

CHAC Monthly Meeting
October 13, 2017
Durango Recreation Center

Attendees:

Christie Schler, MRMC; CHAC Board	Susan Allerton, Community member
Kari Plante, SJBPH	Margaret Martin, Indivisible Durango
Elsa Inman, MRMC	Kevin O'Connor, SJBPH
Dave Rich, Seniors Outdoors	Laura Branson, Community member
Guinn Unger, Indivisible Durango	Jenny Treanor, MRMC
Vic Lopez, CHAC Board	Claire Ninde, SJBPH
Lauren Patterson, LPFCC	Laura Warner, SJBPH
Anne Strainis, LPFCC	Barb Cannon, VITA
Jean Villeneuve, LPFCC	Kathy Robbins, Comfort Keepers
Bill Warren, Axis	Doug McCarthy, Commonwealth Fund
Stephanie Allred, Axis	Kevin Heckman, Walcott Insurance
Morgan Williams, MRMC	pattie adler, CHAC
Dana Mallahan, MRMC	Kathy Sherer, CHAC

“My Life: Deciding in Advance” (Advance Care Planning) – pattie adler, CHAC

The first year ended on 9/30/17 with a report submitted to our funder; please let pattie know if you'd like to read it. The Advisory Committee met to begin planning for the second year which will be similar to the first one. There will be more than one “larger” event that community members can attend (in addition to our speakers going out to groups). Please request a free presentation and/or contact with a Personal Resource Specialist to work with individuals and families in a deeper way by emailing/calling Kathy or pattie.

Medical Coverage Collaborative – Lauren Patterson, Family Center

In 2015, a multi-year grant was received from the Colorado Health Foundation that allowed the Medical Coverage Collaborative (MCC) to conduct coordinated outreach and enrollment in La Plata and Archuleta counties. Enrollment specialists are trained to enroll for Medicaid, CHP+ and Connect for Health Colorado. The lead agency is the La Plata Family Centers Coalition.

In January 2017, a strategic plan was adopted by the MCC. Its goals were:

1. Collaborate and coordinate with community partners to ensure clients receive appropriate, non-duplicative services and are connected to other social support services as needed.
2. Intentionally identify, message to, and educate clients about their health coverage options.
3. Increase client self-sufficiency by providing health insurance literacy, enrollment and renewal education.
4. Ensure clients have linguistically and culturally appropriate assistance to enroll in and maintain their health coverage.
5. Continually provide or access best practice training opportunities for all staff to ensure consistency and quality of service delivery by assisters.
6. Support advocacy efforts to increase user-friendly and effective functioning of health coverage policies and systems.

7. Participate in data collection that tracks outreach and enrollment efforts to assess program effectiveness, goal achievement and continual learning of partner organizations.

Outreach results for LPFCC and Archuleta DHS from April 2015 through September 2017:

- Number of tracked outreach events – 192
- Number reached face to face by these events – 3,585
- Print materials distributed including two direct mail campaigns to select zip codes in 2 counties – 13,750

Enrollment results for La Plata Family Centers Coalition (LPFCC), La Plata Dept. of Human Services (DHS), and Archuleta DHS from April 2015 through September 2017:

- Medicaid – 5,340
- CHP+ – 282
- Connect for Health Colorado – 377
- Total Enrollments – 5,999

www.coveredhq.org is an online tool that provides customized health insurance literacy messaging.

What's New for Connect for Health Colorado 2018 – Kevin O'Connor, SJBPH

- A lot of uncertainty with changes happening daily.
- Open enrollment period is 3 weeks shorter this year – Nov. 1 to Jan. 12.
- Enroll by Dec. 15 to maintain insurance in Jan.
- Statistics show that majority of people either renew their existing plan or create a new enrollment by Dec. 15.
- Rates are going up 27% on average (some up more and some down).
- When cost goes up, the subsidies go up as well which could result in people paying less.
- CIGNA is not participating in our county – its customers may be granted a special enrollment period (until end of Feb.).
- Anthem is still in.
- Friday Health is offering plans in all areas with Centura facilities: www.fridayhealthplans.com or 800-475-8466. They are well-designed and easy to understand, but perhaps has a limited network.
- CHP+ has not yet been reapproved. The Colorado Healthcare Policy & Finance Dept. has enough money to last through January. Anyone who does lose coverage will qualify for a special enrollment period and will have the opportunity to enroll through Connect for Health and private health insurance. Most kids have parents who are eligible for assistance through the marketplace.
- Yesterday (10/12/17), a federal Executive Order was signed allowing Association Health Plans and shorter term coverage going back 364 days. It isn't certain how long it will take for the rules and regulations to be created or when it will go into effect. It's likely to be challenged in the courts. These plans are for groups of people who have something in common (like teachers, farmers, etc.).

