



Nancy Wyman

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Healthcare Cabinet Meeting Minutes November 12, 2013

Cabinet Attendees: Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, Chair; Patricia Baker, Vice Chair; Ellen Andrews, Anne Foley, Kathleen Brennan, Jim Wadleigh, Bonita Grubbs, William Handelman, Timothy Lyons, Jeffrey Lucht, Lakisha Hyatt, Eugene Market, Katherine Kranz Lewis, Frances Padilla, Pat Rehmer, Margaret Smith, Shelly Sweatt, Bob Tessier, Vicki Veltri, Joanne Walsh.
Absent: Terry Edelstein, Steven Hanks, Joette Katz, Thomas Leonardi, Donna Moore, John Oraziotti, Linda St. Peter.

Agenda Item	Topic	Discussion	Action
1.	Call to order & Introductions	None.	
2.	Public Comment	No public comment.	
3.	Review & Approval of 10/8/13 minutes	None.	Minutes approved.
4.	Access Health CT(AHCT) Update – Jim Wadleigh, Chief Information Officer	Jim Wadleigh, Chief Information Officer of Access Health CT, delivered an update for the Cabinet with the most recent information and statistics regarding the progress and activity going on with AHCT. As of this meeting, AHCT had surpassed the 11,000 mark for processed applications. Within that, 6,000 applications were for Qualified Health Plans (QHPs), and 4,700 for Medicaid plans. Between 300 and 400 applications for small business employees had been	here. More information and updates will be provided continuously at www.accesshealthct.com

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		<p>processed at this point. The breakdown of enrollment is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27% Gold Plans • 55% Silver Plans • 16% Bronze Plans • 2% Catastrophic <p>Of the applicants, 19% fall into the “invincibles” age range of 18-34 years old.</p> <p>Jim explained that customers are given a few opportunities to provide feedback regarding their experience with the application process. He reported that 96% of website users are moderately or extremely likely to recommend AHCT, and that 91% users were moderately or extremely comfortable with the information provided to help them decide on a plan. The call center received feedback that showed 95+% of the 35,000 callers were having positive experiences and receiving answers to their questions through the call center.</p> <p>Jim announced that there are two AHCT Storefronts open in New Britain and New Haven. As of this meeting, foot traffic totaled 400 customers with 100 enrollees. Access Health predicted a great increase in enrollment during the two weeks following Thanksgiving, even as the open enrollment deadline has been extended to December 23rd. With these successes still comes the issue of inefficiency related to the Federal Health Insurance Exchange website. Jim expressed that there is an emphasis on making a distinction between Access Health CT and the Federal Exchange so that Connecticut residents are not swayed by the Federal Exchange’s situation. Improving the perception of AHCT will help better inform customers and encourage enrollment.</p>	

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5.	State Innovation Model (SIM) Update: State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP) Draft 1.1 – Victoria Veltri and Michael Michaud	<p>Vicki Veltri, State Healthcare Advocate, updated the Cabinet on the status of the most recent draft of the State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP). The SHIP was in a public comment phase that ended on November 30th. The final SHIP is due to CMMI on December 31st, at which point the State will be applying for funds to test the SHIP. During the comment period, SIM leadership has returned to previous stakeholders that offered their input earlier, to once again solicit their input on the most recent draft. Michael Michaud pointed out that most organizations that provided feedback are listed on pages 143 and 144 of the SHIP draft 1.1, but that the list is expanding to include more stakeholders daily. Vicki explained that the process for organizing public comment includes categorizing the comments in order to align them with the Steering Committee’s set of governing principles.</p> <p>Frances Padilla, of the Universal Health Care Foundation, pointed out that the SHIP 1.1 document is lengthy and most likely a challenge to bring about comments from the public. She suggested that those working on the SHIP craft some questions to guide readers through the complex document. A guide like this might influence more informed and better quality comments and critique. Vicki explained that though some of the terminology is necessary, some guiding questions or a more condensed summary would be helpful. Margaret Smith asked for an anticipated time when a more consumer tailored, readable draft would be produced and Vicki explained that one was in the process of being finished.</p> <p>Ellen Andrews noted that bundles in relation to payment reform were only briefly discussed by the SHIP leadership, and asked about the decision making process within the Steering Committee. Vicki</p>	<p>During the December meeting, the membership and role of the Consumer Advisory Board will be discussed.</p> <p>Updated information on this model, including the latest SHIP Draft, Consumer and Provider Summaries, are available here.</p>

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		<p>explained that in most cases there hasn't been a need for a majority vote on any one issue yet, but that each issue is discussed and a solution is reached that every member can support, and that in the case of bundling, the method did not align with the direction the committee wanted to take.</p> <p>Joanne Walsh invited any member of the Cabinet to contact her so that she can bring together provider groups on any issue specifically relating to home healthcare. Eugene Market inquired about the funding aspect of the SHIP, wondering if dollars would be allocated to Person Centered Medical Homes. At this stage, Vicki answered that they have not reached the funding break-down portion of the process. Anne Foley explained that there would not be dollars for this in the State's budget up to FY15.</p> <p>Commissioner of the Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services Pat Rehmer noted that Health homes for those with serious mental illness may fall outside of the grant's process and scope. Even with that, care reform is necessary within the reach of the grant and outside of it - bringing all the pieces of CT's healthcare together for reform is important aside from the federal dollars. Bob Tessier noted that, in his reading of the entire SHIP draft, payment reform strategy is the biggest driver behind reform and that without price transparency, consumer empowerment will be difficult to attain. Vicki and Michael responded that transparency and empowerment are both goals that can be achieved through the envisioned governance structure and responsibilities broken down between taskforces. The milestones for the SIM process, including the are outlined on page 148 of SHIP draft 1.1.</p>	

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		Frances Padilla and Ellen Andrews spoke to the need for an update on the Consumer Advisory Board, and what its role will be in the upcoming SIM process steps. The presence of a broad spectrum of consumer input is necessary. Vicki explained that the Consumer Advisory Board will be the chief convener of stakeholder involvement, essentially embodying the deepest interest and understanding of issues and input from consumers.	
6.	Next Steps	The next Cabinet meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17, 2013 from 9-11:00am in LOB Room 1D.	
7.	Adjournment		

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