

WV Health Innovation Collaborative Newsletter

One Davis Square, Charleston, WV 25301

GOHELP & The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources

Recap of October Meetings

Lower Cost: The Lower Cost Workgroup heard presentations from BMS Deputy Commissioner of Finance, Tony Atkins, on current and projected Medicaid expenditures; historical and future budget information at the state-level from Mark Muchow, Deputy Secretary for the Department of Revenue; and information on the SEDI Project, an effort to reduce health care costs with community health care workers in Mingo County via its diabetes coalition.

Research Findings

The Kaiser Family Foundation released its Kaiser Health Tracking Poll results for October. The poll tracks respondents' views on the ACA, health insurance and health insurance marketplace open enrollment. The second round of open enrollment starts on November 15, but the poll found that nine in 10 uninsured adults ages 18-64 (89%) are unaware of this fact, including those who do not know the time and those who guessed the wrong time period. The results show other gaps in knowledge about the ACA. Approximately 66% do not know or know little about the marketplaces, and 53% are unaware of the availability of health subsidies. Still, 59% of the uninsured said they intend to purchase health insurance coverage in the next several months.

Notably, of the 38% who intend to remain uninsured, 18% reported affordability as a key barrier, while 12% said they did not want to be forced into buying it.

Related: *Morning Consult* surveyed likely voters to understand how well they know and understand basic health insurance terms: 77% of voters correctly identified what the term insurance deductible means, and 58% understand what a co-pay is and how it works. This could be a positive sign as health care consumers head into open enrollment. In addition, 15% of voters indicated they are "almost certain" or "very likely" to purchase health insurance on the marketplace. Last week America's Health Insurance Plans published a 22-page guide to help consumers navigate information around provider networks in their health plans and understand the connection to their health care costs. It discusses why and how networks are used by health plans, how provider networks can affect premiums and out-of-pocket spending, how consumers can identify providers that are in their networks and what consumers should know about out-of-network care.

Federal Announcements and Grant Opportunities

In late October, Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Burwell announced the launch of the Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (TCPI), a new, innovative model to support clinicians in achieving large-scale health care transformation. The TCPI will provide up to \$840 million over the next four years to support 150,000 clinicians in sharing, adapting and further developing comprehensive quality improvement strategies, which are expected to lead to greater improvement in patient health and reduction in health care costs.

TCPI Fact Sheet:

<http://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2014-Fact-sheets-items/2014-10-23.html>

Funding Opportunity Announcements: <http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/Transforming-Clinical-Practices/>

The Health Care Cost Institute (HCCI) and the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) are launching the State Health Policy Grant Program with a \$1.5 million grant from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation. The program will support five research projects analyzing how states are implementing the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and other reforms to improve their health care systems. The research will help identify the most effective ways to improve health care quality and lower costs. [Click to the learn more.](#)

Federal Announcements and Grant Opportunities Cont.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the Regional Rural Development Centers are partnering to implement a national program to explore options for community-implemented early warning systems with respect to community-level incidence of behavioral health issues. The incidence of these issues and how they are expressed varies by place and across time, so local monitoring and intervention techniques are important.

The Community Assessment and Education to Promote Behavioral Health Planning and Evaluation Phase II (CAPE 2) project will fund land grant universities and their partners to implement locally-based early warning systems. This is a national competition; both individuals and teams are welcome to submit proposals to join the CAPE 2 project in one of two categories:

- **Innovation Communities:** The activity includes designing and implementing an innovation and potentially replicable early warning protocol around a locally determined set of community behavioral health issues.
- **Barometer Communities:** The activity includes recruiting a panel of thirty knowledgeable local individuals who will be compensated to participate in a nationally designed biweekly community behavioral health survey and coordinating community priority setting and implementation to respond to emerging issues. The CAPE 2 project will compensate survey participants and offset 0.7 FTE of local team member salary.

Proposals are due November 19, 2014. Up to \$150,000 is available for each innovation community.

For additional information, [click here](#).

Opportunity to Participate

It's not too late to join the West Virginia Health Information Technology (WVHIT) workgroup! If you or others you know are interested in this exciting opportunity and would like to participate, please email Chris Clark at Chris.R.Clark@wv.gov to join the listserv.

Periodic progress reports will be shared with the larger WV Health Innovation Collaborative group.

Upcoming Webinar

Patient-Centered Pediatrics: Coordinating Care for Kids

This [webinar](#), hosted by NIHCM Foundation and the American Academy of Pediatrics, will highlight efforts to strengthen care coordination for kids. Speakers will discuss the following:

- an overview of the systems changes taking place in health care delivery for children, including the impact of the Affordable Care Act on children's health care
- national efforts to support medical homes for children, including State Innovation Model Grants focused on delivery system transformation in public programs such as Medicaid and CHIP
- a health plan program encouraging pediatricians and family doctors to coordinate care teams by offering enhanced earnings for better outcomes
- a value-based payment model that includes an inventive peer-learning initiative aimed at helping more practices achieve quality metrics

[Register](#) now for this free event. An agenda is available on NIHCM's [website](#).

Workgroup Meetings

- **Better Health:** Nov. 18, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
- **Better Care:** Nov. 18, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm
- **Lower Cost:** Nov. 19, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

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