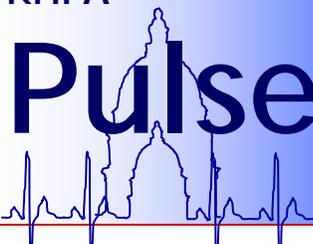


Coordinating health & health care
for a thriving Kansas



KHPA



8.01.08

Agency Activity

Agency updates
focused on KHPA
stakeholders.

KHPA Executive Director Dr. Marcia Nielsen will be presenting at a policy forum for The Bipartisan Policy Center and its Advisory Board on Monday, August 4, 2008 12:30-5 p.m.

The forum will address "Reforming the U.S. Health Care System; Supporting the Role of Individuals."

Dr. Nielsen's presentation is entitled "Empowering Patients & Consumers to Access and Effectively use High-Value Care"; an overview of the Kansas Working Healthy Program.

The forum is scheduled to take place at:
The Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics
University of Kansas
2350 Petefish Drive
Lawrence, KS 66045

KHPA Board Chair Announces Departure

Connie Hubbell, Chair of the Kansas Health Policy Authority Board, has announced that she will be stepping down from her position in August of this year, which is when her appointment is scheduled to expire.

According to KHPA Executive Director Dr. Marcia Nielsen, "Connie has performed a great service to the Board and to the agency. She has expertly directed the Board's activities since her appointment in August of 2005. Her passion for health reform has been an inspiration to everyone who has had the pleasure of working with her."



Hubbell will continue the pursuit of business opportunities in organizational management, government affairs, and contract lobbying in the health care & education sectors.

For more information on Connie Hubbell and the Kansas Health Policy Authority Board, please visit our [website](#).

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, August 19th, the KHPA Board will review and approve the agency's budget proposals for FY 2010. They will also be provided with an update on the Kansas Medicaid Transformation Committee. The meeting will be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, 1717 SW Topeka Blvd, Topeka, Emerald Rooms IV and V, beginning at 8:30am.

Upcoming Advisory Council Meetings: Members will review the KHPA's recommendations for the 2009 Legislative Session and will discuss health reform and messaging and communications.

Purchaser Council. Thursday, August 28th, 9-11 a.m., Landon State Office Building, KHPA Offices, Room 9E/F, Topeka.

At-Large Council. Friday, August 29th, 9-11a.m., Curtis State Office Building, Room 530, Topeka. *Participation also available from satellite locations in Dodge City, Chanute, Hays, Wichita, Salina and Lawrence.*

Consumer Council. Friday, August 29th, 1-3 p.m., Landon State Office Building, KHPA Offices, Room 9E/F, Topeka.

Provider Council. Thursday, September 4th, 9-11 a.m., Landon State Office Building, KHPA Offices, Room 9E/F, Topeka.

NEW! To view information about the Medicaid Working Healthy program and learn about how people can earn more, save more, achieve their career goals, and still maintain their health coverage, visit the [Working Healthy Website](#).

E-Health Advisory Council Members Appointed

On July 17, 2008, Governor Kathleen Sebelius and The Kansas Health Policy Authority appointed 14 members to the [E-Health Advisory Council](#). Pursuant to the Governor's request, the KHPA E-Health Advisory Council was developed to provide guidance on policy issues related to Health Information Technology (HIT) and the Health Information Exchange (HIE).

The KHPA and Governor Sebelius appointed seven Kansans each to the 14 member Council. Two Ex-officio members were also appointed; KHPA Executive Director Dr. Marcia Nielsen on behalf of the KHPA and Kansas Department of Health and Environment Secretary Rod Bremby by Governor Sebelius.

The Council will act in an advisory capacity to the Governor and KHPA. It will explore options and make recommendations to leverage the state's purchasing power to promote the use of health information technology and provide recommendations on policy issues related to health information technology.

The Council's first meeting is scheduled to take place on September 10, 2008 from 1-3 p.m. in KHPA Conference Rooms E & F.

KHPA Awards Data Consolidation, Analysis Contract

The Kansas Health Policy Authority (KHPA) had announced the award of a key data system development contract to Thomson Reuters. The system, known as the [Data Analytic Interface \(DAI\)](#) is intended to consolidate and manage health care data for several state programs, including the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS), the State Employee Health Benefit Program (SEHBP), and the Kansas Health Insurance Information System (KHIS).

Thomson Reuters was formed in the spring of this year by the merger of the Thomson Corporation, a provider of electronic financial, medical, and legal data, with Reuters, a British financial information provider and news agency. The company is based in New York.

The contract was awarded through a competitive bidding process. The goal of the project is to allow analysis of health care in Kansas based on episodes of treatment, disease management, predictive modeling, and the measure of cost and outcome effectiveness. The DAI will use public and private data to compare health care service and use patterns and will identify areas for focus and improvements.

The duration of the contract is for a 3 year period with the option to renew for 2 additional years at a total cost of \$4 million for the 3-year base contract period. [The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services \(CMS\)](#) has approved the maximum allowable federal match for this project. There will be a 90% federal share for the development of the Medicaid portion (70% of the total program cost) of the software, and 75% federal funding for licensing and ongoing operational costs. For the first year, this

amounts to a \$1.2 million federal share and a \$760,000 state share. For more information view the [Press Release](#).

KHPA Pulse is a publication by the KHPA Communications Team distributed monthly during the legislative post-session. If you have questions or comments, contact Communications Director Fran Breyne at 785/296.4731 or fran.breyne@khp.ks.gov



www.khp.ks.gov