

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2018
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Board Members Present: Mike Conway, Steve ErkenBrack, Adela Flores-Brennan, Jay Norris and Sharon O’Hara

Staff Present: Brian Braun, Luke Clarke, Kelly Guthner, Kate Harris, Jackie Sanderson, 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 June Policy Committee minutes were voted on and approved.

II. Updates

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

Marivel Klueckman gave the following updates for HCPF:

- HCPF has successfully completed the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) transformation phase I. This transformation will allow HCPF to move into the Salesforce Management System Interface. This implementation will include modifications in PEAK in preparation Connect for Health Colorado’s New Eligibility System (NES).
- HCPF is currently conducting analysis as to the implementation of the 2018 tax filing threshold for dependents, and whether the implementation can be completed in alignment with Open Enrollment 6 (OE6).

b. Division of Insurance (DOI)

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

- The annual Health Insurance Rate Meeting will take place on October 18th.
- Final approved rates will be released the first week of October.
- The prior authorization for drug benefits rule has been released for comments.

III. County Engagement

The organization’s county engagement project started in November 2017 and attaches directly to the first three goals of Connect for Health Colorado’s strategic plan. Its focus is on creating and building relationships with the Colorado counties; providing support, tools and information so the counties can assist their residents with the eligibility process.

Connect for Health Colorado provides consistent communications including monthly updates at four of the five Colorado Regional Human Services Directors meetings and regular email updates to all 64 counties.

Any training the organization provides is part of HCPF's county incentive program. If counties meet the requirements of the incentives, they are paid additional funds up to their current local share of the cost relating to their work with the medical assistance program.

IV. Elections Update & Board Legislative Policy Review

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) just released the Public Charge Proposed Rule for public comment.

'Public Charge' is a term used in immigration law to assess whether an immigrant applying for visa, admission, or a green card (lawful permanent residence, or LPR) may be reliant on government benefits. Certain immigrants are not subject to the rule, those deemed by the government to be a 'public charge' may be denied a green card and/or visa renewal.

Currently, benefits considered in determining who is likely to become a 'public charge' are limited to cash benefits such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and other types of non-monetized benefits are prohibited from inclusion.

The just released proposed rule does not include advance premium tax credits (APTC) or cost-share reductions (CSRs). However, the proposed rule will have impact on mixed households and will likely impact whether people will apply for assistance.

Connect for Health Colorado is considering commenting on the proposed rule and will discuss further at the October Board meeting.

The organization's policy team has engaged with the campaign teams for the two major party candidates running for Governor.

A timeline for legislative engagement was reviewed for the next few months following the election.

The committee reviewed the current policy for the Board's legislative approach. Members asked for detailed examples on how to interpret the term "direct and significant impact", examples will be brought to the October Board meeting for review.

IV. Marketing Strategy

Staff reviewed the marketing department's messaging strategy timeline for Open Enrollment 6 (OE6).

Starting in October, the organization will be reaching out to current customers as well as potential customers who may be APTC eligible, to get the message out encouraging people to shop, as well as informing people that they may be eligible for financial help.

Once OE6 begins, emphasis will be on comparison shopping and the messaging of crucial deadlines.

V. Broker Terms of Service

Members of the broker community raised some concerns regarding the language in the terms and conditions agreement section of the broker portal.

Connect for Health Colorado's terms and condition section will state that the organization can make changes to the broker portal with notice to the community. Additionally, any suspension or termination of service to an agent will be noticed, with reason.

The organization will work with the Broker Focus group on clarification around how the noticing will look and establish the precedent for cause.

The DOI requested to be notified in any case of a broker being terminated for cause.

VI. Public Comment

Public comment given by:

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon O'Hara
Policy Committee Chair