



Nancy Wyman
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**The Health Care Cabinet
July 9, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

Cabinet Attendees: Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, Chair; Pat Baker, Vice Chair; Ellen Andrews; Phil Boyle; Roderick Bremby; Terry Edelstein; Anne Foley; Bonita Grubbs; William Handelman; Tim Lyons; Eugene Market; Pat Rehmer; Margaret Smith; Shelly Sweatt; Vicki Veltri; Jill Zorn
Absent: Janice Gruendel; Steven Hanks; Kevin Lembo; Jeffrey Lucht; Terrence Macy; Donna Moore; Jewel Mullen; John Oraziotti; Pat Rehmer; Linda St. Peter; Robert Tessier; Joanne Walsh

Agenda Item	Topic	Discussion	Action
1.	Call to Order & Introductions	A new member, Eugene Market, CEO of First Choice Health Centers, formerly East Hartford Community Health Care, was welcomed.	
2.	Public Comment	No public comment.	
3.	Review & approval of 6/11/13 minutes	None.	Approved.
4.	Health Equity Intervention Grant Update	Pat Baker introduced Dora Hughes, who will contribute her expertise on health care reform and health equity to inform Cabinet decisions surrounding these issues.	
5.	State Innovation Model (SIM) Grant Update	Vicki Veltri described recent efforts by this group. This initiative is part of the ACA, addressing quality of care, health care costs and the overall health of each individual	Updated information on this model, including work group minutes will continue to be

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		<p>state in the country. SIM will create a model to improve these issues while devising a way to test the model. Ms. Veltri added that the first part of this initiative was possible through the award of a \$2.8 million federal planning grant. There is a requirement for a second grant application to be submitted within six months for testing the design in addition to creating a broad health care innovation plan on transforming health care in CT. A steering committee has been formed, known as the State Health Care Innovation Planning Team (SHIP). A workforce task force has been formed to address CT's major workforce needs arising as a result of the implementation of the ACA. Ms. Veltri invited input from Cabinet members, noting that feedback from a wide variety of stakeholders, including healthcare consumers, is essential to this initiative. This is a continuous process that will be looked at repeatedly, with constant input from stakeholders throughout the testing and implementation phases, with the intention that a long term partnership will be established. Ellen Andrews voiced support for SIM, yet pointed out that the consumer advocacy community has concerns about the goals. She added that more time is needed to develop this fully with better consumer engagement, pointing out that past efforts began in a similar way and eventually succeeded. She continued, saying there is concern about moving risk to providers; consumer advocates feel this will affect the provider-advocate relationship adversely. She added that it feels like a small group is making important decisions that will affect 3 million people, and perhaps is rushing for completion. P. Baker assured the Cabinet that this will be a long, challenging process and emphasized that all input is</p>	<p>posted on the SIM website. V. Veltri will present consumer feedback at the next Cabinet meeting. Chairs of SIM work groups will attend next Cabinet meeting.</p>

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		<p>welcome. Payment reform will be difficult for providers but good for consumers. Pat Rehmer stated it's important to admit mistakes made and be willing to make changes and continue, rather than slowing the process down. Roderick Bremby pointed out that this is the most complex public policy issue being faced by the entire nation. He emphasized that compromise is needed in order to achieve value. He noted that DSS recently has gone through many changes, with many different complex conversations, adding that he wishes to remain very involved with SIM. Bonita Grubbs said this is an opportunity to reform the current medical system while looking carefully at how to make improvements, noting this is just the beginning of the process. She emphasized the importance of remaining focused on who this will benefit, requesting consumer feedback from V. Veltri at the next Cabinet meeting.</p>	
6.	Health Insurance Exchange Update	<p>Phil Boyle, who is now the business to business outreach manager at access health CT, stated that the exchange is now known as the marketplace. Products will be released from the Department of Insurance to the marketplace by the end of July. All participating insurance carriers have submitted their rates and plan designs. There is a huge training and education effort occurring now for providers, nonprofits, the broker community, and CPAs who will be educated on the tax implications of the ACA for consumers. Additionally, training of navigators and in person assisters will be undertaken within the next few weeks. Television and radio ads are airing now and several newspaper articles have been published. There is talk about conducting outreach efforts at the beach. Access health CT is receiving a large volume of calls and has hired additional employees</p>	<p>Updates will be provided continuously on www.accesshealthct.com. Any complaints of unscrupulous advertising should be addressed to CID's Consumer Affairs Division; contact information is available here.</p>

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		<p>to handle inquiries. The small business health options plan (SHOP) will be up and running as scheduled, with carriers providing helpful input in weekly phone calls as the effort evolves. Storefronts will be also be utilized to help consumers with enrollment. All DSS eligibility workers will be trained and certified for the enrollment process. Universal Health Care Foundation of CT is also conducting an outreach, education and training effort by partnering with some of the large community foundations to provide basic ACA education. Chambers of Commerce will also participate in spreading the word. Education efforts include not only insurance information but also information on Medicaid and wellness. This is one of the largest campaigns ever done in CT. Lt. Gov. Wyman pointed out that there are television ads for insurance that are misleading and often geared at elderly people, adding that it's important that the Cabinet and related efforts clear up myths about the ACA and insurance coverage. Mr. Boyle said that he's spoken with the CID Consumer Affairs division to ensure that misleading information isn't spread by unscrupulous advertisers. Lt. Gov. Wyman pointed out that premiums will be the same whether insurance is purchased through a broker, a navigator or individually online.</p>	
7.	Next steps	Next Cabinet meeting will be August 13, 2013 at 9:00 am in LOB room 1D.	
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