



New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Work Group Minutes

Work Group	Essential Health Benefits	Date	7/31/2012
Facilitator	Rick Wallace	Time	9:00 a.m. MT
Location	Conference Call/ In-Person	Scribe	Cicero Group

Agenda Item
 Discussion Item
 Conclusion
 Action Item

Attendees			
No.	Name	No.	Name
1.	Rick Wallace (<i>Team Lead</i>)	8.	Kari Armijo
2.	Dan Case (<i>Cicero Group</i>)	9.	Teresa Gomez
3.	Joyce Powers	10.	Charlotte Roybal
4.	Heather Rising	11.	Martin Hickey
5.	Debbie Armstrong	12.	Kathryn Toone (<i>Leavitt Partners</i>)
6.	Judi Gerth	13.	Jonni Pool (<i>Human Services Department</i>)
7.	Milton Sanchez (<i>Human Services Department</i>)		

Agenda Item 1: Introduction

Name: Rick Wallace

DISCUSSION ITEM 1	Welcome
Rick Wallace called the Work Group together by welcoming each member. Members provided brief introductions of themselves and their professional backgrounds.	
DISCUSSION ITEM 2	Work Group Task
Kathryn Toone provided the Work Group with an overview of their assigned task. It was indicated that the State of New Mexico has yet to address Essential Health Benefits and that the group's purpose is to provide critical input and ultimately a final recommendation in this area to the Task Force.	

Agenda Item 2: EHB Overview and Charter

Name: Rick Wallace

DISCUSSION ITEM 1	Group Charter
Rick Wallace presented members with the Work Group's target timeline. It was stated that the Work Group members would focus their attention on a single question during each meeting. The goal of this methodology is to ensure each question is thoroughly addressed. The projected schedule would allow the Work Group to conclude the meetings by September 18 th .	
DISCUSSION ITEM 2	Plan Comparison Document

New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange Work Group Minutes

Debbie Armstrong inquired about the methodology that should be used to define an Essential Health Benefits package. It was argued that without a side-by-side comparison document for determining gaps in coverage, the group's assigned task would be very difficult. Furthermore, the Work Group requested a comprehensive list of all state mandated health benefits to help in their analysis.

Heather Rising noted that the state's largest health insurance companies are currently meeting at the Division of Insurance with John Franchini to review their plan summaries. It was also noted that the meeting would likely determine the potential Essential Health Benefits plans. Heather Rising indicated that she would follow up with meeting attendees to see if a plan-comparison document would be/has been compiled.

DISCUSSION ITEM 3

Workforce Shortages

Joyce Powers argued that as the Work Group reviews potential Essential Health Benefits packages, members should be conscious of current workforce shortages (e.g. primary care physicians and nurse practitioners). The Work Group members stated that although it is not under their group's purview, other Work Groups should be made aware of the need for compensation restructuring. The notion is that compensation, particularly for nurse practitioners, should be restructured to facilitate higher supply in order to meet the much-anticipated demand.

DISCUSSION ITEM 4

Follow-up Meeting

The Work Group concluded that without a plan comparison document, final recommendations on Essential Health Benefits would be premature. Several tasks were delegated to the members and depending on the outcome, Rick Wallace will decide if a pre-Work Group meeting is necessary.

CONCLUSIONS

Members concluded that without a plan-comparison document, the Work Group is unable to address the required topics. Heather Rising will be responsible for obtaining the status on such a document, and would potentially develop the document if one has not already been created.

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

DEADLINE

Obtain information on recent insurance carrier meeting with the Department of Insurance.

Heather Rising and Milton Sanchez

Not Determined

Distribute list of state health benefit mandates to the Work Group.

Jonni Pool

August 14, 2012