 am - 11:00 am**

**Via Zoom**

Agenda

* Welcome, introductions
* Guest Speaker:

Leondra Dodd

Senior Advisor for Health Investigations (Mental Health Parity Compliance)

US Department of Labor at the Kansas City Regional Office

Compliance Region, CO, IA, IL, KS, MO, MN, NE, SD, ND, & WY

Leondra and her colleague Grace Williams will join our meeting to discuss mental health parity, their roles with insurance compliance, and they want your input on Iowa residents' challenges receiving autism care when it comes to insurance concerns, prior authorization, medical necessity denials, and requests for treatment plans impacting coverage. Their Outreach & Technical Assistance Unit looks at compliance concerns with specific carriers using redacted examples- they don’t look at a patient’s case specifically, but look at the company’s compliance globally.

Please feel free to share information about any compliance concerns and which company is putting up the mentioned barrier(s) to keep in mind during the discussion and share as you see fit.

Note: Iowa House File 2167 was signed April 21, 2022 to update the legal language on autism spectrum disorder:

“Autism spectrum disorder" means a mental health condition that meets the diagnostic criteria for such disorder as published in the most recent edition of the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders as published by the American psychiatric association

* Member Updates
* Connie Fanselow, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Autism Support Program, Waiver Redesign Process and Information
* Kris Steinmetz, Autism Society of Iowa
* Kelly Pelzel, UIHC
* Member updates
* Erika Hertel, Regional Autism Assistance Program
* Discussion