



**Delaware Health Care Commission (DHCC) Meeting
October 2, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

Meeting Attendance and Minutes

Commission Members Present In-Person: Dr. Kathy Matt, Dr. John Powell, Nick Moriello, Insurance Commissioner Trinidad Navarro (DOI), Kylie Taylor-Roberts (DOF), and Alex Scoglietti (DHSS Cabinet Secretary designee)

Commission Members Attending Virtually: Mike Quaranta and Dr. Stephanie Traynor (DSCYF)

Commission Members Absent: Dr. Neil Hockstein (Chair), Cheri Clarke Doyle, and Dr. Jan Lee

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Kathy Matt

Health Care Commission Staff: Elisabeth Massa (Executive Director), Latoya Wright (Manager of Statistics and Research), Colleen Cunningham (Social Services Senior Administrator), and Kaitlyn Arthur (Public Health Administrator I)

Anchor Location:

Department of Health and Human Services (DHSS)
Herman M. Holloway Sr. Health and Social Services Campus
Main Building, Conference Room 2
1901 N. DuPont Highway
New Castle, DE 19720

CALL TO ORDER

After confirming a quorum, Dr. Kathy Matt (DHCC Chair designee), called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

BOARD BUSINESS

ACTION ITEM: Approve August 7, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Dr. Matt asked the commissioners if there were no objections, a motion to approve the August 7, 2025, meeting minutes. Nick Moriello made a motion to approve, Alexa Scoglietti

seconded the vote. Kylie Taylor-Roberts abstained. No objections were made, and the commissioners approved the minutes. The minutes are available on the [DHCC website](#).

ACTION ITEM: Approve DHCC Calendar Year 2024 Annual Report

Dr. Matt asked the commissioners if there were no objections, a motion to approve the DHCC Calendar Year 2024 Annual Report. Dr. John Powell made a motion to approve, and Dr. Stephanie Traynor seconded the vote. No objections were made, and the commissioners approved the report. The report will be shared with the Governor's office and members of the General Assembly. The report is also posted on the [DHCC website](#).

DHCC and Governor's Office Roundtable Recap

Dr. Matt highlighted the purpose of the Roundtable, hosted by the DHCC and Governor's office and held on September 12, 2025, was to bring together leadership from Delaware's major post-secondary academic institutions and hospitals to discuss Delaware's non-physician healthcare workforce needs. The Roundtable focused on allied health professions – licensed and unlicensed non-physician roles.

Dr. Matt reviewed the goals of the Roundtable:

1. Gain a clear understanding of current and emerging workforce demands across the healthcare continuum.
2. Identify where educational and training capacity can meet these needs – and where gaps exist.
3. Explore how government policy, resources, and investment can help close those gaps.
4. Ensure our approach serves the diverse needs of Delaware residents, from rural to urban areas, north and south.
5. Avoid unnecessary duplication of programs and services.

(Goal 1) Dr. Matt reviewed the data analysis that has been completed including government policies, citing SB122 and a holistic statewide view, citing the Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN) and data analytics. (Goal 2) Emphasis was placed on laboratory facilities, clinical and allied health professionals such as medical assistants and long-term care certified nursing assistants, as well as health information and administrative roles. (Goal 3) Shortage areas were identified at all levels, and Dr. Matt emphasized the importance of highlighting the career ladder in the health profession and scalability of collaboration statewide. (Goal 4) Dr. Matt noted the need for short-term and long-term solutions. Internships, training, re-training, and recruitment/retention were highlighted.

- Mr. Moriello reinforced enthusiasm for the workforce pipeline as well as the veteran pathways.
- Dr. Traynor emphasized the need for education programs involved with behavioral health and expanding the pipeline, with the note that moving providers around to different parts of the state opens access but is a short-term solution to a quantity issue. She also stated that virtual healthcare is a short-term resource, but that quality is impacted negatively if the only available interaction is virtual.
- Commissioner Navarro noted the challenge of determining issues without communication, but indicated willingness to help.

- Dr. Traynor noted a need for transportation access and home/community-based services and education.
- Dr. Matt discussed the importance of increasing scholarships and expanding loan repayment programs. She discussed the challenges in providing clinical training to those in training. It's difficult for healthcare professionals to providing training when they are also providing care to so many patients. One solution proposed could be the use of high-fidelity simulation to provide part of the clinical training. High-fidelity simulation has been approved by the State Board of Nursing to replace some of the clinical hours to relieve training pressure.
- Dr. Powell discussed the benefits of the Delaware Health Care Commission visiting colleges and having discussions with students and the opportunity for further discussion outside of school through word-of-mouth.
- Commissioner Navarro noted a need for legislation – even a draft – and questioned who would help draft that. Alexa Scoglietti stated that the legislative team would support the DHCC in that effort.
- Dr. Matt expressed a need to hear from legislators regarding their constituents' thoughts and concerns related to healthcare and a directive to bring that to the DHCC, citing that process led to SB 122.

