

DELAWARE HEALTH CARE COMMISSION
December 6, 2007
DELAWARE TECHNICAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CONFERENCE CENTER, ROOM 400 B
DOVER

MINUTES

Commission Members Present: Vincent Meconi, Acting Chair; Lisa Barkley, MD; A. Richard Heffron; and Janice Nevin, MD

Members Absent: Theodore W. Becker, Jr; Lt. Governor John C. Carney, Jr.; Richard Cordrey, Secretary of Finance; Matthew Denn, Insurance Commissioner; Carol Ann DeSantis, Secretary, Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families; and Dennis Rochford, President, Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay Authority.

Staff Attending: Paula Roy, Executive Director; Sarah Matthews, Director of Planning & Policy; and Marlyn Marvel, Community Relations Officer.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Acting Chairman Vincent Meconi.

MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2007

Action on the October 4, 2007 meeting minutes was deferred due to the lack of a quorum.

NEW COMMISSIONER

Mr. Meconi introduced new Commissioner, A. Richard Heffron, who has been appointed to fill the vacancy left by Robert Miller. Mr. Heffron is the Senior Vice President of Government Affairs for the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of the Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN) Board of Directors.

UPDATE: DELAWARE DIABETES PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM – Don Post

Don Post, of the Division of Public Health, gave the Commissioners an update on the Delaware Diabetes Prevention and Control Program.

The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program funding request for Fiscal Year 2009 is \$580,000. The request includes an increase of \$80,000 from Fiscal Year 2008 for:

- Targeting Delawareans who are at risk for developing type 2 diabetes and have a condition known as pre-diabetes.
- Providing a statewide comprehensive approach for addressing the prevention of type 2 diabetes.
- Leveraging resources currently available through the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program and include a media campaign, targeted patient and provider education, a weight-loss intervention and early screenings.

Action on the October 4, 2007 meeting minutes was deferred due to the lack of a quorum.

The Health Care Commission welcomed a new member, A. Richard Heffron.

Don Post gave the Commissioners an update on the Delaware Diabetes Prevention and Control Program.

- Implementing this initiative through the use of current program staff and contractors including Certified Diabetes Educators out-stationed at all of the Federally Qualified Health Centers.

The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program includes the following programs:

- Diabetes Media Campaign
- Community Health Centers Diabetes Infrastructure Development
- Community Blood Screenings
- Diabetes Emergency Medical Fund
- Delaware Diabetes Coalition Staff Development
- School Nurse Diabetes Cluster
- Blood Glucose Meters Distribution to all Delaware Schools

Details of each program and results are attached to these minutes.

Mr. Post reported that the Blood Bank of Delmarva has added diabetes screening to its series of routine blood tests. This is the first blood bank in the country to do this, and a great step toward raising awareness of the disease. It is anticipated that 50,000 to 65,000 people will be screened in 2008.

PRESENTATION: UNINSURED DELAWAREANS REPORT – Ed

Ratledge

Ed Ratledge, of the University of Delaware Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research, gave a presentation on “Delawareans Without Health Insurance 2007”.

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In 2007, the population in Delaware was 862,500; up from 783,000 in 2000. The population is growing by about 12,000 per year; 5,000 from natural increase and 7,000 from migration.

Currently 106,000 Delawareans are uninsured. Of those:

- 24% are under the age of 19
- 56% are male
- 70% are white
- 20% are Hispanic
- 60% own or are buying their home
- 18% live alone
- 83% are above the poverty line
- 35% with household income over \$50,000
- 58% are working adults
- 8% are self-employed
- 20% are non-citizens

Currently 106,000 Delawareans are uninsured.

The number of uninsured in Delaware is still below regional and national averages. In Delaware the number is 12.5 percent, compared to 13.2 percent for the region, and 15.8 percent nationally. However, Delaware’s numbers are increasing.

In 2030 it is projected that 237,560 Delawareans will be 65 years of age or older, and increase from 103,274 in 2000. As a result, Medicare will be a big cost driver for health care.

Currently about 18,400 people who are eligible for Medicaid are not enrolled. About 8,840 children are eligible for the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) but are not enrolled. Mr. Ratledge noted, however, that measuring the number of Medicaid enrollees is often difficult because participants might not consider it to be insurance, a common and well known challenge for researchers nationwide.

A copy of the complete presentation is attached to these minutes.

Dr. Lisa Barkley asked Mr. Ratledge to prepare a chart of how Delaware compares regionally and nationally with covering children.

UPDATE: COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ACCESS PROGRAM (CHAP)

CHAP Workgroup Update

Paula Roy said that the CHAP Workgroup has been reviewing maps of the geographic distribution of the CHAP target population (people between 100 and 200 percent of the federal poverty level) compared to the CHAP penetration (actual enrollment) to evaluate how successfully the program's outreach goals are being met. Although there has been improvement in penetration, there is room for more improvement.

