

Texas CHIP Coalition
December 14, 2012
Texas Medical Association, May Owen Conference Room

Sonia Lara, chair

- Introductions
- Texas CHIP Coalition Principles, discussion facilitated by Laura Guerra-Cardus
 - Overview of each section
 - Section VII has compromise language based on feedback from last TCC meeting.
 - TMA vetting the language. Divided membership. Will probably endorse.
 - Kathy Eckstein (CHAT) has given feedback separately. CHAT most concerned with language that relates to base estimate. Also had comments on the IOU.
 - Some changes for Section III (health care workforce) regarding participation rates:
 - i. There was a methodology change in the TMA survey, so comparison should only go back to 2000 (paragraph 2). Sixty-seven percent were accepting Medicaid patients then.
 - ii. HHSC is not able to implement PGP rate increase on Jan. 1 because rules were out late and technical issues, but will do it retroactively. But let's not reference "Jan. 1, 2013."
 - iii. Helen Davis may have other input for this section.
 - Section V (eligibility system): Add bullet about making the eligibility system conform to/interoperable with the Exchange.
 - Section VII (connecting entire families with HC): Let's avoid unnecessary attention to the 400,000 newly-insured kids post-Medicaid Expansion (plus numbers may change).
 - Pg. 3 change. Section 3 (workforce) bullet 5, make "to keep..." clause the second clause and move active clause to front.
 - Pg. 3 change. Section 4 (reduce HC costs) bullet 6, replace "comply with" to "promote".
 - Section 6 (new revenue sources), paragraph 2: Get rid of reference to "taxes" and replace with "fees" or something else. Maybe end that paragraph/sentence either at "increasing our resources." Or "particularly by discouraging unhealthy behaviors." Or "particularly by discouraging unhealthy behaviors related to use of alcohol, tobacco, and sugary beverages." (group seems to have decided on option #3)
- Legislative Session Priorities/Topics for Future Meetings
 - Support voiced to discuss the Medicaid eligibility process in regard to the ACA and possible Medicaid Expansion. Bring in HHSC or TDI. Where is the system now and how will it work in 2014? Perhaps for Jan. or Feb. CHIP meetings?
 - Also, how will the change to MAGI eligibility criteria be handled and will this change be difficult?
 - What is the vision for families that do not file a tax return?

- Discussion of assisting consumers in 2014
 - i. Is Cover Texas Now (CTN) coalition working on this? Laura Guerra-Cardus noted they are and read through CTN principles.
 - ii. Concern voiced that Community Partner Program navigators may not have the experience necessary to help families with the exchange or answer questions beyond application assistance.?
 - iii. Also support voiced for new funding for Consumer Health Assistance Program.
- Some noted that CMS has been surprised at the number of states optioning for state-run exchanges
- Upcoming events (Guerra-Cardus)
 - Jan. 24: Texas CHIP Coalition legislative briefing
 - Jan. 22-23: Texas Well and Healthy (TWAH) bootcamps: Medicaid 101 and ACA basics. Putting together a flyer for all 3 events.
 - CTN- doing legislative visits and will advertise their events
 - March 5, 2013 Medicaid march and advocacy day: Member groups will contribute as they can. Texans Care for Children, Cover Texas Now, Disability community, My Medicaid Matters, Social Workers, TWAH, City Square, Equal Voices, Texas Organizing Project, Texans Together, others. One goal is deepen commitment beyond that day. The registration form is up at TWAH.
- Adjourn

In Attendance:

Marcus Denton, Center for Public Policy Priorities

Jessica Obeide, Central Health

John Berta, Texas Hospital Association

Michelle Apodaca, Texas Hospital Association

Sr. JT Dwyer, Seton Healthcare Family

Paula Capello, Maximus

Jessica Boston, Rep. Naishtat's Office

Ann-Marie Price, Central Health

Guadalupe Yanez, Blue Cross Blue Shield

Sonia Saenz, Blue Cross Blue Shield

Lauren Dimitry, Texans Care for Children

Ed Burger, Catholic Health Association of Texas

Sonia Lara, Texas Association of Community Health Centers

Via Telephone:

Lee Johnson, Texas Council of Community Centers

Helen Davis, Texas Medical Association

Laura Guerra-Cardus, Children's Defense Fund