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CHIP PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2010
8:30am-10:00am
 CHIP / HASDIC Offices
 5575 Ruffin Road, Suite 225
 San Diego, CA 92123
 (858) 614-1550

In Attendance:

Jillian Barber, Sharp HealthCare	Cheryl Moder, CHIP/COI
Michael Bardin, Scripps Health	Eric McDonald, CHIP
James Beaubeaux, San Diego County Medical Society	Anabel Poole, County of San Diego HHS
Stephanie Gioia, County of San Diego Supervisor Ron Roberts	Dana Richardson, CHIP/HEAC
Victoria Ikerd-Schreiter, Office of Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny	Beth Ruland, CHIP
Karla Kelley, Eisner & Kelly LLP	Barbara Ryan, Rady Children's Hospital
Lindsey Masukawa, Assembly Member Lori Saldana	Shreya Sasaki, CHIP
Rosmarie Marshall Johnson, San Diego County Medical Society Foundation	Sara Steinhoffer, Sharp Healthcare
Jill Monroe, County of San Diego Supervisor Pam Slater-Price	Candyce Yee, County of San Diego Supervisor Bill Horn

I. Welcome / Introductions: 8:30 am All

All members introduced themselves and welcomed new attendees Jill Monroe and Candyce Yee.

II. Updates:

a. Assembly Rejects Fee on Alcohol 8:35 am S. Sasaki

In July 2009, based on a recommendation from the Public Policy Committee, CHIP took a position that *"in concept, CHIP Supports a tax or fee on alcohol consumption as an important prevention strategy."*

S Sasaki announced that the proposed Alcohol Fee (proposed by Assemblyman Jim Beall, San Jose) was not passed through the Assembly Health Committee in early January. Sasaki has been in communication with the San Diego Alcohol Policy and will keep the Public Policy Committee informed of any new developments.

b. HMO Wait Time Rules 8:40 am S. Sasaki

<http://wpsocdmhc.ca.gov/regulations/regs/?key=20>

The California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) released new HMO Wait Time rules for HMOs. HMOs must comply with the new wait time rules by 2011 and may be fined if they do not follow the new rules. DMHC said it will draw on consumer complaints to determine when to audit a HMO over the new rules. S. Sasaki called DMHC and they stated that the rules apply to Healthy San Diego (Medi-Cal Managed Care) Health Plans.

It was noted that mandated wait time rules may increase access to care but could be difficult to follow if there is a shortage of physicians or clinics.

It was mentioned that changing regulations may be a strategy used to reform healthcare, as opposed to legislation. Committee members suggested that the Public Policy Committee begin to consider regulations in this context.

c. Federal Healthcare Reform

8:45 am

S. Steinhoffer
/ All

The Committee discussed recent developments in Healthcare Reform, including:

- Some healthcare reform issues might change through different pieces of legislation (not in one comprehensive bill); however complete healthcare reform may still be a ways away.
- Consensus will be difficult to achieve in the current political environment.
- Delays in healthcare reform may be in part due to the economy and Committee recesses.

The Public Policy Committee will continue to stay informed of healthcare reform issues and will discuss at future Public Policy Committee meetings as appropriate.

d. State Budget

8:55 am

L. Masukawa

Governor's Office Documents: <http://gov.ca.gov/issue/state-budget/> and <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/>

ITUP (Insure the Uninsured Project):
http://itup.org/Reports/Budget/Budget_Jan_2010.pdf

California Budget Project:
http://www.cbp.org/pdfs/2010/100108_Gov_Budget.pdf

L. Masukawa provided the Committee with an overview of the California State budget. Highlights from this discussion include:

- The Budget Committee is currently reviewing the proposed budget for the current fiscal year shortfall; the legislature is supposed to review it in March 2010.
- To balance the budget, programmatic changes have been proposed to many health care programs, including Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and in-home support services (IHSS).
- The recently implemented hospital provider fee will help to support part of the Healthy Families program.

