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OFFICE OF HEALTH REFORM & INNOVATION
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Consumer Advisory Board

Meeting
November 14, 2012 – 11:00am-1:00pm
Legislative Office Building, Room 1C
Minutes

Members Present: Jeannette DeJesús, Richard Porth, Patricia Checko, Bryte Johnson, Theanvy Kuoch, Robert Koorse

Members Absent: Sharon Langer, Nanfi Lubogo, Lena Rodriguez

Welcome and Introductions

Richard Porth opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

Approval of Minutes of the September 19 Meeting

The minutes of the September 19 meeting were approved.

Public Forum for Community Voices

There was no public comment.

Presentation from Health Insurance Exchange

Mr. Porth introduced Peter Van Loon, Chief Operating Officer of the Health Insurance Exchange, for a presentation on how consumers will interact with the Exchange. Mr. Van Loon began providing a general description of the Exchange, which will include both a system to determine

eligibility for Medicaid or subsidies for purchasing coverage through the Exchange, as well as a marketplace for individuals and small businesses to buy health insurance. Exchange staff members are currently working on setting up structures, including a web portal, which will enable the Exchange to perform these functions.

Mr. Van Loon said that the Exchange has reached out consumers in a variety of ways over the past several months. The Exchange's Consumer Experience and Outreach Advisory Committee focuses on engaging consumers in decisions made by the Exchange, and played a significant role in helping to determine the Essential Health Benefits (EHB) package which all plans in the Exchange will be required to cover. The Exchange is holding a series of consumer forums throughout the state in November and December. Once the Exchange opens enrollment, a network of brokers, navigators, and assistors will help consumers make decisions on purchasing health insurance coverage.

Jeannette DeJesús asked Mr. Van Loon and his colleagues at the Exchange to maintain a close working relationship and regular communication with the Consumer Advisory Board. Mr. Van Loon agreed to this request and said that he or others from the Exchange would stay in touch with the group.

Presentation from Health Technology Work Group

Mr. Porth introduced Victor Villagra, co-chair of the Health Technology Work Group, for a presentation on that group's recommendations to the Health Care Cabinet. Dr. Villagra described the process by which the Health Technology Work Group arrived at its recommendations, through evaluation of the current initiatives in health technology in the state, and discussions on how to coordinate and integrate these efforts for the benefit of health care consumers in Connecticut.

The Health Technology Work Group made the following recommendations to the Cabinet:

1. The HTWG recommends the creation of the CT Office of Health Information Technology Coordinator and a supporting organization responsible for the integration of all the agencies' HIT investments. Acting under the authority of the Governor, the position should report directly to the Office of the Governor or the Lieutenant Governor.
2. The HTWG recommends the creation of a convening forum, the HIT-Business Forum, which would convene on a regular basis public and private sector HIT-Business stakeholders to share ideas, exchange knowledge about emerging technologies to support the health reform goals and objectives and share best practices.

[Dr. Villagra's presentation](#) and the [Health Technology Work Group's final report](#) are on the Office of Health Reform & Innovation website.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.