

HAP Oversight Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 17, 2009
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Minutes

Committee Members and Staff Present: Graham Bailey, Claudia Blackburn, Renee Hanrahan, Rod Harris, Pamaline King-Burns, Tim Norton, Brian Rose, Donisha Ross, Dave Sanford, Josh Shaw, and Tim Witsman

Committee Members and Staff Absent: Anne Nelson, Beth Oaks, Jon Rosell, Charlene Stevens, Hugh Tappan, Michael Vinson, and Ron Whiting

A. Welcome – Rod Harris

B. Review of Progress Reports

1. Progress Report – Enhance publicity & capacity of 211 system – Rod Harris

- Rod informed the group that there isn't any updated information for this progress report.
- The Center for Health Equity is planning to promote 211 during Cover the Uninsured Week.
- Rod shared with the group that he saw a billboard promoting 211 on Central Ave. and Edgemoor.
- Graham Bailey – *What happened to the idea of promoting 211 on the city buses? There were 211 promotions in BCBS's past newsletter and there is the possibility that we would be able to promote again in next newsletter.*

2. Progress Report – Community Health Coverage Plan – Rod Harris

- Per conversation with Anne Nelson:
 - a. Jeanne Ripley of Halleland Consulting, a consultant in Minneapolis, MN will work with Central Plains Regional Health Care Foundation staff to help define the scope of work for, and help us complete our health coverage community assessment/feasibility study (incl. focus groups and key informant interviews). Jeanne has worked extensively with Ascension Health communities (and others) to assess access to health care issues.
 - b. Jeanne is considering a couple of potential actuaries to get assistance in evaluating/analyzing several health coverage projects across the country, so we can provide that information back to stakeholders later in the year (e.g., monthly cost per member, funding, and services included).
- Commissioner Norton – *Our Community Health Coverage Project Advisory Committee is moving along rather well and will have good insight in the next 6 months. NACo is also looking*

closer at local organizations to help solve health coverage problems.

- Commissioner Norton suggested that HAP Oversight Committee members review the Healthy Howard project that launched in October. This program provides medical assistance to individuals without coverage and is delivered through community health clinics. He suggested possibly inviting one of the leaders of the project to a committee meeting to have dialog about the affects that Healthy Howard has had on the community, ER usage, and insurance companies.
 - Members dialogued about implications around state-wide mandatory healthcare coverage.
 - Commissioner Norton informed the group that he has received the new Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's State of the States Report. He has order additional copies to share with committee members who are interested.
3. Progress Report – Build relationship with KHPA – Claudia Blackburn
- Kansas HITECH (Health Information for Economic and Clinical Health) is forming a committee and both Jon Rosell and Tim Witsman plan to attend.
 - KHPA is also forming an E-Health advisory committee. No one is currently on it from Sedgwick County. Claudia will inquire about the selection process for members.
4. Progress Report - Study the feasibility of a shared health information system for the safety net clinics – Rod Harris
- Jon Rosell will be participating in HITECH to help determine how the stimulus money will be spent in Kansas.
 - Jon Rosell is will also be taking a group of 5-7 to San Jose, CA to meet with the Axolotl staff re: a Wichita HIE. While there, the group will be visiting with physicians and hospital staff to learn more about how the system works within individual provider locations as well as large hospitals.
5. Progress Report – Further develop strategy for extending clinic hours of operation – Dave Sanford
- *There are not many new updates since the last meeting. Examining the need for extended hours is currently at a stand still.*
 - Dave informed the group of updates regarding the stimulus package.
 - a. Every federally funded Community Health Center in Kansas will be allocated money (including Center for Health and Wellness, Grace Med, and Hunter Health) for

hiring more medical and dental providers, extending hours, and renovating facilities.

6. Progress Report – Review research data on emergency room use by the uninsured – Renee Hanrahan
 - Reviewed handout describing the payor-mix among users of St. Joseph’s Emergency Room.
 - Key point and comments made about the handout:
 - a. Nearly 2/3 of people use Medicaid as their form of payment.
 - b. Tim Witsman – *I find it interesting that 50% of the emergence room occurrences where due to preventable issues.*
 - c. Claudia Blackburn – *The ER usage pattern does not seem to be influenced by one’s payor type.*
 - d. Renee Hanrahan – *This data proves that the public needs to be educated on how to use the ER.*
 - Renee informed the group that she is currently working on getting data that shows the time of day that the users visit the ER. This data will help evaluate whether going to the ER is due to lack of after-hour care or no other coverage options.
 - *What other data/crosstabs does the committee think that we will need?*
 - a. Graham Bailey – *Time of day information*
 - b. Tim Witsman – *Ethnicity of ER patients*
 - c. Commissioner Norton – *Are there more uninsured patients at one hospital’s ER than others?*
 - Renee - *There tends to be an equal amount at all hospitals. The patients tend to visit hospitals within their zip code/neighborhood.*
 - Once the data is finalized, Renee will create a template of information that will be useful for requesting data from other hospitals.
7. Progress Report – Explore 24/7 nurse call line – Rod Harris
 - *We have been unsuccessful in contacting staff of the Denver Call Line to get answers on liability, staffing, funding, and evaluation.*
 - *We have found information from other countries, but it is not applicable for U.S.*
 - *Currently, we are researching liability information and call line evaluations.*
 - *We need to decide how we should move forward with addressing the recommendation for a nurse call line. Currently, we have three options:*
 - a. *Table the idea and reconsider it in the future when there is more data available.*
 - b. *Table the idea until there is more funding available.*

- c. *Move forward and try to come up with a business plan for implementing a nurse call line.*
 - Rod asked the committee which direction the committee should take.
 - a. Graham Bailey – *Maybe we should first find out if funding is available and if some will come through the stimulus package.*
 - b. Brian Rose – *We need to determine the costs and benefits, as well as look at the potential return value of having a nurse call line in Sedgwick County.*
 - The group discussed the difficulty in calculating the potential return investments, as well as shared data conflicts.
 - c. Claudia Blackburn – *Maybe we should look at the nurse call-line to be a part of a community health coverage plan or a part of the community health clinics’ services. We will discuss the idea with Vision Group members at an upcoming Vision Group meeting.*
 - d. The committee agreed to postpone activity on the nurse call-line recommendation pending additional research and funding opportunities.
 - e. Claudia Blackburn – *Although we are postponing the nurse call-line recommendation, we should still research other ideas on how to navigate a nurse call line system future reference.*
8. Progress Report – HAP Outreach/Cover the Uninsured Week – Pamaline King-Burns
 - Pamaline reviewed plans for Covered the Uninsured Week.
 - a. Launch the Community Health Navigator Project.
 - b. Trainings are schedule for March 25th and 26th
9. Activity – Renee Hanrahan
 - Renee introduced an interactive game created by Ascension Health entitled: “Adventures in Healthcare Access”. The game is used to help stakeholders to realize patients’ barriers to navigating through safety net community health systems.
 - Renee plans to share this game with legislators and other committees so that the game may be shared with staffs.
10. Updates
 - Commissioner Norton shared information from sessions attended at the NACo conference. Information shared included stimulus funds related to healthcare.

C. Adjourn