

Delaware Health Care Commission
Thursday, December 1, 2016 9:00 AM
Delaware Tech Terry Campus Corporate Training Center
Rooms 400 A&B
100 Campus Drive, Dover

Meeting Minutes

Commission Members Present: Nancy H. Fan, MD, Chair; Theodore W. Becker, Jr; Susan A. Cycyk, M.Ed., Director of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services, Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families; Rita Landgraf, Secretary, Delaware Health and Social Services; Janice L. Lee, MD; Edmondo J. Robinson, MD, MBA; Karen Weldin Stewart, Commissioner, Department of Insurance

Commission Members Absent: Thomas J. Cook; Secretary of Finance; Richard Heffron; Kathleen Matt, PhD; Dennis Rochford

Staff Attending: Laura Howard, Executive Director; Shebra Hall, Community Relations Officer

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nancy Fan, MD called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM.

MARKETPLACE UPDATE

Secretary Rita Landgraf acknowledged to the public that the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is the law, and that we will continue to follow and monitor Marketplace activities as such. The ACA requires all people who are not exempt to have health insurance or pay a penalty. Marketplace coverage has provided insurance for consumers who couldn't have insurance before; so we will continue to provide outreach to people who need insurance, explore their options, and get them enrolled by January 31st. For people who cannot afford the monthly premiums, the Marketplace provides tax credits and cost sharing options.

Sec. Landgraf provided updates on Marketplace activities. Highlights included:

- The Gallup-Healthways Well Being Index reports the national uninsured rate has declined 6.2 percentage points from 17.1% in the last quarter of 2013, to 10.9%, in the third quarter of 2016.
- Between 2011 and 2016, the number of consumers in the individual health insurance market has grown by almost 65%, and about two-thirds are potentially eligible for tax credits to help pay for their coverage.
- Across the country, 85% of marketplace enrollees receive tax credits to make their premiums more affordable, and 76% could save on their premiums by switching to the lowest-cost plan within a metal level.
- On March 31, 2016, there were 25,379 enrollees in Delaware's Marketplace. The total number receiving tax credits to help pay their monthly premiums was 21,467, or almost 85%, and the average tax credit was \$330 per month, compared to the national average of \$291 per month. 99% of Delaware consumers could have saved on their premiums costs by switching to the lowest-cost plan within a metal level.

Open Enrollment Period 4:

- Open Enrollment began November 1, 2016 and goes through January 31, 2017.

- By November 26th, more than 2.1 million people in the nation had enrolled in health insurance, an increase of almost 100,000 over a comparable period in 2015. In Delaware, 5,875 people made plan selections, an increase of 7.3% over a comparable period last year.
- Consumers must renew coverage by December 15th for coverage to continue January 1, 2017.
- Consumers without coverage will pay a tax penalty.

Delaware Outreach Efforts:

- The University of Delaware will be hosting a White House Healthy Campus Challenge on December 8th on the STAR Campus. The event is from 7am to 7pm, with free in-person enrollment assistance available 9am until 6:30pm.
- The health insurance Marketplace has a robust presence on ChooseHealthDE.com, and on social media, Facebook and Twitter, that is emphasizing deadlines, financial assistance and tax penalties. Please share your enrollment stories using #InsureNowDE and #ChooseHealthDE.

Discussion

Insurance Commissioner Karen Weldin Stewart reported on Delaware insurance policy enforcement and compliance outcomes. The DOI has levied \$487,000 in fines against a non-ACA compliant insurance company, and has refunded over \$18,000 to policy holders. In Delaware, 442 policies have been challenged and 145 policies were cancelled.

Nick Moriello, of Health Insurance Associates, reported that post elections, there are lots of questions from consumers concerning the future of health care insurance. He continues to reassure consumers that ACA is still the law. He noted consumers are still weighing their options on costs of enrollment versus paying a tax penalty. Mr. Moriello also suggested we need to offer feedback to CMS for next year's enrollment period, and recommend better communication with consumers. In the renewal letters from insurance carriers to consumers, there needs to be some clarification on tax credits, net premiums, and the recalculations based on the new enrollment year. Consumers are expressing anxiety and misunderstanding from the letters they receive. Moreover, this better communication effort should also be applied on a State level. Sec. Landgraf stated we could build on this message and implement this information in our State outreach and education efforts.

