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KHPA Provider Advisory Council Meeting
June 4, 2008, Landon State Office Building, Topeka, KS
Minutes

KHPA Provider Advisory Council Members Present:

Janet Williams
Susan Burnsted
Tony Wellever
Richard Meidinger
Randy Peterson

KHPA Staff Participants:

Dr. Marcia J. Nielsen, Executive Director
Barbara Langner, Policy Director
Mandy Cawby, Outreach Manager
Reagan Cussimano, Legislative Liaison
Tara Hacker, Manager of Policy

Overview of the Health Reform Development Process for the 2008 session – Dr. Barbara Langner

Dr. Barbara Langner presented a PowerPoint which gave an overview of the health reform development process for the 2008 session. There was a review of the purpose of health reform which is to improve the health of all Kansans. Also Dr. Langner reviewed the three major goals of the reform priorities: Personal responsibility, Prevention and medical home, and Providing and protecting affordable health insurance. The Appendix B in 2008 Legislative Session-at-a-Glance was reviewed which included the final provisions H Sub for SB 81. This can be found on our Web site at: <http://www.khpa.ks.gov/LegislativeInformation/default.htm>.

Dialogue with Council Members:

Council Members expressed thoughts about what the positives and negatives were of the 2008 Legislative session. Members were concerned about how to educate legislators and where to get the funding from. The KHPA Board believed that an increase in tobacco user fee would have covered all 21 health reform recommendations. This recommendation, however, did not pass.

A suggestion was made from the council members to get consumers to voice their personal stories to the legislators. Members agreed that legislators need to see the “real people who have three jobs, two kids, own their own home, have a little bit of savings but can’t qualify for insurance.” Having testimonials would be an educational tool.

Members suggested to make the next session’s recommendations about funding and to reiterate the recommendations that did not pass.

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When asked if the Legislative Pulse met the members needs one council member stated that they had actually made a notebook that archived the articles. They stated that the sidebars in the articles were “useful in highlighting different bills and terminology for those who were not familiar with process.” A suggestion from another member was to feature personal stories from the 22 city listening tour.

Next Steps, Dr. Nielsen:

The KHPA Board will be having a retreat on June 18 – 19 to review the 2008 Legislative session and also to begin discussing a strategic direction.

Adjournment:

Dr. Langner does expect that once the KHPA Board convenes at the retreat the Provider Advisory Council will meet again mid-summer. Members will be notified of upcoming meetings by email or by phone.