The location and distribution of Voluntary Initiative Program (VIP) provider sites and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are also being mapped.

Ms. Roy also announced that Christiana Care Health Services has rejoined the CHAP network and will provide services at 100 percent write-off to all CHAP enrollees.

Review Quarterly Report

Commissioners reviewed the new quarterly CHAP report. The new report format provides a more complete picture of what CHAP does. Previously, the monthly reports did not include information on children who enroll in the SCHIP as a result of CHAP screening. From this point forward, EDS will track and report this information.

Overall, CHAP enrollment is growing. As of November 30, 2007, 4,613 total people were enrolled in CHAP. Of those, 2,558 were new enrollments, and 2,055 were new re-enrollments.

In 2007, there has been an average of 200 new applicants per month. In October 2007 there were 400. In November 2007 there were 300, indicating continued growth.

There have been discussions with Astra Zeneca about the Healthy Delawareans Today and Tomorrow campaign, through which an investment was made in the CHAP network in 2007. The goals and objectives of the company's campaign echo those of CHAP. They have agreed to continue to convene a group of stakeholders at least twice per

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year, to learn how they can interact with CHAP. In addition, a group of 1,500 Astra Zeneca employees has been convened to provide consumer outreach. They have been named "health care heroes". They will be working with CHAP as a partner.

Betsy Wheeler explained that the information in the CHAP quarterly report is important to Astra Zeneca to ascertain if their investment in CHAP is making a difference in reaching the uninsured.

Review FQHC Market Research

The Commission has entered a contract with John Snow, Inc. to replicate a marketing study of community health centers conducted previously at Henrietta Johnson Medical Center. Market research will be conducted on consumer satisfaction at Delmarva Rural Ministries and La Red Health Center.

The study will include a sample of people who currently use the health centers and a sample of people who have never used the health centers. The sample sizes originally planned were adequate to draw conclusions about a rural community health center, but not sufficient to draw conclusions about the specific health centers that are participating in the study. Work is underway to increase the sample size to allow conclusions to be drawn and compared with those from Henrietta Johnson Medical Center.

Health Fund Advisory Committee

Ms. Roy reported that the Health Fund Advisory Committee met on December 5. A proposal to fund CHAP at the current level will be included with the recommendations that will be submitted to the Governor.

New State Service Center

Sheila Nutter, of EDS, reported that a new state service center will open in Smyrna in March 2008. It is hoped that the new center will include a bilingual CHAP outreach person.

UPDATE: STATE PLANNING

Modeling Project Status

Ms. Roy reported that a contract has been signed with Jonathan Gruber, PhD to conduct an econometric simulation and analysis of options to achieve universal health insurance coverage in Delaware. A meeting is anticipated in February to review progress on the project.

UPDATE: DELAWARE HEALTH INFORMATION NETWORK (DHIN)

Gina Perez provided an update on the Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN).

New receivers of information have been added to the DHIN over the past few months, increasing the number of participating practices from 4 to 15, totaling 40 practice sites and 130 physicians.

In January 2008, DHIN will begin marketing and outreach through the hospitals and labs to attract additional users.

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The DHIN has a live connection with an electronic medical records system (EMR) at Family Practice Associates in Wilmington. Westside Health Services is currently testing the DHIN interface with Allscripts, an EMR vendor, and Westside is expected to begin receiving DHIN results through their Allscripts EMR within the next couple of weeks. Additionally, six other practices using Allscripts are interested in connecting as soon as possible. This will take place after Westside Health Services goes live. Two additional EMRs are scheduled to go live in early 2008, and discussions are underway with five more EMR vendors interested in connecting to DHIN. An EMR interface to DHIN allows data to go directly to patient records in the EMR, which is the ultimate benefit and time saver for physicians.

DHIN is working with the Division of Public Health's Delaware Electronic Reporting and Surveillance System (DERSS) to create an interface that will be used for public health / bio-surveillance reporting by the hospitals and labs.

Transcribed reports are being added to other data in the system, including admissions, discharge, transfer reports, lab and radiology results. A master patient index is being developed to allow providers to query the system. It is anticipated to go live in July 2008.

The Consumer Advisory Committee is in the process of developing a privacy policy.

DHIN has been awarded \$2 million per year for the next three years from the federal National Health Information Network (NHIN). The NHIN is working with nine other communities and states to develop a platform for exchanging data in a test environment among communities. The funding will enhance the ability of DHIN to add new data senders.

