

CHIP Coalition Minutes 3-11-11

Outreach and Eligibility Working Group will do a live demo of the self-service portal. Between now and 12:30 we are going to talk about

- 1) Healthcare Lobby Day on the 30th
- 2) Report from Work Group Session on Co-pays
- 3) Legislative Updates

Thanks Laura and Aerin for keeping the lobby day planning process going forward.

CTN/CHIP Lobby Day is 3-30. Planning meetings for both logistics and content have taken place. Buses from all major regions of the state. We need everyone's help filling those buses which all fit 50 people. CTN website has all the information available in the next few days (pickup locations, time, agenda, etc.) Participation will be no cost. Atlantic Philanthropies gave us funding and we are willing to accept more sponsors. Everyone should have the email flier that went out to the CHIP coalition. Please send out to all of your networks to help get the word out and recruit.

9:30- Program will start for those in Austin (those traveling will start their training on the bus.

10:15- Everyone will arrive and large group training will begin.

11:30- Press Conference

12:00- Lunch

1:00- Lobby Visits Begin (Texas Forward is trying to get Dallas/Houston/RGV visits done early so people can get on the road before rush hour.)

Need to contact capitol security to see if there are special tips for groups going through security.

Messages:

- How to visit with legislators
- What voters want, history of cuts in 2003.
- Need to protect Medicaid (anywhere you cut will hurt kids.)
- Legislators need to maximize health care for Texans.
- Budget Basics

Will also explain the leave behind packet and logistics. Will also provide a one pager for each presentation. Also a one pager for the talking points and a leave behind with Medicaid cuts per district. Will also include column for education cuts per district because people have a point of reference for that (teacher layoffs, etc.)

For the press conference we think we need a person of faith, and affected person, a small business owner, an advocate from CHIP or CTN and a health care professional. We need moving stories.

We need trainers who will be engaging and memorable. Let Laura know if you are interested.

We will make sure people know they will get pushback and it's ok to come back with questions.

April 6th Save Our State talked with other advocacy groups about their lobby days to see if they wanted to be included as "save our state" events.

Non-profit council, Rep Villareal's office are having a community meeting to talk about cut impacts. Sen. Van de Putte also just had a townhall meeting that was effective. One county is doing an event to talk about problems with cost-shifting.

Working Group: Co-Pay Proposals

1:30 this coming Monday- talking about immigrant health bills.

1:30 next Monday- HB 1257 and bad Medicaid/bad Medicaid health reform bills. HB 5/HB 13, etc.

Both at TMA, thanks to them and Stacy Warren for their help.

HHSC's presentation is good and clear. For the first time they will implement point of service fees in Medicaid to the extent available in federal law.

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/news/presentations/2011/sfc-co-pay-0211.pdf>

Federal law says you can't deny care to someone if they are unable to pay a Medicaid payment, but it can be a debt.

\$3.65 copayment for non-emergency visit.

\$3.65 for brand name drug

\$1.25 for generic.

Non-emergent ER visit is the only one you can charge to everyone. MCAC-Commission wants to move forward with the ER co-pay. The Medicaid proposal has a cost and the CHIP piece actually has savings. Medicaid has no copayments right now, so there is an actual cost to implement it. No savings assumptions with it, only assuming costs for the system they have to create to track copayments.

CHIP Co-Pays: Most of the increases will fall on the 150% or above group. Significant copayments for hospital admission, non-emergent ER use and office visits.

Discussion around copayment tracking system and federal requirements, specifically around ER visits and access to preventive and primary care.

Other legislative:

CHIP Perinate- do we need a letter from the coalition discussing transition issues? Transition issues are occurring- how can we best solve this? Is it in the eligibility system or not?

Duplicate work is happening. Moms are applying to Medicaid separately and they are getting 6 months of coverage not retroactive to birth. If you're on the hospital side you can get things processed much faster. Helen- consider a Joint letter-

Budget- the policy page CPPP sent out a few days ago said as we go to press it looks like both houses are going to send out budgets that don't make reductions in the underfunding.

Rainy Day Fund- Discussion around what the rainy day fund will fill- current biennium or next? Heard Dewhurst plan will be 2010-11 spending level + replace ARRA. How can we fund this?