

Communities Connect Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, April 9, 2010
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Maria, Community Choice; Debbie, Community-Minded Enterprises; Libby, CHOICE Regional Health Network; Patty, WithinReach; Jackie, Whatcom Alliance for Healthcare Access; Diane, Skagit Valley Hospital

Meeting Objectives

- CBCCN update
- Legislative update

Minutes

<i>Topic (Desired Outcome)</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Leader</i>
Introductions and Agenda Review	Info	Patty
<p>Community Based Collaborative Care Networks (formerly CCAQI) Libby Weisdepp CHOICE</p> <p>Originally called Community Coalitions for Access and Quality Improvement (CCAQI), this federal legislation is part of HCAP to provide funds for community coalitions. Shortly after this bill was introduced, the president began his national healthcare reform efforts and it was realized that a stand-alone bill such as this one would not get much focus due to the larger effort. CCAQI and another similar bill were then combined into the Community Based Collaborative Care Networks (CBCCN) amendment, with the intent to reduce unnecessary use of emergency departments and improve access to care. CBCCN was included in the health reform bill that passed in the House in November. Senator Murray inserted it into the Senate version, although it was cut from 17 to 3 pages; details were removed but the intent stayed the same. The Senate's version passed as part of the larger healthcare bill package.</p> <p>The bill is currently in appropriations. As written the amendment states "such sum as may be necessary will be appropriated;" \$120 million was submitted to the House appropriations committee and a similar request will be submitted to the Senate appropriations committee. Each senator has an opportunity to submit a letter of request for funding to the appropriations committee; representatives from Communities Joined in Action, other collaboratives and NACHC will request their senators request these funds. There is a tight timeline to be included in 2011 appropriations, but the requests will give momentum to getting the funding in the 2012 budget.</p> <p>Libby is confident Senator Murray will make the funding request to the appropriations committee. Communities Connect members can assist this effort by contacting Senator Cantwell's office. Libby will send a justification paper to Jackie, who will forward it to members. Questions about this can be sent to Libby.</p> <p>If these funds are included in 2011 appropriations, HRSA will decide to do small or larger project grants.</p>	Info	Patty
<p>Legislative wrap up</p> <p>HRSA announced yesterday 160 people are being laid off. Patty was on a conference call about this earlier today and hopes to have more updates next week. It is uncertain if these are administrative cuts being made per the governor's order last fall or new, preemptive layoffs for the current budget shortfall. Tyron Nixon, the HRSA staff person who coordinates the Apple Health application outreach reimbursement program is one of those being laid off, as well as all CSO family nurses. There is a proposal to eliminate the MED unit used for approving Medicaid eligibility, shifting this work back to the CSOs and causing even further delays for individuals waiting for coverage. There is another proposal to eliminate the employee sponsored insurance program, costing the state</p>	Info	Patty

<p>future CHIPRA funding opportunities. Lastly, there are plans for reductions at the CSOs and other minor internal cuts. The intent of the cuts was not to impact clients and providers, but clearly these cuts will have a huge impact for both.</p> <p>Currently, lobbyists from various organizations are mobilizing and developing talking points around these cuts. Patty requested members send her any examples of CSO or call center overload or delays for an email she is preparing today (information is needed by noon). The state revenue package is currently around \$8 million and the legislature hopes to finish this weekend.</p> <p>Also at risk in the budget are Apple Health outreach dollars. These funds were eliminated in the Senate budget but maintained in the House version.</p> <p>As of May 1 Doug Porter will oversee both HCA and HRSA, which has implications for Communities Connect's contract for collaborative work. Holly and Patty are trying to get an update on the status of the CHCC grants. Patty will send members a recent memo from Doug Porter. This is for information only and no action from members is requested at this time. Patty and Holly will send out updates as they are available.</p>		
<p>Review of Next Steps & Assignments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Membership Meeting: Friday, May 14, 10:00 • Membership Dues reminder Jackie mentioned that all those present on today's call have paid their dues. 		Patty