



Monday, February 28, 2011 1:00 – 3:00 PM
Capitol Annex, Room 171 - Frankfort, KY

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees:

Joan Buchar, Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky
Tonya Chang, American Heart Association
Melissa Fry Conty, KY Center for Economic Policy
Marie Cull, Cull, Hayden & Vance
Pat Delahanty, Catholic Conference
Bob Gray, KVH Policy Consultant
Betsy Janes, American Lung Association
Anne Joseph, Covering KY Kids and Families
Liz McKune, KY Psychological Association
Christin Miller, Advocacy Action Network
Jodi Mitchell, KVH
Ann Marie Regan, KY Equal Justice Center

Lisa Rice, Dept. of Behavioral Health
Sheila Schuster, KVH Co-Chair, Advocacy Action Network
Bruce Scott, Mental Health America – Kentucky
Rich Seckel, KVH Co-Chair, KY Equal Justice Center
James Sharp, American Cancer Society
Steve Sparrow, KY Injury Prevention and Research Center
Marian Taylor, Council of Churches
Laurel True, AARP
Bernie Vonderheide, KY for Nursing Home Reform

Participating by Webinar/Phone

Garrett Adams, Physicians for a National Health Program
Richard Heine, Friedell Committee
Loretta Maldener, Purchase AHEC

Mary Nicholson, KVH Local Leader
Germaine O'Connell, KY Council on Developmental Disabilities
Anne Marie Regan, KY Equal Justice Center
Therese Sirles, Norton Kosair Childrens Hospital

Jodi Mitchell called the meeting to order with introductions by all in attendance. The meeting summary was provided late and therefore members were requested to send updates to Jodi Mitchell by Wed, March 1 and the summary would be considered final after that..

Assure that all Kentuckians have access to high quality, affordable health care

CHFS Update

Carrie Banahan provided a Cabinet for Health and Family Services Update on health reform implementation. She provided a list of grants that the Cabinet has applied for or received. The Cabinet is excited about federal funding opportunities.

KY received the first round of funding for exchange planning on Sept. 10. The Cabinet plans to contract with the University of Kentucky (Julia Costich, Martha Riddell) to do the background research for exchange planning. The public forums are on hold. The Cabinet is performing an IT gap analysis in regards to efforts to streamline eligibility.

Laurel True raised regarding state support for alternatives to nursing home care. Banahan indicated that the state is looking at the 1915i option for state plan amendment for the 1950c waiver. The Cabinet is also reviewing requirements for Health Home and Community Choice Option.

Banahan emphasized that right now, all is on hold and the Cabinet is focused on getting HB 305 passed and seeking a budget to address the Medicaid shortfalls. She also noted that the Health Policy was able to hire two new staff (Brenda Parker and Sherry Redmund) to assist with health reform implementation. There is coordination between CHFS, DOI, Health IT, and Medicaid.

Bob Gray noted that Kentucky is acting cautiously because the Commonwealth learned lessons from the previous attempt at health reform and litigation with the Health Purchasing Alliance.

Bruce Smith inquired about pursuit of health homes in Kentucky and the need for a plan regarding quality. It was noted that there is a state matching fund requirement for this provision. Banahan stated that the Cabinet is looking into all opportunities.

Jodi Mitchell asked about the status of the KY Health Reform Implementation web site. Banahan stated there are a few changes being made by the health IT department but that it is moving forward. Grant Opportunities with links to applications will be available.

Rich Seckel raised interest in the Department for Community Based Services grant to assist with streamlining eligibility/enrollment for low income families

Sheila Schuster asked about impact by efforts to de-fund the law or repeal. It was noted that the future was unclear.

KY Adjustment Request for MLR

Mitchell indicated that the adjustment/waiver request submitted by Kentucky is seeking a gradual implementation with 5% increases per year to get to the 80% MLR by 2014. Gray stated the need for an updated market report with more recent data; the data shared by DOI was a 1997 Report. Questions were raised about the self-insured marketplace.

DOI Ombudsman

Mitchell indicated that the funding for the Consumer Assistance Program that KY received was used in house at the DOI to hire an ombudsman and support staff. (Paul Shaughnessy and Rebecca Hubbard) The Ombudsman Hotline is 877-587-7222. It was suggested that the Ombudsman provide an overview of types of questions they respond to and FAQs. It was also noted that the appeals assistance and process should be publicized more. There were also questions in regards to state/federal parity (for substance abuse/mental health. Mitchell to follow-up with Ombudsman Office on behalf of KVH.

Medicaid Budget Legislation

Schuster provided a summary. HB 305 has had three hearings in Senate A&R. The bill moved smoothly out of the House. Senate Republicans have indicated the budget is too important to take the “just trust us” approach. There was brief discussion about the Managed Care RFIs and potential for cost savings to the program. A Senate alternative is expected to be released on March 1. The Governor would likely veto proposal coming from the Senate.

Make prevention a priority for Kentucky’s health policies and programs.

The Smoke Free Kentucky Coalition reported that HB 193 may be on the March 3as a discussion-only conversation. Resolutions for those who have not signed on to the Smoke-Free KY efforts were made available.

It was noted that the BMI reporting bill was considered dead. Worksite Wellness guides from the Chamber of Commerce were made available to all participants.

Improve the health of Kentucky's children

Anne Joseph recapped conversations of the KY Voices for Health Children's Health Task Force. The task force has met once and discussed CHIPRA grants, the CHIPRA Anniversary Joint Statement by KVH, KYA, and CKKF, Let's Move Campaign, Secretary's Challenge, and Vaccination. Dr. Davis may present at the next KVH meeting in regards to vaccination program changes.

Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of health care for Kentuckians

Bob Gray provided an update on Pew Center work and reforming the penal code system. HB 463 is expected to pass on the Senate floor. The House will likely concur on HB 463 with Senate amendment and Senate changes. Richard Heine inquired as to Medicaid coverage of substance abuse. True asked about treatment plans/who does it.

Kentuckians for Nursing Home Reform – Bernie Vonderheide

Vonderheide reviewed some policy interests of the organization. He claimed that the current legislature was inactive. He is interested in addressing sufficient staffing at nursing homes, protecting senior citizens, registries, funding, and legislation to repair backgrounds check for LTC facilities

Coalition Updates

- Enroll America – KVH is convening meeting of KY partners similar to the national effort .
- Speakers' Bureau Requests - <http://kyvoicesforhealth.com/speakersbureau.html>
- KVH Website Survey – http://kyvoicesforhealth.com/form_view.php?form_id=4.
- Calendar Postings – send to kvhexec@kyvoicesforhealth.org

Stakeholder Updates (open forum for sharing information)

KY Council of Churches identified a new health program group in regards to Health Ministries.

ACA Anniversary / Bruce Smith suggested that we highlight the funding dollars coming to KY and greater focus on creating a healthier Kentucky.

KVH Speakers Bureau has received several community requests for speaking opportunities and exhibits.

KVH is pleased that Anton Gunn, Regional Director for HHS, will be visiting Kentucky and attending upcoming Community Forum on health reform in Lexington.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 28 - 1:00-3:00 PM in Room 171 of the Capitol Annex.