Ms. Roy said that the contract with Quality Insights of Delaware for staffing services expired on November 15. A new Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued to address current staffing needs. One response was received and it is currently under review.

Rich Heffron said that the DHIN has made tremendous progress. Delaware is the first state to have a functioning statewide health information network, and California is following its lead.

UPDATE: HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Status of Allied Health Professionals and Pharmacists Study

Sarah Matthews reported that last spring the Commission's Health Workforce Data Committee began work on a study, in partnership with the Division of Public Health, to assess the supply and distribution of allied health professionals in Delaware. This is the first study of its type in the state, but it is being modeled after other studies conducted on primary care physicians, mental health professionals and dentists. The study is being conducted by the University of Delaware Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research.

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A study is being conducted to assess the supply and distribution of allied health professionals in Delaware.

About 5,000 allied health professionals were surveyed, including pharmacists, physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, physician assistants, optometrists, paramedics, respiratory technicians, speech and language pathologists, dental assistants, dental radiation technicians and a variety of radiology specialists.

To date, there has been about a 55 percent response rate, which is good. That occurred through five different contacts made with the professionals, including a pre-letter to tell them about the study and ask them to participate, a first survey mailing, a reminder card and two additional survey mailings to non-respondents. One final contact attempt is planned during December.

The Workforce Data Committee will be reconvened in early 2008 to receive the results of the study. A presentation and final report will be made to the Health Care Commission in February or March 2008.

2008 HEALTH CARE COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

The 2008 Health Care Commission Annual Report was distributed to Commissioners for review. Commissioners were asked to contact staff with any revisions or additions by December 31, 2007. Commissioners will be asked to accept the report at the January 3, 2008 meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Roy announced that the January 3rd Commission meeting will be held in Room 112 of the Tatnall Building in Dover, rather than the DelTech Terry Campus as the campus is closed for the holidays.

The Health Care Commission office will be moving out of the Haslet Armory and into the Margaret O'Neill Building on December 19, 2007.

Sarah (McCloskey) Matthews has accepted a position with Advances in Management, and will be leaving the Health Care Commission on December 14, 2007. Ms. Matthews has been a tremendous asset to the Commission and will be missed very much. The Commissioners congratulated her and wished her well in future endeavors.

PUBLIC COMMENT

JoAnn Hasse, of the League of Women Voters, asked if the Medicaid statistics can be broken down by the number of people in long term care facilities, versus the others. Mr. Meconi estimated that about 3,000 or 4,000 of the 148,000 people enrolled in Medicaid are in long term care facilities. In other words, about two or three percent. Ms. Hasse suggested that the Commission begin separating the number of people receiving custodial care from the number of people receiving other health care.

Ms. Hasse expressed concern with the increasing number of Commission meetings without a quorum. She suggested amending the Commission's enabling legislation to allow ex-officio members to send their deputies as voting members when they are not able to attend meetings.

Dr. Robert Frelich, of the Medical Society of Delaware, agreed that the Commission should review its membership. It is particularly disturbing when a public observer misses a meeting and is not able to see the minutes of that meeting for two or three months because they could not be voted on.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Delaware Health Care Commission will be held on Thursday, January 3, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 112 of the Tatnall Building, 150 William Penn Street, Dover.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Delaware Health Care Commission will be held on Thursday, January 3, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 112 of the Tatnall Building, 150 William Penn Street, Dover.

Guests Attending

Ron Chaffin
Barbara DeBastiani
Michael Duva
Robert W. Frelick, MD
Joann Hasse
Jonathan Kirch
Lolita Lopez
George Meldrum
Sheila Nutter
Brian Olson
Maria Ortiz
Gina Perez
Brian Posey
Albert Shields
Betsy Wheeler

Reden & Anders
Wheeler and Associates/MACHC
Delaware Healthcare Association
Medical Society of Delaware
League of Women Voters
American Heart Association
Westside Health
Nemours Foundation
Electronic Data Systems
La Red Health Center
Electronic Data Systems
Advances in Management
AARP
Office of the Lt. Governor
Wheeler & Associates Management
Services, Inc.

Diabetes Prevention and Control Program
Presentation to the Delaware Health Care Commission
December 6, 2007

FY09 funding request \$580,000

Request includes \$80,000 in increased funding from FY08 for:

- Targeting Delawareans who are at risk for developing type 2 diabetes and have a condition known as pre-diabetes.
- Providing a statewide comprehensive approach for addressing the prevention of type 2 diabetes.
- Leveraging resources currently available through the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program and include a media campaign, targeted patient and provider educations, a weight-loss intervention and early screenings.
- Implementing this initiative through the use of current program staff and contractors including Certified Diabetes Educators out-station at all of the Federally Qualified Health Centers.

