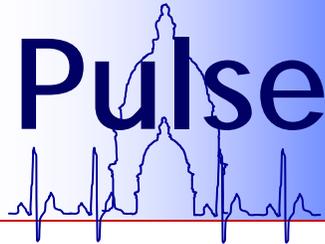


Coordinating health & health care
for a thriving Kansas



KHPA



7.03.08

Agency Activity

Agency updates
focused on KHPA
stakeholders.

Board Approves Agency Strategic Plan. Following its discussion on health reform, the Board devoted the lion's share of its remaining time to charting a strategic plan for the \$2.5 billion in public programs for which the agency has a year-round responsibility.

The outcome was three draft goals.

Goal #1. KHPA will advance a consistent, coordinated health policy agenda informed by rigorous data analysis and stakeholder education and input.

Goal #2. KHPA will become an ideal work environment, through best practice leadership and management, creating a coveted place to work.

KHPA Board Discusses Next Steps for Kansas Health Reform

At its annual Board Retreat on June 18th and 19th in Lawrence, Kansas, the Kansas Health Policy Authority Board reviewed the outcome of the 2008 Legislative Session and discussed next steps for health reform.

Following an overview of health reform by consultant Steve Schramm of schramm-raleigh Health Strategy and a panel discussion by stakeholders from the consumer, purchaser, and provider communities concerning their perspective on the session (see pg. 2), the Board discussed its vision for health reform and mapped out the agenda for the coming year.

The outcome was the Board's decision to continue supporting the remaining items from the original 21 health reform recommendations and work throughout the coming year to achieve them. This includes a state-wide smoking ban, an increased tobacco user fee as a funding mechanism for health reform, and a push for access to affordable health insurance.

Among other policies, the Board stood behind its recommendation to expand Medicaid coverage for eligible parents/guardians, implementation of an expanded Community Health Record, small business initiatives—including a young adult coverage component, and implementation of a medical home model in the Medicaid and state employee health plans.

One new component to the KHPA agenda in 2009 will be a Medicaid transformation plan. This initiative will look at a number of changes to KHPA programs and is aimed at promoting efficiency and economizing public dollars without sacrificing Medicaid eligibility and benefits, a stance reaffirmed by the Board. The Board is also interested in learning more about a nursing home provider assessment which could access more federal dollars for Kansas Medicaid.

A subcommittee of Board members and staff will be formed to develop the Medicaid recommendations; input will also be sought from agencies such as SRS and Aging. Program reviews are currently being completed by Medicaid staff for a number of programs focusing on spending, cost-savings, and program integrity - all useful tools for the committee.

The Board will review the revised health reform package as well as additional policies from Medicaid, data policy, and finance/operations at its August 19, 2008 meeting. All Board meetings are open to the public.

NEW! View the 2008 Session-At-A-Glance document [online](#). The Session-At-A-Glance contains a wrap-up of health reform and agency budget issues from the 2008 session.

Goal #3. KHPA programs and services will be recognized and measured as innovative, efficient, and effective.

Along with these overarching goals, the final strategic document will contain objectives, measures, and strategies related to policies, programs, and staff, all to be used for planning and prioritizing in a three to five year horizon.

KHPA Anticipates Interim Studies. By the conclusion of the 2008 legislative session, a number of health reform interim studies had been requested by the legislature, many regarding KHPA health reform recommendations.

At its retreat, agency staff advised the Board that the Kansas Legislative Research Division will be notifying the KHPA of the agency assignments to these legislative studies in the very near future, at which time the Board will be notified and the list of studies will be prioritized.

Generally, interim studies are expected to be completed prior to the next session.

Panelists Summarize Session for KHPA Board

Six panelists representing different sectors of KHPA stakeholders provided a point-of-view autopsy of the 2008 Legislative Session for the Board at its retreat on Wednesday, June 18th. Panelists included:

- Jerry Slaughter, Executive Director of the Kansas Medical Society
- Ken Daniel, CEO of Midway Wholesales
- Peter Hancock, Kansas Public Radio
- Dennis Lauver, President of the Salina Chamber of Commerce
- Brenda Sharpe, Pres./CEO, REACH Healthcare Foundation
- Corrie Edwards, Exec. Director, KS Health Consumer Coalition

Panelist comments included affirmations that KHPA overall “hit the mark” for the first year of health reform even in the midst of a “unique” legislative session. Panelist Jerry Slaughter encouraged those in attendance to view significant health reform as a marathon with changes needing to take cumulative effect over multiple years.

A special thanks to the panelists for their candor and participation!

Did You Know? The KHPA Board also discussed preliminary KHPA FY 2010 budget proposals related to Medicaid and the Data Policy Division, agency finance and operations, and those proposals related to health reform. View meeting minutes [online](#) to learn more!

Did You Know? The KHPA Board provides independent oversight and policymaking decision for the management and operations of the KHPA. To learn more about appointed and ex officio board members, visit KHPA Board webpage [online](#) to review their bios.

Next Steps for Health Reform 2009: Outreach & Education

KHPA Advisory Councils will meet in August to review proposed KHPA budget and health reform plans for 2009; additional meetings for remainder of 2009 will be held as well.

Community Dialogue Tours will be scheduled for September/October 2008 to meet with community leaders; public town halls will be held at each location.

Health 101 tours will be scheduled for November 2008 to meet specifically with legislators to provide more education on health reform efforts and KHPA.

KHPA Pulse is a publication by the KHPA Outreach Team distributed monthly during the legislative post-session. If you have questions or comments, contact Outreach Manager Mandy Cawby at 785/291.3627 or mandy.cawby@khp.ks.gov.



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