

Connecticut Health Care Reform Consumer Advisory Board

Mission Statement

The mission of the Consumer Advisory Board is to advocate for and facilitate strong public and consumer input to inform policy and operational decisions on health care reform in Connecticut.

Mission Strategy

We accomplish our mission by:

- Providing a forum for consumers, their advocates and the public to provide oral and written input on health care reform.
- Serving as a catalyst to engage consumers and solicit their input on specific health care reform issues.
- Helping to educate and engage consumers and the public about state and federal health care reform laws (e.g., Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended by the Health Care Reconciliation Act, P.L. 111-152; An Act Concerning Health Care Reform, P.A. 11-58) and health care reform policies and regulations as they are proposed and implemented. .
- Informing policymakers about the importance of addressing health care disparities and consumer needs.
- Offering advice and feedback to the state's Office of Health Reform and Innovation and other health care policy leaders on best practices for implementing consumer assistance and consumer access systems.

Guiding Principles

We carry out our mission in order to promote these outcomes and benefits for health care consumers:

- Improve access to quality health care and affordable health insurance coverage.

- Empower individuals to develop and maintain healthy lifestyles, making prevention a priority.
- Include in reform efforts a robust consumer assistance program to help with enrollments, premium credits, Medicaid, and any access problems as they arise.
- Enable consumers to get the best value for their money and support informed decisions by consumers.
- Address health disparities, such as those related to race, ethnicity, and income.
- Ensure wide and ongoing distribution of information on health care reform (e.g. Summary of Benefits and Coverage, accessing Navigator support, etc.)
- Ensure that there will be an ongoing forum for public input and feedback that continues after implementation of the major aspects of health care reform.
- Provide letters, testimony and other input communicating the needs and interests of consumers to help inform policy-makers' decisions as they relate to health care consumers.