

Title XIX Advisory Committee

Committee Members:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CHAIR: Marsalli, Bob (WACH)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ewart, Hugh (SEA Children's)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Madigan, Richelle (Patient Advocate)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EXEC SPONSOR: Fotinos, Charissa	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graham, Alec (DSHS)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Safford, Caitlin (Amerigroup)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burke, Monica (DOH)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Herrin, Bradley (Pediatrician, Swedish)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sawyckyj, Kristina (Consumer Advocate)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Busz, Andrew (WSHA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Johnson, Laura (UnitedHealthcare)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shepard, Jeb (WSMA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Christian, Ann (WA Council for BH)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Linares, Adriana (Physician, Peacehealth SW)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Van Pelt, Theresa (Parent Advocate)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emsley, Jessica (CHNWA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lovell, Emily (WSDA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Stakeholders, HCA Staff & Guests:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Campbell, Kodi (HCA, notes)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Waterland, Keri (HCA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Huynh, Quyen (HCA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Klein, Evan (HCA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kramer, Karin (HCA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Walker, Tim (Treinen Associates)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McGill, Jason (HCA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kinnamin, Cathy (DSHS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carrell, Becky (HCA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mills, Denise	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael, Edward (HCA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	G, Phillip (Kaiser Health News)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

#	Agenda Items	Time	Lead	Notes/Handouts
1.	Roll call, introductions	9:00am (5 min)	Bob Marsalli, Chair	
2.	Approval of December 3 Minutes	9:05am (5 min)	Bob Marsalli	APPROVED
3.	\$35M Grant for Uninsured/Underinsured	9:10am (10 min)	Becky Carrell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This grant came to us from last year's legislative session, to distribute \$35M to specific eligible providers and organizations who serve underinsured and uninsured clients below the 200% federal poverty level. Eligible applicants = federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics, free clinics, Community Based Organizations, public hospital districts, behavioral health facilities and providers, and behavioral health administrative service organizations. We launched the application on February 2 with a zoom training and are holding weekly zoom calls to help answer questions potential applicants may have. The grant must be used to service Washington citizens. Our tribal providers are eligible to apply. The current deadline to apply is April 15 at 5pm PST. We are updating our FAQs that get posted to the website each week based on the questions we're receiving.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applicants will be notified by May 31 if they will be receiving an award, and awards will be sent by June 30. Award dollars must be used by June 30, 2024. hcauninsuredgrant@hca.wa.gov for questions Uninsured Care Expansion Grant Washington State Health Care Authority 			
4.	State purchasing and distribution of Naloxone	9:20am (10 min)	Becky Carrell	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senate Bill 5195 passed the legislature last year created three tasks for the Health Care Authority: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Establish universal medication wholesale book purchasing program, 2) Provide technical assistance to hospitals, and BH providers/agencies around distribution in this department, and 3) Reimbursing hospitals, pharmacies, and BH providers/agencies regardless of immigration status. Today discussing our third task listed above, specifically hospitals, pharmacies and BH providers. Working on a solution that is both administered as a simple and easy, yet automated way to reimburse. For those with ProviderOne numbers, they'll be using a process called gross adjustment – essentially completing a spreadsheet and submitting it to HCA. Those without ProviderOne numbers must acquire a Statewide Vendor Number and submit the Excel spreadsheet. They will receive payment either by warrant or check. The bill indicated we need to be doing this by January 1. We will be deploying training and holding live training sessions as well. Questions? HCAMPDBusOps@hca.wa.gov 			
5.	Update on behavioral health facility closures	9:30am (10 min)	Edward Michael	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of the 20 Behavioral Health (BH) agencies that responded, three locations are currently closed. Seven agencies were closed in the month of January but have since reopened. Agencies report around 40% reduction on admissions, due to the social distancing mandate. Some agencies report staff members are working remotely or partially remote resulting in reduced access to clients. Agencies report difficulties staffing therapist positions and are discussing potentially closing admission of clients due to lack of SUDPs to meet the current and expanding needs. Agencies report that they are not able to afford current salary demands. Since August 2021's announcement of the COVID vaccine requirement, agencies reported reduced operations on multiple sites due to staffing shortages. They are reporting struggles to hire and retain staff. Agencies are reporting widespread burnout due to reduced staffing. Due to increased COVID outbreaks amongst staff, agencies are working at reduced capacity, with 30-50% of current open positions unfilled. The UW BH Institute is working on a bachelor's level curriculum program for mental health specialists. There is legislation that is involved. The idea would be to supplement the workforce who are at the master's level counselors with bachelors level who can do some of the lower-level counseling. It takes a while to train people. There are shorter pathways as well – there is encouragement for mental health counselors to do training and chemical dependency work to provide tools and services. Lots of ideas in the works but will take a little time to implement. 			
6.	Advancing Health Equity Collaborative with CHPW & University of Chicago	9:40 (10 min)	Quyen Huynh	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Began October 2019 – a two-year program. Comprised of state Medicaid agencies, Medicaid health plans and health care delivery organizations. Main goals: design an integrated payment and health care delivery reform to reduce health disparities and advance a culture of equity within all participating organizations. Have accomplished so far: identified several statewide disparities through data review; launched the CHPW/CHNW Equity Learning Collaborative Grant Program – offering 15 of our CHCs \$50K grants to address equity and disparities; convened the WA Team site visit and identified shared priorities across agencies; hosted monthly CHS cohort calls; and continue to progress in our internal organizational equity journeys as CHPH, HCA and across CHNW. 			



