

Arkansas Health Benefits Planning Exchange

State Agencies	May 26, 2011	Arkansas Insurance Department – Hearing Room	2:00PM – 4:00PM
----------------	--------------	--	-----------------

<p>State Agencies</p> <p>Members Present:</p> <p>Joni Jones Anna Makogonora Marquita Little Michael Crump Clint Ball Linda Greer David Boling Jason Lee George Platte</p> <p>Staff:</p> <p>Cindy Crone Bruce Donaldson</p>	<p>Members Absent:</p> <p>Marilyn Strickland Sheena Olson Dawn Zekis Claire Bailey Kym Patterson Frank Scott - called Ray Scott Dr. Paul Halverson</p>
--	--

Meeting Summary

Welcome

The Arkansas Studies Institute Curator provided a brief overview of the ASI and the history of its buildings. The award-winning Center is a partnership between UALR and the Central Arkansas Library System. For more information, see www.cals.lib.ar.us/arstudies/index.htm Meeting space is provided at no cost to community groups.

Update on Exchange Planning Efforts

- *Since the last Workgroup meeting, Commissioner Bradford appointed a Health Benefits Exchange Planning Steering Committee to guide and coordinate various Insurance Department-led planning efforts (handout). A chart (handout) showing relationships between Steering Committee and AID leadership, Exchange Planning Staff, Six Workgroups, UAMS Stakeholder work, and overall Exchange Planning Background Research Vendor was discussed—it is also available on Exchange Planning Website, <http://www.hbe.arkansas.gov>. The Information Technology Workgroup is soon to be launched.*
- *UAMS is close to finalizing the 45 community meetings to be held in 15 communities across the state during June in Arkadelphia, Clarksville, Clinton, Dumas, El Dorado, Fort Smith, Helena, Jonesboro, Little Rock, Mountain Home, Pine Bluff, Searcy, Springdale, Texarkana, and West Memphis. The final listing of times and dates of meetings will be emailed to workgroups and posted on Exchange Planning Website. Workgroup members were encouraged to help publicize meetings.*
- *First Data Government Solutions was selected as Background Research and Planning vendor following competitive review of eight applications. The contract is not yet final, but is expected to be executed soon with timeframe for work June 1 – August 31, 2011. Scope of Work includes coordinating with planning workgroups.*
- *Highlights of CCIIO grantee meeting in Denver and Utah Exchange Invitational Meeting to States in Salt Lake City—both in May--were presented. More complete information about each meeting can be found on Health Benefits Exchange Planning Website.*
- *A website (handout) is being populated with various Health Benefits Exchange Planning documents, including meeting schedules, summaries, and other information including quarterly reports to CCIIO. The address is <http://www.hbe.arkansas.gov>*

Exchange Planning Discussion

During their initial meeting facilitated by Dr. Angela Brenton, the Exchange Planning Steering Committee created a list of questions to be addressed by each Exchange Planning Workgroup. Some questions will be posed to all workgroups; others are group-specific. The intent of this approach is for the Steering Committee to receive and review key discussion points presented by diverse stakeholders, and weave the discussion/information from all Six Workgroups, UAMS contract, Background Research vendor, Staff and other stakeholders into an overall plan for the Arkansas Health Benefits Exchange.

Discussion of Workgroup Questions:

1. Who is the Exchange to benefit?
 - a. All Arkansans
 - b. Tax payers

- c. State Agencies
- d. Consumers
- e. Insured/Uninsured/Underinsured
- f. Medicaid beneficiaries - Medicaid is insurance - "choice", HIPP, dual eligibles
- g. Providers – healthcare
- h. *Auto enrollment/mandatory coverage issue* – for later
- i. Small employers
- j. Insurers – Expanded/captured market
- k. Agent/broker

2. What is your vision of what the Arkansas Health Benefits Exchange should be and how it should operate?
- a. Health coverage
 - b. Shopping environment including web-based access
 - c. Seamless
 - d. Consumer-friendly
 - e. Options of Qualified Health Plans
 - f. Individualized – according to health needs or wants
 - g. Attracts/informs consumers (spawning other entrepreneurial innovations)
 - h. Gateway to referral for other state/other services – integrated
 - i. Rules engines and data matching beyond "normal healthcare marketplace"
 - j. Authenticates income – accurate and real time
 - k. Vehicle for consumers to report life changes (divorce, job change, etc.) – consumer would key directly into Exchange for later authentication
 - l. Secure environment
 - m. Reliable system with adequate capacity – no down time, back-up plans
 - n. Access to additional information
 - o. Addresses various levels of health literacy
3. Should the Exchange be a regulator or an administrator of health coverage?
- a. Exchange – administrator (Brings customer focus)
 - b. Arkansas Insurance Department/Medicaid – Regulator (plans, consumer complaints)



Additional Questions/Comments:

- Does individual have choice to opt out of Medicaid?
- Navigator role – knowledgeable; certified – humans *for later discussion*
- Arkansas Statewide Exchange?
- SHOP regional? Individual Statewide?
- Enough numbers (covered lives) to be cost effective?