

**Louisiana Health Care Commission (LHCC) Meeting Minutes  
Poydras Building Hearing Room  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
May 30, 2014**

**Members present:** Leah Barron, Robert Barsley, Evola Bates, Eric Baumgartner, Scott Broussard, Roderick Campbell, John Steven Caraway, Julie Cherry, Derrell Cohoon, Rita Finn, Donna Fraiche, Linda Hawkins, Hedy Hebert, Eva Lamendola, Calder Lynch, Rachel Moore, Ron Nezat, Korey Patty, Phyllis Perron, Debra Rushing, Tej Shah, Cheryl Tolbert and Laura Trunk

**Members absent:** Robelynn Abadie, Rhonda Bagby, Coletta Barrett, Amy David, Holley Galland, Korey Harvey, Brenda Hatfield, Bridgette Jamison, Anil Kukreja, Jesse Lambert, Donna Mayeux, John D. Monlezun, Sr., Andrew Muhl, Jeremy Stillwell, Representative Ledricka Thierry, Jennifer Valois, Chris Vidrine and Senator Rick Ward, III

**Staff present:** Crystal Marchand Campbell, Kristen Kieren and Vanessa Vince

Chairperson Donna Fraiche called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Ms. Julie Cherry made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2014 meeting and Ms. Leah Barron seconded the motion.

Ms. Tracie Ingram, State Rural Health Officer, Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health, Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) discussed the free resources available to Louisiana's rural and medically underserved areas. She stated that their office works to build the health care safety net for Louisiana citizens in the best possible way; which includes Medicaid, Medicare and the uninsured population. Ms. Ingram advised that the State Office of Rural Health lies within the Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health and has a federal grant within DHH to collect and disseminate information, coordinate rural health activities and provide technical assistance.

Ms. Ingram stated that Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are generally larger centers, must be nonprofit and located in urban or rural areas. She also stated that they serve the uninsured, Medicaid and Medicare population and provide mental health and dental services. Ms. Ingram explained that rural health clinics must be located in rural and underserved areas yet do not have to provide mental health and dental services. She advised that most of the clinics serve the uninsured and charge based on a sliding fee scale. Ms. Ingram stated that rural health clinics are licensed in Louisiana and FQHCs involve a grant and federal process.

Mr. Calder Lynch, Chief of Staff, Department of Health and Hospitals, stated that approximately eight million people enrolled in the marketplace plans and about 102,000 individuals in Louisiana selected a marketplace plan. He stated that Louisiana is a "Determination State" allowing the federal exchange to determine Medicaid eligibility when individuals access healthcare.gov or call the toll free number. Mr. Lynch further stated that although Louisiana did not expand Medicaid, there are approximately 14,359 Louisiana residents that are eligible for Medicaid determined by the marketplace records. He advised that the federal government is currently not at the point of electronically transferring the individual's file and that DHH receives a "flat file," which is an excel spreadsheet that the DHH staff uses to review the determination records for accuracy. Mr. Lynch advised that a single streamline application the federal government created is about three times longer than the one previously used in the state. He also advised that DHH has seen a one percent decrease in Medicaid enrollment. Mr. Lynch

stated that determining the number of new marketplace enrollees previously uninsured is difficult and estimates vary due to several national surveys and polls. He also stated that on a national level, only 28 percent of new marketplace enrollees fall in the 19-34 age group often called the “young invincibles.” In Louisiana, this group makes up approximately 32 percent of enrollees.

Mr. Lynch reported on the LSU Partnerships with several local hospitals and the improvements that hospitals are experiencing due to the partnerships. He also updated the Commission members on the Bayou Health Medicaid program which is in the third year of operation and serves approximately 900,000 enrollees, about two-thirds of the Medicaid enrollment. Mr. Lynch discussed a new health initiative by DHH called Well Ahead that encourages businesses, schools, hospitals, workplaces, etc. to be recognized as a health leader in Louisiana upon meeting certain criteria.

Mr. Eric Baumgartner, chair of the ACA Working Group reported that the working group has conducted several meetings and the members clarified the mission. He stated that the group is seeking to determine the type of information that is needed pertaining to ACA and establishing data points to identify and prioritize the issues. Mr. Baumgartner also stated that three groups make up the working group; LHCC members, other interested volunteer members and the LHCC staff. He invited everyone to remain for the ACA Working Group meeting following the adjournment of the LHCC meeting.

With no further business, Commission member Derrell Cohoon offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commission member Linda Hawkins seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.