

DELAWARE HEALTH CARE COMMISSION
APRIL 6, 2006
DELAWARE TECHNICAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CONFERENCE CENTER, ROOM 400B
DOVER

Action Item

MINUTES

Commission Members Present: John C. Carney, Jr., Chair; Jacquelyne W. Gorum, DSW; Joseph A. Lieberman, III, MD, MPH; Robert Miller; Dennis Rochford; and Lois Studte, RN.

Members Absent: Richard Cordrey, Secretary of Finance; Matt Denn, Insurance Commissioner; Carol Ann DeSantis, Secretary, Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families; and Vincent Meconi, Secretary of Health and Social Services.

Staff Attending: Paula K. Roy, Executive Director and Marlyn Marvel, Community Relations Officer.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman John C. Carney, Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 2, 2006 MINUTES

Dr. Jacquelyne Gorum noted that the first sentence under "Other Business" on page 11 of the minutes needed to be amended to say that she was *appointed*, not *elected*, as vice-chair of the Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium.

Robert Miller made a motion that the March 2, 2006 meeting minutes be approved as amended. Dennis Rochford seconded the motion. There was a voice vote. Motion carried.

UNISURED ACTION PLAN

Community Healthcare Access Program (CHAP)

Paula Roy reported that the design of the new survey tool to measure health status and quality of care for CHAP enrollees is nearing completion. As planned for Fiscal Year 2006, CHAP is now prepared to shift its resource use and evaluation focus to CHAP enrollees with the targeted high-risk conditions of hypertension, diabetes, asthma, and over 50 years of age. Electronic Data System (EDS) will conduct a health risk assessment. All new enrollments beginning May 1 will be completed with the use of the new health risk assessment tool. No major changes in the program are planned for Fiscal Year 2007.

Action:

The March 2, 2006 meeting minutes were approved as amended.

CHAP is prepared to shift its resource use and evaluation focus to high risk individuals with the targeted conditions of hypertension, diabetes, asthma, and over 50 years of age.

All new enrollments beginning May 1 will be completed with the use of a new health risk assessment tool.

Universal Coverage Kick-Off

The Universal Coverage Analysis Task Force had its first meeting on March 28. Discussion centered on health care reform in general.

Elliott Wicks, of the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), presented two straw models to provide universal coverage: 1) a “pure” single payer approach; and 2) a single state pool/multiple health plan approach.

Task Force members were asked to identify key stakeholders to be interviewed by Mr. Wicks to hear their reaction to the two proposed models. It is anticipated that the interviews will be completed by the end of April. This will be a major focus of discussion at the May and/or June meetings of the Health Care Commission. A final report will be prepared in September.

With a “pure” single payer approach every state resident would be covered automatically, with no tests for eligibility. Mr. Miller expressed concern with the liability that would be created by undocumented individuals with the absence of tests for eligibility.

Paula Roy responded that the models were “straw” models designed to stimulate discussion and identify problems. Mr. Miller’s observation is an example of a problem. Chairman Carney added that he hoped every assumption in the straw models would be challenged as part of the process.

The Task Force will be reviewing activities in Oregon, Massachusetts, Maine, and Canada. Information from these states will also be shared with Commission members.

Small Business Insurance Update

A contract is being finalized with the Economic and Social Research Institute to provide services in support of Phase Two of the Small Group Health Insurance Project.

Both the Universal Coverage and Small Business Health Insurance projects are funded with State Planning Grant Funds that the Commission has received for the past several years through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration. The funding for the State Planning Grant Program has been zeroed out of the federal government budget for the upcoming year. There will be no more State Planning Grant Program, nor will there be additional money available. All projects *must* be completed by August 31, 2006. There will be no more time extensions.

Two straw models to provide universal coverage have been presented: 1) a “pure” single payer approach, and 2) a single state pool/multiple health plan approach.

Stakeholders will be interviewed to hear their reaction to the two proposed models.

A final report will be prepared in September.

A contract is being finalized for Phase Two of the Small Group Health Insurance Project.

INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY

Action: Appointment of Al Redmer to DHIN Board of Directors

According to the DHIN statute, appointments to the DHIN Board of Directors from the insurance industry are made by the Delaware Health Care Commission. Currently there is a vacancy on the DHIN Board. Alfred W. Redmer, Jr. has expressed an interest in DHIN activities and would like to serve on the Board. Mr. Redmer is the Chief Executive Officer for Coventry Health Care of Delaware, Inc.

