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By ROBERT PIERCE • Leader & Times Gov. Sam Brownback's managed care plan to overhaul the state's Medicaid budget has seen some concerns from those who take care of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

While little has changed regarding the eventual inclusion of non-medical long-term care for Kansans with I/DD, Mosaic continues to express concerns regarding inclusion of supports into the plan.

Mosaic hosted public comment forums in June, and community relations manager Amanda Stout and executive director David Jasper said the state received overwhelming negative feedback from the public regarding KanCare, specifically with the inclusion of I/DD long-term care services in managed care. "The administration chose to ignore this feedback when revising its 1115 waiver submission," Stout and Jasper said in a letter to the Seward County Commission. "Advocates are vocalizing their experiences at these public forums, as well as the administration's lack of responsiveness to public input that is represented in the Kansas 1115 waiver re-submission." Concerns are also coming in about the state's public decree that KanCare will begin implementation on Jan. 1, 2013, which Stout and Jasper said should raise further questions about the lack of notifications to centers such as Mosaic. "The lack of notification indicates that the administration does not possess the communications infrastructure necessary to adequately engage and inform the Medicaid population in order to prepare for the massive changes that are due to occur in Kansas Medicaid services in just a few months," the letter said.

Stout is scheduled to speak the county commission regarding the carve out for I/DD services in the KanCare plan at the board's regular meeting, which begins at 5:30 p.m. today in the commission chambers in the Seward County Administration Building.

The Mosaic officials further said serious concerns persist that the piloting process for inclusion of I/DD long-term care services specifics on how the process will be utilized to legitimately evaluate whether long-term care services for Kansans with I/DD are appropriate for inclusion in KanCare.

"Very little detail exists on how the administration intends to select or utilize pilot sites, as well as what expectations will be placed on those providers that choose to participate," Stout and Jasper said. "Serious concerns exist regarding whether the state of Kansas can adequately develop, implement and reasonably analyze outcomes from such pilot projects within the one-year delay period."

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