

KHPA Provider Advisory Council Meeting
April 04, 2007, LSOB, Topeka KS
Minutes

KHPA Provider Advisory Council Members Present:

- Janet Williams, Chair
- Susan Bumstead
- Kara Bell Fiske
- Karla Finnell
- Dr. Kevin Hoppock
- David Johnson
- Terry Lambert
- William Mahoney
- Randy Peterson
- Elaine Schwartz
- Peter Stern
- Linda Wright

KHPA Provider Advisory Council Members Not Available for Initial Meeting:

- Dr. K. Allen A. Greiner
- Dr. Richard Meidinger
- Dr. Bert Oettmeier

KHPA Board Members Present:

- Connie Hubbell, Chair

KHPA Staff Participants:

- Dr. Marcia J. Nielsen, Executive Director
- Dr. Andrew Allison, Deputy Director
- Janis DeBoer, Advisory Council Manager

Welcome by Connie Hubbell, Board Chair

Board Chair Connie Hubbell opened the meeting, welcomed members, the public, and KHPA staff. Council members, including Chair Williams and KHPA staff participants, introduced themselves.

Presentation by Dr. Marcia J. Nielsen, Executive Director – Overview of KHPA Board and History

Dr. Nielsen presented a power point slide show titled "Health System Reform in Kansas: Context, Challenges and Capacity." Kansas is not alone with regard to rising rates of uninsured, insurance affordability and getting what we purchase. To address these challenges, various options are being tried in states including: premium assistance programs, new insurance products, tax credits, children's health coverage, and access to community health centers. Specific to Kansas, the Kansas Health Policy Authority was created by the Kansas

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Legislature in 2005 to (1) develop and maintain a coordinated health policy agenda that (2) combine effective purchasing and administration of health care (3) with health promotion oriented public health strategies (4) which is driven by health data.

Dr. Nielsen's presentation also outlined the governing structure of the KHPA. The Legislature created a nine member Board to govern health policy, along with seven non-voting, *ex officio* members. Dr. Nielsen, as Executive Director, reports directly to the KHPA Board and also presents testimony to the legislative Joint Committee on Health Policy Oversight.

Dr. Nielsen closed her presentation with an overview of the KHPA vision principles, as follows: Access to Care; Quality and Efficiency; Affordable and Sustainable Health Care; Health and Wellness; Responsible Stewardship; Education and Engagement of the Public.

There was discussion and questions by the group regarding current legislative activity which is noted below. Dr. Nielsen noted the current political will to advance health reform at the national and state levels.

Presentation by Dr. Andy Allison – Health for All Kansans Steering Committee

Dr. Allison reviewed the 2007 Short Term and Long Term Consensus Package handout. The Consensus Package captures the work of the Health for All Kansans Steering Committee. The Health for All Kansans Steering Committee was established at the request of the Governor and is comprised of four legislators, the Governor's Chief of Staff, six KHPA board members, KHPA's Executive Director, two members-at-large, and KHPA staff. The Committee began their work in February and in March reached consensus on a short term legislative package for adoption this session as well as enabling legislation that directs the KHPA to develop long term health reform options for consideration by the 2008 legislature and implementation in 2009 and 2010.

The 2007 short term legislative package includes six mutually exclusive options. There was discussion on the premium assistance for low-income families option. This option creates a phased-in premium assistance program in order to help low income uninsured families in Kansas to purchase private health insurance, either through their employer or through state procured health insurance plans.

For long term health reform, the Steering Committee endorsed the Substitute for Senate Bill 309 proposal, which was authored by Senator Jim Barnett and passed the Senate 40 to 0. Dr. Nielsen provided an overview of activity by the House and House Substitute for Senate Bill 11. House Substitute for Senate Bill 11 included sweeping Medicaid reform language along with health reform options (including Substitute for Senate Bill 309 language) and other directives.

Role of Advisory Councils – Janet Williams, Chair of Provider Advisory Council

Dr. Nielsen reviewed the role of the advisory councils which is to assist the KHPA Board and Steering Committee with the development of long term health reform options. An example of a Health Reform Option grid and Framework for Economic Impact Analysis was included in the packet as a tool for the advisory councils to begin discussion of long term health reform options.

Dr. Nielsen referred council members to Substitute for Senate Bill 309 which requires an analysis of a Kansas Health Care Insurance Connector model alongside other pertinent initiatives and policies designed to increase access to affordable health insurance and to otherwise promote health. Dr. Nielsen explained how the various options will be reviewed, discussed, and perspectives shared among the three Advisory Councils (Purchaser, Consumer, and Provider). All health policy options developed by the Councils will include an independent economic analysis in order to help legislators understand (a) the costs of any proposals and (b) who will gain access to health insurance as a result of the policy option.

Dr. Nielsen referred to a special report from the United Hospital Fund and the Commonwealth Fund titled "A Blueprint for Universal Health Insurance Coverage in New York."

Action – Members asked for the website link to the Blueprint and other pertinent research materials and articles, including information about premium assistance programs in other states, which are attached. Members also asked for specific information about current KHPA programs, including Medicaid, SCHIP, and the State Employee Health Plan which is attached. A summary of earlier KHPA town hall meetings was requested which is also attached.

The timeline was reviewed by Chair Williams and dates for future meetings were established. The Advisory Councils will meet monthly for the next six months. Dates for the Provider Advisory Council meetings are as follows: May 2, June 27, July 31, August 15, September 12, and October 10 (tentative).

Dates of the At-large Council meetings are tentatively scheduled for May 8 and September 14.

The Chairs of each Council will provide updates to the KHPA Board and Steering Committee throughout the summer and fall and by November 1, 2007, the KHPA shall deliver to the Governor and Legislative leadership health care finance reform options in accordance with Substitute for Senate Bill 309.

Adjournment

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 2 – 1:30 – 3:30 at the LSOB, 9th & Jackson, 1st floor conference room.