



Jeannette B. DeJesús
SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE GOVERNOR
OFFICE OF HEALTH REFORM & INNOVATION
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Consumer Advisory Board

Meeting
September 19, 2012 – 10:00am-12:00pm
Legislative Office Building, Room 1B
Minutes

Members Present: Jeannette DeJesús, Richard Porth, Patricia Checko, Bryte Johnson, Theanvy Kuoch, Sharon Langer

Members Absent: Robert Koorse, Nanfi Lubogo, Lena Rodriguez

Welcome and Introductions

Jeannette DeJesús opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. Members introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes of the July 18 Meeting

The minutes of the July 18 meeting were approved.

Public Forum for Community Voices

There was no public comment.

State Innovation Model Grant Application Update

Ms. DeJesús discussed the State's application to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a State Innovation Model (SIM) Design Grant. The grant will fund a process to design a plan for health care innovations in Connecticut. This planning process will involve a broad range of

stakeholders, including state government offices and agencies, payers, providers, consumers, and community organizations. The plan will focus on improving the health of individuals, the health care delivery system, and the value of health care services. The Consumer Advisory Board will play a key role in the planning process and in future improvements.

Ms. DeJesús said that the State is seeking approximately \$3 million in the grant application. She said that the grant application would be submitted by the September 24 deadline, and that CMS would notify the State regarding approval of the application in December.

Updates on Work Group and Exchange Board Meetings

Ms. DeJesús said that the Health Insurance Exchange recently received a \$107 million grant from the federal government and has hired senior executives. At its next meeting, the Exchange Board would vote on the Essential Health Benefits (EHB) package, which is a set of benefits which are required to be covered by plans in the Exchange, as well as any individual or small group plans offered in Connecticut. Ms. DeJesús said that Kevin Counihan, the CEO of the Exchange, would be invited to speak about the Exchange's progress at a future Consumer Advisory Board meeting.

Rick Porth asked about the work of the Health Technology Work Group, and whether the group would be involved in the SIM planning process. Ms. DeJesús said that the Health Technology Work Group had made recommendations regarding improving health information technology in the state, and that they would play an important role in the SIM planning. She said that the Health Technology Work Group would be invited to make a presentation at the next Consumer Advisory Board meeting.

Discussion: Planning Health Care Consumer Forum

Mr. Porth suggested that a smaller group of Consumer Advisory Board members could plan a consumer forum. Ms. DeJesús raised the possibility of using resources from the SIM planning grant to conduct community forums, in which the Consumer Advisory Board could play an organizing role. Mr. Porth said that he thought that the Board should form partnerships with other groups which are planning consumer forums on health care. Mr. Porth and Pat Checko volunteered to work with the Office of Health Reform & Innovation to identify potential forums for partnership.

Consumer Advisory Board Bulletin

Mr. Porth said that a template for the Consumer Advisory Board Bulletin had been distributed to members. Members indicated that they liked the layout, and suggested some content to be included. Mr. Porth asked members to help provide relevant updates to be included in the bulletin.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.