DHCC Retreat Planning

Dr. Matt noted the DHCC Retreat is planned for Friday, November 7th from 12:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. at the Bayhealth Conference Center in Dover. She noted the Retreat is a public meeting. Commissioners will discuss the quadruple aims: access, quality, cost, and provider well-being. Each session will have a commissioner serve as the facilitator and there will be an opportunity amongst the commissioners for discussion followed by an open floor discussion the various stakeholders and legislators.

- Mr. Quaranta asked if health care professional groups could come and share concerns about workforce changes and shortages to allow for plan development with compressed trainings, certifications and licensing. He commented on adult learners and those in the workforce in addition to those exiting high school, community college or university. In response to Dr. Matt's question about how to attract adult learners, Mr. Quaranta provided an example of retail employees possessing the same skills as bank employees. He proposed the option to explore some of the partnerships with certain unrelated technical skills that may translate to healthcare.
- Additionally, Mr. Quaranta noted the Workforce Board could engage nonprofits and those who exited the workforce in an effort to bring them back with compressed schedules. He suggested using state resources to recruit trainers for adult learners.
- Dr. Traynor expressed consideration for targeting those who are facing work requirements as a condition of federal programs as a potential group to attend training or volunteer programs.
- Dr. Matt suggested exploring learning through online and online in person whether clinical or simulation, which may help with compressed scheduling.
- Mr. Quaranta expressed importance in the economic benefit of paying trainees a stipend allowing full dedication to the skill development and would get the money back in higher personal income taxes.

- Commissioner Navarro suggested exploring the option of providing ‘credits’ for life experiences. Dr. Matt supported this and tied that into veterans and medics who possess experience in the field that may be transferrable to a health-related career as a civilian.

Marketplace and Open Enrollment Update

Commissioner Navarro provided a Marketplace and open enrollment update. He reviewed the health insurance premium rate review process. He noted the federal government has an impact on these results regarding subsidies and emphasized that he was hoping for less and found a lack of discussion with the insurers.

Commissioner Navarro shared the following approvals for ACA Marketplace rate increases:

- AmeriHealth – 34.98%
- Ambetter – 31.8%
- Highmark – 25%
- Delta Dental – 4.3%
- Dominion Dental – 4.8%

While the trends were vastly different for each, Commissioner Navarro was hopeful for consistency among insurers, but unfortunately that wasn’t possible. He expressed displeasure over the process and indicated it may change moving forward.

Mr. Navarro highlighted two issues that could impact the rates:

- Ongoing litigation related to a CMS issued rule title the Marketplace Integrity Rule.
- Congressional changes related to the enhanced advanced premium tax credits. In anticipation of any changes, carriers were instructed to prepare two rates (with and without the extension).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Maggie Norris-Bent, Westside Family Healthcare, commented Westside is the only Delaware FQHC Marketplace navigator to help Delawareans enroll in coverage through the Marketplace. Ms. Norris-Bent shared that their capacity has been reduced as a result of a 90% cut to their grant, but they continue to offer their services to the best of their ability. She highlighted their offered services and noted open enrollment will end January 15, 2026.

ADJOURN

Dr. Matt asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. John Powell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moriello. All commissioners were in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

The DHCC October meeting presentations are available on the [DHCC website](#).

PUBLIC ATTENDEES

In-Person:

Dava Newnam	DHSS
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Virtual

Susan Jennette	DOI
Stephen Cha	DHSS
Ciel Tilney	League of Women Voters DE
Christina Haas	DOI
Chris Fraser	Westside Family Healthcare
Lisa Gruss	Medical Society of Delaware
Mark Thompson	Medical Society of Delaware
Cristine Vogel	DOI
Amy Desmond	YMCA
Bobbi DiVirgilio	DOF
Susan Bailey	DHSS
Nicole Freedman	Morris James
Jules Villecco	Delaware Healthcare Association
Christina Miller	DOI
Wayne Smith	
Maggie Norris-Bent	Westside Family Health Care
James Berryhill	DHSS
Jose Tieso	Gainwell Technologies
Susan Austin	Delaware Health Sciences Alliance
Alexandria Charowsky	Delaware Health Information Network