PROGRAMS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Diabetes Prevention and Control Program:

Diabetes Media Campaign: This project provides an on-going media campaign for diabetes awareness, education and prevention. Messages include utilization of specific services, risk factors, complications, methods of good control and ways to prevent development of the disease. Often the message is a pre-developed national spot that has been provided by the National Diabetes Education Program.

- 326,209 households reached statewide by television media (13,815 – Hispanic)
- Circulation area was statewide: All three counties – Kent, Sussex and New Castle
- Ad placements totaled 4,714 through Mar 06 (203 – Hispanic TV)
- Campaign lengths averaged 5-1/2 months
- 156 tracked responses were referred to the DPCP by the Delaware HelpLine with 78 requesting financial support, 64 for educational information and 14 for other reasons.

Community Health Centers Diabetes Infrastructure Development: This project provides on-going support for diabetes education and treatment at all four Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) in Delaware (Kent Health, Westside Health, Henrietta Johnson, and La Red), four community clinics (Center of Hope, Claymont Clinic, Hope Clinic and the Care Van) and Delaware Park. Certified Diabetes Educators (CDEs) have been placed at the four FQHCs.

- 1,065 one-on-one consultations were completed.
- 9 group education programs conducted with 64 participants.
- 4 FQHCs are participating in the Cardiovascular Diabetes Health Disparities Collaborative.
- 7 staff development programs were conducted on site with 50 participants.
- 10 specialized diabetes programs were administered at these facilities.
- 214 one-on-one phone consultations were completed.
- 44.69% (476) served were African-American and 36.24% (386) were Hispanic.
- 70% served were female with 30% male.
- 35% (374) were uninsured, 24.32% (259) Medicaid and 18.31% (195) Medicare.
- 2,110 A1cs (quarterly blood sugar test) were administered between the nine sites.
- 573 tests (lipids, AST/ALT, & albumin/creatinine) performed for 211 patients.
- 333 flu shots were provided at Westside Health.

Community Blood Screenings: The screening, education, and referral project was designed to increase

public awareness of the risks and burden of diabetes, find those Delawareans at risk and refer high-risk Delawareans to their health care provider. Screenings are conducted at health fairs, festivals, pharmacies, places of employment and worship, senior centers, medical clinics and community centers.

- 2,851 people were screened at 99 events
- Sex - 957 Male; 1890 Female (4 did not respond to age question)
- Race –31% (884) African-American; 12.5% (357) Hispanic; 0.6% (170) American Indian; 1.1% (321); Asian; 1.4% (39) Other; and 53.4% (1,522) Caucasian
- 512 participants were referred due to elevated A1cs
- 151 people were contacted concerning follow-ups and noted changes in medications. Of those, 86% (130) visited their health care provider. Follow-up testing was received by 115 (76.2%) of the participants. Lifestyle changes were noted in 67.5%. Other changes were 41% (42) diet, 46% (47) exercise, 35% (36) medication changes and 7.8% (8) education classes.

Diabetes Emergency Medical Fund: The Diabetes Emergency Medical Fund (DEMF) provides residents of Delaware, on an emergency basis only, diabetes services, medications and supplies. The DEMF provides for items directly related to diabetes that will eliminate or alleviate the emergency condition, reduce health disparities and increase access to care. This project is administered through the Delaware State Service Centers.

- 573 people with diabetes utilized the Diabetes Emergency Medical Fund (DEMF) program
- 156 calls were made to the Delaware Helpline with 78 requesting financial support
- 247 people received diabetes supplies only from the DEMF
- 20 people received diabetes services only from the DEMF
- 306 people received diabetes medications only from the DEMF

Delaware Diabetes Coalition Staff Development: The part-time Executive Director for the coalition provides a foundation for their community work, uniting those working with diabetes in the state, strengthening partnership communication, reducing duplication and contributing towards meeting state and national objectives. The Coalition’s membership includes health care professionals, non-profit organizations, insurance companies and diabetes advocates

- 4 each coalition executive and membership meetings were conducted
- 1 diabetes wellness expo was conducted with over 350 participants
- 61 direct mailings were processed
- 15,000 patient resource guides have been printed in the past year and have been distributed since the initial printing.

School Nurse Diabetes Cluster: The 90-hour Cluster, “Diabetes in the School Setting”, is designed to increase the clinical knowledge base of school nurses in diabetes.

- 18 school nurses completed all six modules
- All of the nurses received an 80% or better on pre and post-test comparisons

Blood Glucose Meters Distribution to all Delaware Schools:

- Abbott Diabetes Care provided 325 blood glucose meters as an in-kind product for all Delaware public, private and vocational schools
- Keytone and blood glucose test strips were distributed by the Department of Education To all school nurses