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are working through year two and three of the Equity Learning Collaborative Grants – shifting focus to foundational equity work that will support all efforts at our CHS agencies; next steps on shared priorities identified at Site Visit; and the reality of healthcare workforce challenges due to COVID, vaccine mandates and burnout. Reflection on equity since the kickoff: Theme of “one step forward, two steps back” but for the better. Vulnerability is key. We are learning a lot from the six other states involved in this collaborative. 				
7.	Proposed Title XIX Advisory Committee Bylaw changes/updates	9:50 (10 min)	Kodi Campbell	Action: will send revised bylaws and participant breakdown to committee to review before next meeting. Committee will vote on proposed changes at April 29 meeting.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveyed 40 states to evaluate how their Medicaid Advisory Committees are structured. Proposed the following changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change meeting cadence from 6 times per year to 4 times per year (quarterly), based on 64% of other states meet quarterly. Change average meeting length to two hours (v. 1-4 hours). 52% of states hold meetings for two hours. Change reappointment term limit to two terms v. three terms. 64% of states reappoint their members for two terms. Define minimum and maximum number of participants per each category. (will revise and resend to members for review) Committee name change to Medicaid Advisory Committee (at least six other states share that name, makes us easier to find). Next steps: revise min and max section of bylaws, update bylaws, send back out to committee to review at least a month before the April 29th meeting. Vote on proposed changes at the April 29th meeting. 				
8.	Legislative Update (priorities that have cleared initial cutoffs, session-related updates)	10:00am (30 min)	Jason McGill Keri Waterland Evan Klein	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apple Health and homes bill (HB 1886) received a lot of publicity. How to drive out additional funding and resources to the Department of Commerce to build up more housing capacity for those who are homeless or facing housing insecurity in WA state. There is a lot of connection in the policy with HCA’s foundational community supports program, there is interest in connecting that to work that is taking place under our 1115 Medicaid Transformation Waiver and thinking about how we as an agency can support these individuals who are receiving housing, find employment and ensure they’re getting access to physical and behavioral health services. There are a few different bills around prescription drugs. This is an area that the agency has been really involved in over the past couple of years and our pharmacy team at HCA is invested about gaining transparency into the script and drug pricing as a state and eventually lowering the cost of prescription drugs. Two bills on insulin affordability and a request to extend a workgroup to review insulin drug costs. SB 5532 re: prescription drug affordability boards. This was passed two years ago and was vetoed due to concern around funding and timing – it was in the early days of COVID. It would require HCA to create a board, review prescription drugs, and review data captured by the agency around prescription drug price transparency. Certification of Doulas. They provide a valuable service within the border of maternity benefit available to individuals who are eligible for Medicaid. First step in certifying the profession and to allow Medicaid to broadly reimburse these providers. A lot of new policies proposed for Medicaid and BH policies are incorporated in the budget. Over \$1 billion in new, updated revenue above what was expected. The five-year extension of the Medicaid Transformation Waiver was authorized. BH Workforce retention. The government had proposed \$50M to provide their own funding for 2022, and a 4.5% rate increase. We look forward to receiving funding to help support all of the important work ahead. 				
9.	Wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next meeting: April 29, 9-11am Agenda items for next meeting 	10:30am (5 min)	Charissa Fotinos	
<u>Agenda items:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April meeting: Medicaid Director recruitment update (Charissa Fotinos) Future meeting: BH facility closures update (Edward Michael) 				

Meeting adjourned 10:45am.

<https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/apple-health-medicaid/medicaid-title-xix-advisory-committee>