Action item: Provide better communication on tax credits, net premiums, and tax recalculations in consumer outreach and education efforts.

A copy of the full Marketplace update can be found on the Delaware Health Care Commission website: http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhcc/dhcc_presentations.html

QUALIFIED HEALTH PLAN (QHP) STANDARDS FOR PLAN YEAR 2018

Dr. Nancy Fan, Commission Chair, requested a vote on the final draft of the 2018 QHP Standards. Laura Howard, DHCC Executive Director, explained that the highlighted changes on pages 5 and 6 were not new, but were just not verbalized at the last DHCC meeting. The decision was to have a revote at today's meeting. Dr. Edmondo Robinson wanted clarification on some of the exemptions that are referenced in Delaware State law. Dr. Fan explained that the language is allowing for some flexibility in certain regulations. Dr. Fan requested a vote on the final draft of the QHP Standards for Plan Year 2018. Mr. Becker motioned to approve the QHP Standards and Dr. Robinson seconded. All Commission members voted in favor.

A copy of the final draft of the QHP Standards for Plan Year 2018 can be found on the Delaware Health Care Commission website: <http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dhcc/files/qhpapprovedstandards2018.pdf>

STATE INNOVATION MODEL (SIM) UPDATE

Laura Howard provided updates on the CMMI State Innovation Model (SIM) Project. Highlights included grant activities, expenditures and timelines:

- SIM grant Quarterly Progress Report was submitted to CMMI on November 30th.
- Second round of Behavioral Health Electronic Medical Records (EMR) Assistance Program Request for Proposal (RFP) posted to the Delaware bid website on November 2. Deadline for submissions is December 9th Visit <http://bids.delaware.gov> for details.
- Year 3 Operational Plan is due to CMMI December 1. Included in the plan is a budget request for \$5.6M.
- Practice Transformation Learning Collaborative planned for January 24, 2017. Details will be available on the DHCC website.

Delaware Center for Health Innovation (DCHI) updates included:

- The DCHI Board will review its draft strategic plan at the December Board meeting.
- There is ongoing progress on DCHI initiatives including, the state-wide release of the Common Scorecard; approval of the Patient and Consumer consensus paper; and developments in the Healthy Neighborhoods Committee.

A copy of the full SIM update can be found on the Health Care Commission website: http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhcc/dhcc_presentations.html

Discussion

Dr. Edmondo Robinson inquired about the plan for making the completed DCHI strategic plan visible, and if there would be an opportunity for the DHCC to provide feedback. Dr. Fan assured that the completed DCHI strategic plan will be made available. She added that sustainability is a primary focus of the strategic plan and as the healthcare landscape is changing, it is important to parallel thoughts and efforts in this innovation work. Julane Armbrister, DCHI Executive Director, asserted DCHI welcomes feedback on the strategic plan, and emphasized inclusivity. They are seeking guidance and advice from multiple stakeholders, and will consult with the DCHI Board Chair about making the draft plan available.

Ted Becker asked about the process of applying for CMMI carryover funds. Ms. Howard responded that the application for funds cannot be sent until the end of the grant year, so will not be sent until February. Last year, notice of approval came in July. Ms. Howard has addressed the prolonged wait time and hopefully improved communication will help to expedite the process. Mr. Becker questioned if SIM programs would still continue. Ms. Howard stated that if funds are available, programs will continue in to Year 3, and in the interim, programs are continuing. Dr. Fan explained that carryover funds are present because some programs had delayed starts, so all of the funding allotted for the grant year was not used. The CMMI-SIM grant will continue for Year 3 if the Operational Plan is approved, but approval for carryover funds is always a question. Sec. Landgraf added that innovation work will likely not be in the first tier of items to be scrutinized in the new administration. With the appointment of Seema Verma as the new CMS Director, the Secretary's office is looking in to Ms. Verma's home state of Indiana to get a better impression of what could take place in Delaware.

