

CHIP Coalition Meeting Minutes 12-16-11

Included in these notes are:

- Updates from the CMS and the CBPP conferences
- Conversation on 2013 Legislative Agenda
- Other Comments include: Basic Health Plan and Navigator Program
- Medical Legal Partnerships in Texas- Jamye Boone

Attending: Laura Martin- TACHC, Kathy Eckstein- CHAT, Anne Dunkelberg-CPPP, Laura Guerra-Cardus-CDF, Miryam Bujanda-MHM, Lauren Dimitry-Texans Care for Children, Mimi Garcia- Engage Texas, Kelly King Jackson, Ashley-TACHC, Betsy Coats- Maximus, Outreach for Health Steps and Star, Andrea- Texas Impact, Barbara Maxwell-TAHP, Erica Stick- Amerigroup, Kit Abney Spelce- Insur-a-Kid, Sister JT Dwyer-Seton Healthcare Family, Claudia Lindenberg- Central Health, Marta Hernandez- Central Health.

Updates from Two Recent Conferences:

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Conference- Kelly King Jackson (CDF)

- 2nd children's health insurance summit. Visit www.kidscoverageconference.com if you are interested in the materials.
- New Survey that Lake Research Partners conducted with CHIP and Medicaid families. Highlights included the differences between Spanish and English speaking families.
- www.insurekidsnow.gov- Look at the "For Professionals Tab"
- School-Based outreach, community clinics, etc.
- CMS did a great job inviting families to bring the human element to the conference. The parent perspective and case management/application assistance perspective were represented.
- Highlighted LA, OR and AL- states taking advantage of the lack of federal requirement for signature on application renewal. Oregon has cut their uninsured rate by half since 2009. LA continues to have a great renewal rate, less than 1% fails to renew.

- Information on issues related to HIPAA and FERPA. (Check for white papers)
- Also provided information on Medicaid reimbursement, use of outreach databases and other technology.
- The conference ended talking about health reform- need to have careful messaging- 2014 seems far away for families, but soon for organizations.
- Also information on MAGI (Modified Adjusted Gross Income) formula still not a lot of clarity on what it will look like and questions about using it with the families we serve.

Miryam on the CBPP Conference (Need slides.)

- State Fiscal Analysis Initiative Conference
 - Goal is to work on economic and social justice issues.
 - 30 states participate and organizations are diverse but all committed to looking at low and moderate-income family issues.
 - Conference workshops ranged from EITC to pensions, UI benefits and payroll taxes, etc. in any given state.
 - Woman from Minnesota gave a presentation on coalition work and the Covey stages of organizational functioning.
 - TABOR- Taxpayer Bill of Rights
 - Talked about supercommittee and closing loopholes. Watching out in late 2012 an early 2013 there will be a big showdown on the Bush tax cuts. Conference said we could end up
 - \$300 billion Toomey proposal.
 - Some people in Congress are trying to figure out how to salvage the tax cuts the middle class enjoys.
 - Talked about economic development being the increase of salary per capita, not just jobs. Creating jobs if people's salaries are going down is not helpful.
 - Talked about labor demand and labor supply.
 - Business tax cuts don't work. Customized job training is 60x more effective than tax cuts.

Conversation on 2013 legislative agenda

Things To Consider:

- What do we want in case the MOE agreement goes away?
- How do we want to talk about block grants?
- How do we want to talk about cuts?

- How does the coalition feel about ACA pieces being included? (We may need to revisit this post-election and post-SCOTUS decision on the mandate.)

Agenda Items:

- **Improve and Modernize the Eligibility System**
 - This might not be as important as it was 2 years ago – place lower on list of legislative agenda items.
 - Include language that points to growing demand, need to continue developing a modernized, efficient system that can be effectively run with decreasing staff, and language that opposes new barriers to coverage (such as if MOE goes away).
 - Congratulate the agencies more on what they've accomplished so far.
 - We don't know where Texas is going in terms of the exchange and that impacts Medicaid and CHIP. We need to reach consensus with all of our members on how we talk about ACA issues.
 - We need to monitor the technology piece, i.e. self service portal. Are there any issues that need to be included about self-service portals?
 - So many people who are not going to benefit from online interface. Include language about the need to strike the balance so that technology doesn't supplant face to face communication.
 - Is there a chance to include some of the best practices? – The Outreach and Technical Assistance Workgroup will take the exploration of this issue on.
- **Protect Texas' Critical Public Health Safety Net and Infrastructure**
 - Change this bullet to **REVERSE CUTS**. Perhaps including cuts data? How many more Medicaid paid births? How many hungry children? (We need to monitor implementation of cost saving initiatives.)
 - **ADD SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM:** that fully focuses on opposing the major dismantling of CHIP and Medicaid (including Block granting.)
 - **ADD SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM:** that focuses on the Woman's Health Program / Family Planning. Be specific. B/c it's an optional benefit it has more potential for going away. Women's health program also has prevention screenings, etc. We want to message it broadly.
- **Build an Effective Medicaid and CHIP Delivery System**
 - Keep Workforce and Provider Rates language. Continues to be very important.
 - Consider making title more direct – Build and effective Medicaid and CHIP Workforce?
- **Reduce Medicaid Costs for Supporting Evidence-Based Programs that Improve Quality of Care for Mothers and Newborns**

- Important to keep it with the headway on the Texas Moms and Babies Initiative
- Morgan will work on some language to propose to the coalition.
- Can we expand this to include different quality of care initiatives? Including changes from the 1115 waiver
- **Use New Revenue Sources and the Rainy Day Fund**
 - Keep at least this language on the need for identifying additional revenue sources before cutting critical care. Full Coalition Questions: Can we specifically talk about fixing the structural deficit? Those in room thought that we could not afford not to talk about the need to fix the structural deficit.

Other Comments:

How much education can we expect to be able to do?

Andrea-Texas Impact

- Texas Navigator Program and linking it to the Texas Connector
- Texas Impact will think of how they'd like to talk about it.

Anne- **Basic Health Program**

- The BHP would be a smart thing for Texas to do if the ACA is implemented here.
- All adults in the CHIP income range (133-200) would have this option as an alternative to exchange coverage should they want it.
- We will be having future discussions on what the coalition should do with this.

Medical Legal Partnerships in Texas- Jamye Boone Ward (See Attached Powerpoint for Details!)

- Try to collaboratively help families overcome some of the negative impacts of social problems.
- Legal Services Corporations Funding in Washington has been cut, and unmet legal needs in Texas are huge.
- Texas has a number of MLPs now.
- MLPs are supported by the AAP and AMA.
- Legal assistance can help solve some social problems.

Next CHIP meeting is Jan 20 and the OTA meeting is after it.