



Nancy Wyman

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Healthcare Cabinet Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2014

Members in Attendance: Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, Patricia Baker, Vice Chair, Ellen Andrews, Anne Melissa Dowling, Anne Foley, Terry Edelstein, Bonita Grubbs, Steven Hanks, Fredericka Wolman, Lakisha Hyatt, Katharine Kranz Lewis, Patricia Rehmer, Margaret Smith, Shelly Sweatt, Victoria Veltri

Members Absent: Roderick Bremby, William Handelman, Kevin Lembo, Thomas Leonardi, Jeffrey Lucht, Donna Moore, John Oraziotti, Frances Padilla, Linda St. Peter, Robert Tessier, Joanne Walsh

Agenda Item	Topic	Discussion	Action
1.	Call to order & Introductions	None.	
2.	Public Comment	No public comment.	
3.	Review & Approval of 4/8/13 minutes	None.	Minutes approved.
4.	Access Health CT (AHCT) Update, Peter Van Loon, COO	Peter Van Loon, Chief Operating Officer of Access Health CT, delivered an update to the Cabinet regarding the focus of the organization as it moves immediately into preparation for the next open enrollment period. Peter focused on the three things that AHCT will be zeroing in on in the coming months: People, Process and Technology. He pointed out that education and training on a number of different levels	More information and updates will be provided continuously at www.accesshealthct.com

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		<p>will be top priority moving forward. AHCT seeks to understand and solve those issues that are arising now that open enrollment has closed, and trying to translate individual issues into the larger process picture to ensure that issues are solved not just for the individual, but for anyone who encounters something similar.</p> <p>Victoria Veltri pointed out the common issue when customers log on to apply and then misplace or forget their password, leading to those customers going back into the system to open new applications that they don't necessarily need. This, among other common issues, will need to be addressed by the AHCT staff on a larger level in the next open enrollment period. Peter replied to a question from Ellen Andrews that a dashboard of the issues AHCT is having and troubleshooting can be made available.</p> <p>To questions from Margaret Smith, regarding Dental coverage on the Exchange, Peter explained that though standalone Dental coverage for adults was not initially a priority for AHCT, it will become a part of the shopping experience in the future, as well as options on the Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) to be expanded. Shelly Sweatt inquired more about the SHOP plan options that Peter explained would be more solidified and robust by January 1.</p> <p>Terry Edelstein, Rev. Bonita Grubbs and Victoria Veltri discussed the concerns of non-profit organizations that seek to provide their employees with coverage, but also of these organizations' key role in the education and training of customers.</p>	

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		<p>Ellen Andrews inquired about the upcoming rate filings deadline, to which Anne Melissa Dowling, Deputy Commissioner of the Connecticut Insurance Department, answered that though the process remains the same with review on the part of the Federal government as well as CID and conversation with carriers, the goal is to reach lower costs. The Lt. Governor explained that AHCT leadership seeks feedback from consumers who have shopped the rates and plans to find out what plans worked best for people and were most affordable. She also emphasized the hard work of the entire AHCT staff and thanked them for their continued efforts.</p>	
5.	<p>State Innovation Model (SIM) Update, Mark Schaefer, Director of Health Innovation</p>	<p>Dr. Mark Schaefer provided a status update on the State Innovation Model (SIM) process, and led a discussion centered around Issue Brief #4. The SIM office has been providing Issue Briefs on its website on important points in the project thus far.</p> <p>Ellen Andrews asked if there would be open opportunity for issue brief requests on items aside from the list provided in Mark's presentation, and how workgroups would be advised by consultants. Mark responded that they are open to suggestions and input on issue briefs going forward. Together with Victoria Veltri, he responded that consultants to workgroups would function more as facilitators of discussion than anything else.</p> <p>To a question from Terry Edelstein, Mark explained that the SIM office has been working with UCONN Health Center to gain a more refined charter and mission for the SIM</p>	<p>Updated information can be found at the SIM website.</p> <p>Issue Briefs #4 that was referred to and discussed during this meeting are available here.</p> <p>Comments and questions related to SIM can be submitted to sim@ct.gov.</p>

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		<p>Workforce Council. Mark explained that the charter of this council will need to be clearly defined to make its work most effective.</p> <p>Anne Melissa Dowling, Ellen Andrews, and co-chair Pat Baker all engaged in a conversation around the new standards for quality of care that would need to be set in the coming months and the anticipated upcoming Funding Opportunity Announcement. As Mark had explained, healthcare reform in Connecticut is looking into implementing a transition to the Advanced Medical Home (AMH) model of care. Standards for this model will use measures to address quality, issues of inequity and access to care. Though national standards and measures currently exist, Cabinet member encouraged the challenging of these standards, as well as utilizing them as a resource for constructing a combination that fits the goals of Connecticut's reform under the State Innovation Model. Dr. Andrews, with Katherine Kranz Lewis of the Department of Public Health, and Bonita Grubbs discussed how the focus of SIM's mission must focus on outcomes, both on the population and individual level and that it must be kept in mind who will be most affected by the decisions made.</p> <p>Peggy Smith pointed out that dental practices adopt similar national medical standards, but that the American Dental Association seeks to formalize dental-specific standards. She also noted that adding some services to current Federally Qualified Health Centers, in their transition to AMH, may result in increased costs. Mark responded that oral health experts have been a part of this conversation and</p>	

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		that the care delivery workgroups will address this and other chronic illness issues.	
6.	Next Steps	The next Cabinet meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, from 9:00am to 11:00am in LOB Room 1E.	
7.	Adjournment		