What hasn't changed:

- Will still be a penalty for not having health insurance.
- Medicaid expansion remains in place – no changes in 2018.

Kevin will be giving a presentation on this topic at the Durango library on Oct. 19 and Oct. 24, 6 to 8 PM.

Information & Enrollment events will be given at the Fairgrounds, Dec. 2, 8AM and at the Archuleta County Human Services office on Dec. 9.

The Colorado Health Institute (CHI) recently published its 2017 Colorado Health Access Survey which includes insurance information. Please go to coloradohealthinstitute.org or (303) 831-4200.

Advocacy Issues

Guinn Unger – Indivisible Durango's Healthcare Committee is now called the Healthcare & Senior Issues Committee. Their primary effort right now is education. A presentation was held last night at the Durango library, and they're also in the process of setting up to show a movie called *Now is the Time*. Guinn will present at the Dec. 8 CHAC monthly meeting. All the Indivisible committees are independent, non-partisan, and factual.

Kevin O'Connor – We have 70,000 children on CHP+ and 800 pregnant women in Colorado. We need to constantly remind our elected officials of how many people will be affected if CHP+ is eliminated/reduced.

Updates and Networking

Kari Plante – The next Oral Health Coalition meeting will be Nov. 16, 5:30-7:00 PM at the Fairgrounds. There is a new orthodontist in town who will be treating Medicaid kids starting in November. Kari is the Dental Navigator for SJBPH. She provides specific care coordination to Health First Colorado Medicaid members with identified oral health needs. Contact her at kplante@sjbpublichealth.org or 970-335-2034.

Vic Lopez – Mercy Hospice HOME is up and running. Call 382-2000 if you would like to tour the facility.

Christie Schler – The Mercy Health Foundation has a fund for mammograms. Their annual fundraiser, the Journey of Hope 5K Run/Walk, is happening tomorrow (10/14/17).

Barb Cannon – Barb is a volunteer with VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance). Seniors can call the Senior Center for an appointment to get free help with their taxes. Seniors are seen on Mondays at the Fairgrounds. Non-seniors are seen without charge on Saturdays at the Fairgrounds, provided their annual income is \$56K or less. These people can call 335-9776 to schedule an appointment.

Jean Villeneuve – The Family Center's 11th Fall Festival is happening at Three Springs on Saturday Oct. 28, 11AM to 2PM. There will be trick or treating, live music, arts & crafts booths, games, and more. Some activities ask for a small donation to support the Family Center. Visit www.threespringsdurango.com for details.

Stephanie Allred – Axis is launching a Jail Transitions Program. This program provides help for inmates for 3 months after their release in an effort to reduce recidivism. It is funded by SB94 monies through the State Office of Behavioral Health (OBH).

Kathy Robbins – The Caregiver Learning Academy is being launched in the next couple of months. This is a certified program for someone wanting to become a caregiver, or for a family member who needs to learn how to care for a loved one. It's a 43 hour online program and scholarships are available. For more information, contact www.caregiverlearningacademy.com or call 888-518-6500.

Doug McCarthy – Here in La Plata County we're very fortunate to have so many programs and services available. We should all be very thankful and proud.

pattie adler: The CHAC Board is beginning to look at CHAC's future after the ACP grant from the Colorado Health Foundation ends next Fall. The Board now has a Sustainability Team and is thinking about a needs assessment to identify the next possible project. Your input is valuable and welcome so please contact a Board member or pattie with ideas. There will continue to be two-way communication between the Board and members as this process proceeds.

Please renew (or join) your membership dues now. Paying before 12/31/17 offers a tax deduction for 2017.

The next monthly CHAC meeting is scheduled for November 10 from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. at the Durango Rec. Center. The presentation will be by Mary Frey about the Regional Health Connector Program.

Meeting notes submitted by Kathy Sherer with minor additions by pattie adler