John Dodd, of Brooks & Dodd Consulting, suggested the DHCC has had a lot of successes in our work on health innovation, and he wonders if the incoming Administration is aware of that success. He attests that we have a “good story” and wants to ensure we have advocates that know our story. Sec. Landgraf suggested that the DHCC will have advocates in the new Delaware Administration. Congresswomen-Elect Blunt-Rochester is a former Deputy Secretary for DHSS, Lolita Lopez is leading the health and education committee on Governor-Elect Carney’s Transition Team, and Sen. Carper has been an advocate for our work and the Marketplace, which all puts healthcare in a favorable position in Delaware.

HEALTH RESOURCES BOARD UPDATES

Latoya Wright, staff support for the Health Resources Board (HRB) provided updates on work and activities. Highlights included Certificates of Public Review (CPR) statistics and the revision of the Health Resources Management Plan (HRMP):

- A review of CPR statistical data over the last 8 years revealed increased activity in 2011 and 2013, having the most notices of intent and certificate applications.
- The proposed HRMP is being revised to better reflect the state’s goal of achieving “Triple Aim plus One,” and includes: alignment with SIM; expanded section on charity care; modified nursing home projections; and the inclusion details in the Major Medical Equipment section.
- The Public Comment Period for HRMP revisions is November 1, 2016 through January 5, 2017. Written comments can be sent to: Latoya Wright at the Health Care Commission, or via email.
- A Public Hearing will be held on Monday, December 5th, 2016 at the Edgehill Shopping Center, DPH Large Training Room, in Dover (location was updated).
- For more information on the HRMP, visit the Registrar of Regulations webpage at <http://regulations.delaware.gov/register/november2016/index.shtml> or the Delaware Health Resources Board on the DHCC webpage at <http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dhcc/hrb/dhrbhome.html>.

A copy of the full HRB update can be found on the Health Care Commission website: http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhcc/dhcc_presentations.html

Discussion

Joann Hasse, with the League of Women Voters, shared that she had been an HRB Board member for 15 years, and continues to support it, as she believes it serves a purpose. However, in recent years, decisions of the HRB Board have been overturned by the Legislature, and some Board members have resigned from their positions because of this. She wanted the public to be aware that this is happening.

A member of the public requested HRB key dates:

HRMP Public Comment Period: November 1, 2016 – January 5, 2017

HRMP Public Hearing: Monday, December 5, 2016

Next HRB meeting (with scheduled vote on HRMP): January 26, 2017

DHCC meeting (Commissioners to vote on HRMP): February 2, 2017

HRMP goes to DHSS Secretary for approval

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL – NOVEMBER 3, 2016

Dr. Fan requested a vote on the November 3, 2016 DHCC Meeting Minutes. Dr. Robinson motioned and Mr. Becker seconded to approve the meeting minutes. Motion was carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

DIMER AND DIDER

Dr. Fan stated there have been some advocacy initiatives taking place, including an advocacy meeting on November 30, 2016, hosted by the Delaware Healthcare Association (DHA). Members of the State and New Castle County Chambers of Commerce were present, as well as representatives from professional Associations and Societies. Prior to that meeting, there was an OMB public hearing, on November 15th, that Ms. Howard was able to attend. Ms. Howard shared that there were several people present, advocating for the restoration of funds for DIMER and DIDER. At the advocacy meeting on November 30th, several strategies were discussed, including engaging local leaders and champions, and an education campaign, where the focus is on educating legislators on the details and various aspects of the DIMER and DIDER programs, which includes funding for student slots at the participating medical/dental institutions, the State Loan Repayment Program, and tuition assistance for students. DIMER and DIDER are educational opportunity programs, but also relate to access to care and address the medical professional workforce shortage. Advocacy efforts will continue and Ms. Howard will continue to share updates. Dr. Fan solicited support from the public, adding the need of individual advocacy, advising the public to reach out to the DHCC or DHA for education and information to share on behalf of DIMER and DIDER advocacy.

