



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR NANCY WYMAN

## The SustiNet Health Care Cabinet

Thursday, November 10, 2011  
Meeting Minutes

**Cabinet Attendees:** *Nancy Wyman, Lieutenant Governor, Chair; Patricia Baker, Vice Chair; Ellen Andrews; Ben Barnes; Phil Boyle; Roderick Bremby; Jeannette DeJesús; Alexis Fedorjaczenko; Bonita Grubbs; Kevin Lembo; Terrence Macy; Jewel Mullen; Frances Padilla; Pat Rehmer; Margaret Smith; Robert Tessier; Alfreda Turner; Vicki Veltri; Joanne Walsh; Tory Westbrook; Damaris Whittaker; Fredericka Wolman; Peter Zelez*

**Absent:** *William Handelman; Steven Hanks; Sarah Kolb; Jeffrey Lucht; Linda St. Peter*

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Lt. Governor Wyman opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees and having Cabinet members introduce themselves.

Bob Tessier made a motion to accept the October 13, 2011 minutes. Healthcare Advocate Vicki Veltri seconded and minutes were approved by all with no changes.

Vice Chair Pat Baker led a discussion on the draft [Proposed Operating Principles for the Cabinet](#). Thus far, the following principles have been proposed:

**Commitment to Impact, Equity in health care delivery and access, Leverage, Accountability, Inclusion and Action.**

Many Committee members offered suggestions for the principles, which will be posted online after they are finalized. There was a discussion on health care work force development and the importance of integrating existing efforts into this Committee's work. After much discussion, it was determined that there should be an additional principle addressing the need for a robust, competitive business market. There also must be an emphasis on preventive health care, which will lead to cost containment as part of payment reform. Cabinet members were asked to submit further comments for the principles to Africka Hinds-Ayala.

Special Advisor Jeannette DeJesús described the establishment of the Consumer Advisory Board. The Office of Health Reform and Innovation in consultation with this Cabinet will select people from nominations that have been made by the Cabinet and various state agencies for Board membership. There was discussion about the membership selection process.

Special Advisor DeJesús reported that the Office of Health Reform and Innovation is considering pursuing a new CMS proposal and is in the process of reaching out to community partners and state offices to gauge their interest.

Commissioner Jewell Mullen reported that DPH continues to pursue health reform related grants from CDC. DPH has received a Community Transformation Grant, which focuses on the prevention and control of chronic disease through policy and environmental change at the local level. Connecticut was awarded a capacity-building grant and will be working with five counties: Litchfield, Tolland, Windham, Middlesex and New London.

Tia Cintron provided an update on the Insurance Exchange. The planning grant project is being completed, and Mercer, the vendor, will hold three upcoming meetings in order to present an overview of each task area. Detailed information on Exchange activities can be found [online](#).

Commissioner Roderick Bremby reported on Health Technology. He introduced Victor Villagra who will be Co-Chair of this work group. This group is currently conducting an assessment of existing technology and systems that address health reform or health reform outcomes. This group's information is posted [online](#).

Vice Chair Baker spoke about the Delivery System Innovation work group. This group has compiled a work schedule, which will begin with members analyzing work that has already been done in addressing delivery system reform. Information on this group's efforts is located [online](#). Special Advisor Jeannette DeJesús reminded the Cabinet that it is expected that there will be overlap within work groups.

Alexis Fedorjaczenko reported on the CT Initiative work group. This group covered basic information about the Camden Coalition, and discussed ways to use principles from that project to assist with developing a CT Initiative. More information is available [online](#). Frances Padilla asked if information about the Camden Coalition could be presented at a future Cabinet meeting. Special Advisor DeJesús said that this will be an upcoming agenda item. She added that all work groups are encouraged to give presentations in Cabinet meetings.

Ms. Padilla reported on the activities of the Business Plan Development group. This group's first task is to assess data needs to identify gaps in coverage, and then make policy recommendations to fill those gaps. Information can be found [online](#).

Roberta Schmidt spoke of the efforts of the Statewide Multi-payer Data Initiative. This group's charge is to develop a multi-payer health care database that will improve the understanding of health care expenditures, improve health outcomes, and increase efficiency. The group's initial meeting included representatives from CT's five largest insurance companies, who have expressed interest in collaborating on this effort. This group's information is available [online](#).

Lt. Governor Wyman addressed the scheduling of 2012 Cabinet meetings. She suggested the second Tuesday of each month. She asked Cabinet members to contact Africka Hinds-Ayala regarding whether this would work for them.

Ms. Padilla inquired whether there were still two seats on this Cabinet yet unfilled. Lt. Governor Wyman replied that Minority leadership is currently in the process of filling these seats.

Meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting will be held Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 9:00 am in LOB Room 1D.**