

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

*Connect for Health Colorado
4600 S. Ulster Street, Suite 300
Denver, CO 80237*

April 23, 2017

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Board Members Present: Claire Brockbank, Adela Flores-Brennan, Tom Massey, Jay Norris and Sharon O’Hara

Staff Present: Dustin Arnette, Brian Braun, Luke Clarke, Kelly Davies, Beth Deines, Saphia Elfituri, Claudia Farnham-Wittner, Kate Harris, Kevin Patterson, Alain Ramirez, Lisa Sevier and Ezra Watland

I. Welcome and Introductions

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

The May committee meeting will be rescheduled, to be determined once all committee members can consult their schedules.

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:

- The DOI is drafting regulations around the short-term duration health benefit plans. Draft rules will be released for informal public comment after the end of the legislative session.
- The DOI will be releasing carrier guidance for silver tier plan loading after the end of the legislative session.

III. Legislative Update

Kate Harris, Director of Policy & External Affairs, provided the committee with the following legislative update:

- SB 18-136: Health Insurance Producer Fees and Fee Disclosure
 - Governor Signed 4/12/18
- SB 18-132: 1332 State Waiver Catastrophic Health Plans
 - Passed both chambers, awaiting Governor's signature
- HB 18-1405: Financial Relief Defray Individual Health Plan Costs
 - Passed first House Committee, waiting to go to Appropriations
- HB 18-1384: Study Health Care Coverage Options
 - Passed first House Committee, waiting to go to Appropriations

- HB 18-1392: State Innovation Waiver Reinsurance Program
 - Scheduled for Committee 4/19/18
 - Connect for Health Colorado is supporting the version as introduced

IV. Notice of Benefit Payment Parameters

Beth Deines, Connect for Health Colorado’s Compliance & Appeals Attorney, summarized the final regulatory changes in the 2019 Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters. State flexibility and innovation in the Marketplace.

- Increased flexibility for the Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP)
 - SHOPS are not required to perform employee eligibility, premium aggregation, or enrollment functions.
- Navigator Program Standards
 - removes requirements around types of Navigator entities
- Changes to Special Enrollment Periods (SEP)
 - clarifies how special enrollment period metal tier limitations apply to various household members
 - Removes metal tier limitations from the plan display error SEP
- Prior Coverage Requirements
 - exempts qualified individuals who have lived in service areas where no qualified health plan (QHP) was offered through an Exchange during their most recent enrollment period from prior coverage requirements
- Other Technical Changes (can be found on the Connect for Health Colorado website)

These final rule changes become effective June 18, 2018.

V. Broker and Assistance Network Strategies

Ezra Watland, Director of Marketing & Communication Strategy, gave the committee an update on the broker and assistance network:

- Broker network goals for the next year
 - Increase transparency
 - Dedicated staff support
 - Ongoing communication process
 - Streamline training
 - Opportunities for new voices and perspectives from the broker community
 - New broker focus group
- Enrollment center goals for next year
 - Increase enrollment
 - Improve customer experience
 - Add resources in rural areas
 - Collaborative marketing efforts
 - Enhanced access to the customer service center
- Plans for the Assistance Network
 - Objectives
 - Community engagement and education
 - Enrollment and post-enrollment assistance

- Targeted outreach
- Changes to scope of work
 - No tier status
 - Community education concept folded in
 - Maintaining network referral pathways
- Adjustments to disbursement of funds
 - Performance based
 - Quarterly block disbursement
 - 2-year funding opportunity

VI. New Eligibility System

Kelly Davies, Director of Product Development, updated the committee on where the organization is with regards to the development of the new eligibility system (NES). As a result of feedback from user experience consultants a user interface implementation and style guide has been created.

The organization is partnering with Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) and the Office of Information Technology (OIT) for work on the backend architecture and connection to the Federal Data Service Hub (FDSH).

Key activities for next month include stakeholder interviews with a UI/UX consultant, development of new application screens and the eligibility rules engine.

VII. Public Comment

Public comment given by:
Bethany Pray, Colorado Center on Law and Policy
Deb Judy, Colorado Consumer Health Initiative

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon O'Hara
Policy Committee Chair