

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
Connect for Health Colorado Meeting Room
East Tower, Suite 1025
3773 Cherry Creek N Dr., Denver, CO 80209
February 26, 2017
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Board Members Present: Claire Brockbank, Tom Massey, Jay Norris, Sharon O’Hara, and Marc Reece

Staff Present: Brian Braun, Luke Clarke, Kelly Davies, Saphia Elfituri, Ian McMahon, Kevin Patterson, Alaina Ramirez, Alan Schmitz, and Lisa Sevier

I. Welcome and Introductions

Sharon O’Hara chaired the Policy Committee Meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., welcoming those in attendance, both in-person and on the phone. The January Policy Committee minutes were voted on and approved.

II. Updates

a. Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF)

Tom Massey, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operations Officer for HCPF asked for collaboration with HCPF as Connect for Health Colorado moves forward with plans for the new eligibility system. HCPF would like to discuss the possibility of minimizing the initial plans to ensure compliance during the next enrollment period with a more focused completion of the NES for the 2020 enrollment period. HCPF is invested in improving the partnership with Connect for Health Colorado and is willing to work for a more united system.

b. Division of Insurance (DOI)

Matt Mortier, Director of Compliance at Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, gave the following updates:

- DOI is watching Senate Bill 132, sale of catastrophic plans across the state. This bill has been amended to receive an actuarial study to ensure sale of the plans will not raise premiums for all insurance plans and will provide benefits to specific areas.
- A reinsurance bill is in the process of being drafted.
- Senate Bill 136 regarding producer fees has been amended to include rule making authority for the DOI.
- The DOI is reviewing the proposed federal rulings on short term plans, specifically in light of current Colorado statutes, and the association health plan rule.

Ms. O’Hara requested moving the eligibility system topic to coincide with the HCPF discussion, prior to the Division of Insurance’s update.

III. New Eligibility Systems: Goals & Metrics

Kelly Davies, Director of Product Development addressed concerns with the timing of the NES. In reviewing the timeline for the project, Ms. Davies explained the current focus of the project.

- Functional and IT requirements are being reviewed with the Office of Information Technology (OIT) and HCPF including
 - Minimum scope for success during the first year
 - Early deliverables that won't jeopardize the transformation project and work in conjunction with partners
- User experience design review and feedback
- Architecture and development
- Testing and validation, partnering with HCPF and OIT for data exchange
- Training, operations and communications
- Go Live and open enrollment preparedness for testing and fixing bugs

Measurable goals for the user experience include:

- Reduce the total number of screens required to complete an application and enrollment.
- Reduce the total number of questions required to complete an application and enrollment.
- Increased health literacy support throughout application and enrollment platform.
- Increase the number of applicants receiving determinations real-time.
- Increased number of individuals evaluated for APTC/CSR eligibility.

IV. Legislative Update

Policy Associate, Saphia Elfituri, gave the following legislative update to the Committee:

- SB 132; Requires the DOI to apply for a 1332 waiver for the sale of catastrophic plans – bill was amended in the Senate Health Committee to require the DOI to conduct an actuarial analysis to determine if offering these plans would increase premiums or decrease the amount of APTC received by the state of Colorado. Additionally, the catastrophic plans will have to be offered through the Marketplace.
- SB 136; allows producers (brokers) to charge a fee for selling plans they do not receive commission from - amended to restrict brokers from receiving a fee for Medicaid or Child Health Plan (CHP) enrollments and requires brokers to offer written disclosure before charging a fee. Passed the Senate and is waiting for introduction to the House.
- HB 1205; creates financial assistance program for individuals earning between 400 – 500 percent of the poverty level and reside in one of the three most expensive rating areas. The bill will have its first hearing House Health Committee on March 1, 2018.

V. County Engagement

The Committee was given a brief overview of the County Engagement Project. The purpose of the project is to:

- Support important enrollment channel
- Strengthen current and new county relationships
- Assist counties and build their knowledge of marketplace program eligibility requirements and enrollment processes
- Increase the number of eligible customers being referred to the marketplace

Connect for Health Colorado has currently been offering county support in the following ways:

- Point of contact for escalation resolution
- Updates on director's meetings in all regions
- In-person meetings with county eligibility staff
- In-person and web-based trainings marketplace programs
- Co-location agreements

The project goals and future planning include creating an infrastructure to support counties in a similar manner to existing C4HCO stakeholders.

VI. Plan Display, Design & Choice

Ms. O'Hara gave an update from the February 16 committee meeting. The brokers who attended the committee meeting offered the following thoughts:

- No changes to current practices in display, choice, or benefit design
- Concerns around how to define quality rated changes
- Plan display priorities

Next steps include the DOI creating a workgroup to review meaningful difference standards and opportunities for updates to regulatory guidance. Bringing stakeholders suggestions to product designers.

It was noted that brokers would like to participate in work groups.

VII. Public Comment

Bethany Pray, Colorado Center on Law & Policy
Eileen Hunt, Broomfield Health & Human Services

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon O'Hara
Policy Committee Chair