Cheryl Heiks, of Cozen O'Connor, representing the DIMER participating institutions, Sidney Kimmel Medical College, and Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, requested that the public engage DIMER and DIDER alumni, and let them know about the advocacy efforts that are occurring. Ms. Heiks suggested we should also keep in mind that funding for the Delaware Institute of Veterinary Medical Education (DIVME) has also been eliminated from the State Budget, and advocacy efforts are needed for this program, as well.

Action item: The public should contact DHCC or DHA for information on DIMER and DIDER and for advocacy support and updates.

MOVEMENT FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE

Sec. Landgraf shared information about a Public Information and Intervention Forum, hosted by the Movement for a Culture of Peace (MCP), on Saturday, December 3rd, 9am to 11 am at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Wilmington. The forum will focus on the implementation of the 2015 report on patterns of violence in Wilmington by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Sec. Landgraf will review the report's findings and the work of the Community Advisory Group that she appointed in March. The CDC report looks at gun violence from a public health and social services perspective. The Children's Department, community leaders, and schools have all been involved in this work, which directly relates to the work of the DHCC in population health, and the Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative. Moreover, there was a Task Force formed to address suicide by firearms prevention, which also relates to DHCC work in behavioral health integration (BHI); recognizing the value in integrating primary care providers with behavioral health providers. This Task Force will also be making recommendations for the Common Scorecard and improving the depression screening. Sec. Landgraf was also pleased to be able to share the work the DHCC is doing in health system innovation with this community that has not been part of the conversation previously, and it was very well received.

Susan Cycyk added that the Children's Department is also working towards this effort on suicide by firearms prevention and with the Mental Health Association, is co-sponsoring a training on firearm safety in the Spring. Ms. Cycyk also added the importance of integrating the work of the Task Force with the ongoing work of the Suicide Prevention Coalition.

A FAREWELL FROM THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

Karen Weldin Stewart shared that this would be her last DHCC meeting, serving as the Insurance Commissioner. Ms. Stewart expressed exultation in leading the Department of Insurance for the last 8 years, and enjoyment in her work. Dr. Fan thanked Ms. Stewart for her service, a sentiment echoed by all of the Commissioners.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Delaware Health Care Commission is Thursday, January 5, 2017, 9:00am. The next meeting will not be at Del Tech. The location will be determined. Please be on the lookout for meeting location announcements on the Public Meeting Calendar and on the DHCC website.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.

GUESTS

Jennifer Anderson	Delaware Surgery Center
Julane Armbrister	Delaware Center for Health Innovation
Helen Arthur	Delaware Health Care Commission
Janet Bailey	Hewlett Packard Enterprise
Jan Brunory	Department of Insurance
Judy Chaconas	Division of Public Health
John Dodd	Brooks & Dodd Consulting
David Fisher	Nephrology Associates
Shannon Gahs	Bayada
Jerry Grant	Department of Insurance
Sheila Grant	AARP
Joann Hasse	League of Women Voters
Cheryl Heiks	Cozen O'Connor
Kristy Hull	Delaware Surgery Center
Rebecca Kidner	RB Kidner, PA
Jennifer Lectunya	Christiana Care
Tom MacPherson	Office of Senator Carper
Pat Maichle	Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council
Fleur McKendall	Department of Insurance
Nick Moriello	Health Insurance Assoc.
R.W. Munson, Jr.	United Medical, LLC
Maggie Norris Bent	Westside Family Healthcare
Mike North	Aetna
James Nutter	Parkowski, Guerke & Swayze, P.A.
Brian Olson	La Red Health Center
Maria Pippidis	UD Cooperative Extension
Frank Pyle	Department of Insurance
Hiran Ratnayake	Christiana Care
Paula Roy	Roy Associates/DCSN
Karen Stover	Highmark DE
Shari Thomasson	MedAllies
Mark Thompson	Medical Society of Delaware
Emily Vera	Mental Health Association
James C. Weldin	