The Committee discussed fund allocation and the notion of starting new programs (e.g. Anti-Fraud measures might decrease available funding for programs that receive federally matched dollars, so is this an effective savings method, when considering money saved from anti fraud efforts and money lost from federally matched dollars?) while many programs are experiencing budget cuts. Finally, the Committee agreed that it is not appropriate for the Public Policy Committee to take make recommendations on budget cuts outside of their expertise area (i.e. health).

It would be helpful for our local assembly and senate offices to receive some recommendations on health priorities and possible strategies to achieve savings, the Public Policy Committee should attempt

to provide this type of information to our local offices. The Committee will continue to discuss State Budget cuts and their effect on health care at the March Public Policy Meeting.

e. State Budget Impacts on County of San Diego

9:10 am A. Poole

A Poole provided the Committee with an overview of the State budget impacts on the County; highlights include:

- State budget cuts affect County matched funds and can impose overall cuts to County Programs. Programs that may be vulnerable to funding cuts and/or elimination include the Food Assistance Program, the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) and transitional housing programs for foster youth and in-home support services to name a few.
- Some are concerned that increasing co-pays and fees may discourage primary and preventative care and therefore, lead to increased emergency department use.
- CalWorks funds have been re-allocated. Many children's programs funds have increased; however, it was mentioned that funding cuts to other programs may affect families' ability to maintain self-sufficiency.
- LAO (Legislative Analyst Office) has released a report on the budget impacts on health and human services and S. Sasaki sent a link to this report to the Public Policy Committee after the meeting.
- N Macchione and T Hogan will be presenting an overview of the State Budget Impacts to the County of San Diego at the February 10th Chamber of Commerce Health Committee meeting and the February 5th San Diego Tax Payers Association meeting.

It was noted that state budget cuts greatly impact programs for the safety net population, in turn this often leads to other cuts to programs that service the County at large (e.g. public safety, public health, etc.). The Committee discussed the value of a cost/benefit analysis in order to understand the real impact of funding/budget cuts on the state.

L Masukawa invited the Committee to send her any feedback to relay to Assembly Member Saldana.

The Committee noted the importance of engaging more legislators and their staff in the Public Policy Committee.

III. Planning / Next Steps: HHS Strategy Presentation

9:25 am S. Steinhoffer
/ S. Sasaki

The Committee discussed the Health Strategy Presentation given to CHIP members on January 27th.

This timeline for the Agenda roll-out has been updated since the Public Policy Committee received the presentation in December. Next steps in the roll-out plan include: Winter 2009 - 10: share draft plan with stakeholders; Spring 2010: compile input and share final plan internally and externally, and; Summer 2010: bring plan to Board of Supervisors.

CHIP committee members (e.g. suicide prevention committee, behavioral health work team, etc.) were encouraged to discuss the Health Strategy Agenda and suggestions for collaboration, and provide them to CHIP staff that can then bring the information back to the CHIP Public Policy Committee, in order to draft a response to HHS that includes these recommendations for collaboration.

It was mentioned that CHIP will play a crucial role in facilitating cross sector work and developing effective community solutions.

CHIP Committees, Healthy Eating, Active Communities (HEAC) and the San Diego County Childhood Obesity Initiative (COI) were cited as great examples of bringing together diverse community organizations to work together in order to address community health needs.

It was suggested that the Public Policy Committee receive a presentation from HHS to learn more about CMS Redesign, the One-E-App and 1115 Waiver.

Action Item: A Poole and S Sasaki to coordinate scheduling the above presentations.

Additionally, it was mentioned that the Public Policy Committee may consider scheduling a standing meeting with the County to encourage ongoing collaboration for the Health Strategy Agenda.

V. Adjournment

9:50 am

Next Meeting: February 25, 2010, 8:30 am to 10:00 am at the CHIP / HASDIC Offices

THANK YOU!

DRAFT