Mr. Miller made a motion that Mr. Redmer be appointed to the DHIN Board of Directors. Dr. Joseph Lieberman seconded the motion. There was a voice vote. Motion carried.

Update: Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN)

Mr. Miller announced that Joseph Letnaunchyn will take his place as the chair of the DHIN Board of Directors. He previously served as vice-chair.

The DHIN has reached its current point through volunteers. One of its next challenges will be to get full time staff in place.

Mr. Miller gave a presentation on the DHIN clinical information exchange utility framework and requirements. A copy of the full presentation is attached to these minutes.

A Request for Proposals has been released for the development of a clinical information exchange utility. A bidders' conference was held on March 27. About 32 potential bidders attended. The bid opening will take place on April 21. Prototype demonstrations will be held May 30 through June 5. The selected vendor will be notified on July 3.

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Health Workforce Data Gathering Committee Progress

The Health Workforce Data Gathering Committee met on April 3, 2006. The meeting included representatives from the Division of Public Health, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Higher Education Commission, Department of Labor, Delaware Economic Development Office, Department of Education, and the Division of Professional Regulation.

Action:

Alfred W. Redmer, Jr. was appointed to the DHIN Board of Directors.

A Request for Proposals has been released for the development of a clinical information exchange utility.

The Health Workforce Data Gathering Committee met on April 3, 2006.

In February the committee heard presentations from the Delaware Health Care Commission, Division of Public Health, Department of Labor and Delaware Economic Development Office.

At the April 3 meeting, James Collins, from the Division of Professional Regulation, discussed legislative changes that were made to enable the Division of Public Health and the Delaware Health Care Commission to access professional licensure mailing lists for the purpose of conducting research on health professional workforce issues. Previously these lists could not be used. A list of data elements collected by the Division of Professional Regulation was distributed to the committee.

The committee discussed the possibility of linking licensure with an online survey to collect data.

Don Berry, of the Department of Education, gave a presentation on workforce census maps. Currently there are 30,000 job seekers in Delaware. About 248 are nursing assistants. The census map demonstrated that many of these people are located in the same area. It was suggested that creative means of reaching them be identified; for example, perhaps a van could be provided to transport them to work. The maps also showed income levels and day care facility locations.

Alan Philips, of the Higher Education Commission, is responsible for the statewide coordination of secondary school data. He also has access to national data. He presented the committee with data on the number of people who graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, Thomas Jefferson University and Temple University, and their degrees.

Concern was expressed with the reliability of data supplied by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration.

Sarah McCloskey has developed a matrix of health professional data gathering activities.

The next meeting will include representatives of the private sector. The matrix will be shared with attendees.

The Division of Public Health is currently conducting an assessment of essential public health services in Delaware. It will use national public health performance standards developed by the Centers for Disease Control as the evaluation tool.

The next meeting will include representatives of the private sector.

The Division of Public Health is currently conducting an assessment of essential public health services in Delaware.

The Centers for Disease Control has identified ten essential public health services. One is “assure a competent public and personal health care workforce.” This assessment has taken place and the results have been released.

The assessment identified gaps in technical assistance/support and evaluation/quality improvement. Gaps included: 1) limited communication among public health partners on workforce development programs; 2) no systemized assessment of the numbers of healthcare workers with appropriate training; 3) no statewide workforce development plan; and 4) health care workforce development activities are fragmented, which hampers the effective allocation of limited resources.

One of the recommended next steps is to consider how to link assessment information to the Health Care Commission workforce development work.

Mental Health Data Gathering Committee Progress

Ms. Roy said that focus groups have been completed statewide with over 90 participants. The focus groups were among providers and consumers. The consumer focus groups were divided into two sub groups, those who have insurance and those who do not have insurance. The providers who participated were separate groups of psychiatrists, psychologists, licensed clinical social workers, and mental health counselors.

The survey was delayed due to the technical issues of accessing license information through the Division of Professional Regulation. It is now complete. Next, the Center for Mental Health Studies at Delaware State University will compile the focus group and survey information, and compare it to nationally identified best practices.

The information that has been collected to date will be presented to the Mental Health Issues Committee on April 26, at 1:00 p.m. at Delaware Tech Stanton Campus. Feedback will be taken from the entire committee and used to complete the analysis. It is anticipated that the data analysis will be complete by May 30.

One of the recommended next steps is to consider how to link assessment information to the Health Care Commission workforce development work.

