

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

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

Staff Present: Dustin Arnette, Brian Braun, Kelly Davies, Saphia Elfituri, Claudia Farnham-Wittner, Kate Harris, Molly McClurg, Ian McMahan, Kevin Patterson, Lisa Sevier and Ezra Watland

I. Welcome and Introductions

Sharon O’Hara chaired the Policy Committee Meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., welcoming those in attendance, both in-person and on the phone. The February 16 and February 26 Policy Committee minutes were voted on and approved.

II. Updates

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

None

b. Division of Insurance (DOI)

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

- A meaningful difference for health plans work group has been scheduled.
- A request for input was made on how to load silver plans for the upcoming year.
- The division has been working with stakeholders on improvements to the explanation of benefits and confidentiality.

III. Legislative Update

- Market stabilization measures did not make it into the federal omnibus package. This leaves cost-share reductions and reinsurance unfunded at a federal level.
- 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. This bill has not passed through the House, as of yet.
- SB 132: Requires the DOI to apply for a 1332 waiver for the sale of catastrophic plans, has passed through the Senate and is now in the House.
- SB 136: allows producers (brokers) to charge a fee for selling plans that they don’t receive a commission from. This bill has made it through the House Health Committee.
- SB 214: Requires some Medicaid work requirements, has been introduced in the Senate.

IV. New Eligibility System

Kelly Davies, Director of Product Development, updated the committee on the new eligibility system (NES). Staff has been working with user experience consultants, walking through the current eligibility process, focusing on issues as well as areas of the process that works well.

Planning sessions continue with HCPF, mapping out the user experience specific to complex households and people who come through the Marketplace who may be Medicaid eligible.

Transformation risks are being evaluated and requests have been put into the Office of Information Technology (OIT) and HCPF, asking about the possibility of moving up some of the transformation dates to earlier in the month of October to allow better preparation for the changes prior to the November 1, 2018 open enrollment date. Additionally, staff is exploring contingency plans including testing opportunities.

V. Focus Group Project

Connect for Health Colorado is planning to conduct a series of focus groups in 3 metro and non-metro locations across the state with off-exchange individual market enrollees to gather data on:

1. Why they are purchasing off-exchange
2. If they are aware of the availability of financial assistance if they were to purchase on-exchange
3. What marketing and communications messages are most effective for converting enrollees from off-to-on exchange

Staff is seeking input from the Committee and public, specifically around

- Additional goals the project should work towards
- Questions that would be most valuable to include

The committee suggested asking the focus group how they found the insurance they currently have.

Staff will utilize the committee suggestions when creating the discussion guide for the focus groups.

Results from the focus groups will be shared with the committee when they become available.

VI. Public Comment

None.

Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon O'Hara
Policy Committee Chair