Focus groups have been completed statewide with over 90 participants.

The survey is complete. The next step is to compile and analyze the information collected through the focus groups and survey.

The information that has been collected to date will be presented to the Mental Health Issues Committee on April 26, at 1:00 p.m. at Delaware Tech Stanton Campus.

SPECIFIC HEALTH CARE ISSUES

Medical Liability Insurance Task Force

The Medical Liability Insurance Task Force met in January and determined that they would like to survey physicians to learn how medical liability issues impact medical practice. The Task Force had the opportunity to piggy back on a physician survey routinely conducted by the Division of Public Health every three or four years. Three questions will be added to the survey to help the Task Force gather information.

The Medical Liability Insurance Task Force will survey physicians to learn how medical liability issues impact medical practice.

OTHER BUSINESS

Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium

Dr. Jacquelyne Gorum updated the Commission on the Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium. The consortium had its second meeting on March 22. All of the bylaws were passed. A consultant, Robert Wright, has been hired to assist with strategic planning. A day long retreat will be devoted to strategic planning on April 24. A meeting near the end of June will be held that will include all of the stakeholders.

The Delaware Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium is seeking participation by people who had an infant who died before the first year of life.

The Consortium is seeking participation by people who had an infant who died before the first year of life. Letters of invitation are being mailed to invite people to join one of the Consortium’s committees.

The following is a list of the committees and chairs:

- Disparities Committee, chaired by Agnes Richardson
- Standards of Care Committee, chaired by Garret Colmorgen
- Education and Prevention Committee, chaired by Susan Noyes
- Systems of Care Committee, chaired by Midge Barrett
- Data and Scientific Committee, chaired by Judy Walrath
- Membership Committee, chaired by Catherine Kanefsky
- Executive Committee, composed of Dr. David Paul, Dr. Katherine Esterly, Al Snyder, and Dr. Jacquelyne Gorum.

The next meeting of the Consortium is May 5. The time and location are to be announced.

The next meeting will be May 5. The following meeting is June 1. The time and location are to be announced.

Children and Families First is having a 5-K run/walk for healthy mothers, healthy babies and healthy families on Sunday, April 23. There will also be a 1 ½ mile family fun walk.

Health Fund Advisory Committee

Dennis Rochford received a letter from Deputy Attorney General Drue Chichi regarding the funds Delaware may receive this year from the Master Settlement Agreement. It is anticipated that Delaware will receive a decrease in funding of between \$4 and \$5 million.

A Health Fund Advisory Committee retreat is scheduled in late April. Mr. Rochford and Dr. Lieberman represent the Commission at these deliberations. Mr. Rochford emphasized the importance of Commission staff attendance at these meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joann Hasse asked when the next meeting of the Universal Coverage Committee is scheduled. Ms. Roy explained that the meeting will be scheduled and posted after the Consultant completes the interview process.

Dr. Robert Frelick asked how the DHIN will get around the need for patient consent to grant access to records. Dr. Lieberman explained that the DHIN will be governed by the same rules and regulations currently used to access paper records.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Delaware Health Care Commission will be held at 9:30 a.m. on **THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2006** at the Delaware Technical and Community College Conference Center, Terry Campus, Room 400B.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

It is anticipated that Delaware will receive a decrease in funding from the Master Settlement Agreement of between \$4 and \$5 million.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 4, 2006 at the Delaware Tech Terry Campus Conference Center, Room 400B.

GUESTS ATTENDING

Joy Blaiser, EDS
Anthony Brazen, D.O., Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance
Judy Chaconas, Bureau of Health Planning, Division of Public Health
Jeanne Chiquoine, American Cancer Society
Michael Duva, Delaware Healthcare Association
Robert W. Frelick, MD, Medical Society of Delaware
Joann Hasse, League of Women Voters
B. Michael Herman, Coventry Health Care of Delaware
Joseph Letnaunchyn, Delaware Healthcare Association
Bill Leitzinger, Leitzinger Associates
Lolita Lopez, Westside Health Center
Rita Marocco, NAMI-DE
Miranda Marquez, DOL/Navigators/DVR
Linda Nemes, Department Of Insurance
Sheila Nutter, EDS
Brian Olson, La Red Health Center
Gina Perez, Advances in Management
Rosa Rivera, Henrietta Johnson Medical Center
Jose Tieso, EDS/DMMA
Betsy Wheeler, Wheeler & Associates Management Services, Inc.