

**Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Access to Care Committee
Goley Pointe Management Office/Community Building, 115 N. Goley Street., Durham
March 9, 2017
MINUTES**

Facilitator: Lloyd Schmeidler

Access to Care: This committee's activities include advocating for changes that will affect health care coverage for residents across all ages and developing community and agency-based strategies to make measurable improvements in access to care for the uninsured and underinsured residents of Durham.

Meeting Outcomes

- Outcome 1: Receive update on efforts to expand Medicaid in North Carolina and identify opportunities for committee members to advocate for improvements to Medicaid and/or Affordable Care Act implementation
- Outcome 2: Receive updates on what Committee workgroups are doing to implement their work plans and/or their follow up on specific strategies to reduce racial inequities.

Present: Elizabeth Brill, Angeloe Burch Sr., Anne Drennan, Philip Harewood, Bryan Jenkins, Charita McCollers, Marissa Mortiboy, Richard Paddock, Angel Romero, Lloyd Schmeidler, Jen Meade, Gina Upchurch, Sally Wilson, Tiki Windley <i>Guest: Ciara Zachary</i>			
Project/Topic/Goal	Major Discussion Points	Recommendations	Action Steps
Welcome & Introductions <i>Lloyd Schmeidler. & All</i>			
Review & Approve February Minutes/Notes <i>Lloyd Schmeidler</i>	The Oral Health workgroup is exploring a number of options for expanding dental health in Durham County including the one described in the minutes.		Marissa will make the change and send to Lloyd and Angeloe.
Update on Medicaid Expansion <i>Ciara Zachary, PhD, MPH Policy Analyst, Health Advocacy Project, NC Justice Center</i>	<p>The U.S. Congress is working to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and have issued the American Health Care Act which reduces the Medicaid expansion. The goal is to vote on the bill the week of April 3. The proposal calls for a phase out of expanded Medicaid in 2020.</p> <p>There is currently a temporary restraining order on Medicaid expansion in North Carolina. There will be a hearing later this month regarding the order. Out of the 31 states and D.C. that expanded Medicaid, about half have Republican governors. Some of those governors have requested to speak with the president about keeping Medicaid expansion. Legislatures in conservative states such as Kansas and Virginia are currently making efforts to expand Medicaid in their states.</p>		

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	<p>Governor Cooper's budget includes funds to expand Medicaid. There is an opportunity for individuals to advocate with lawmakers to protect and expand Medicaid and not institute a capped payment system.</p> <p>The ACA has a 90% Medicaid match until 2019. Under the new bill, Medicaid funds would be capped per patient using a consumer price index. The new bill includes \$10 billion for 19 non-expansion states over the next five years based on populations. Once the per capita funds are used for a patient, the state is responsible for the rest of the patient costs. Issues that could be caused by the American Health Care Act could include longer waiting lists, reduced payments to providers and cuts to other state programs.</p> <p>Two proposals for restructuring Medicaid include a block grant to the states for a set amount per patient or a voucher system based on per patient.</p> <p>Health Action NC, a statewide coalition which the North Carolina Justice Center is a member of, is planning a Protect and Expand Health Care Week of Advocacy (March 29th – April 4th). On Tuesday April 4th, advocates from across the state will convene in Raleigh to hold various press events and lobby to state lawmakers that they need to not only enact health policies to protect North Carolinians, but speak with NC's Congressional delegation to stop AHCA or any other proposals that will dismantle current health policy and programs.</p> <p>Emily Carmody with the NC Center for Homelessness shared through a phone call with Lloyd that the Medicaid expansion decision by the governor is being challenged in courts. The state of North Carolina is moving ahead with housing support for individuals with severe mental illness as a service to be provided by Medicaid. It will be submitted by May of this year and implementation may begin in 2018.</p>		
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<p>Workgroup Updates <i>Workgroup Chairs</i></p>	<p>The special populations workgroup is meeting March 16, 9 am at Durham County Human Services building in the clinic seven lobby. They are going to meet with a Durham County Department of Public Health nurse about refugee health.</p>		
<p>Community Health Assessment <i>Marissa Mortiboy</i></p>	<p>There will be two sessions of a 2017 Community Health Assessment writers training on March 28 and March 30. A writer is needed in several areas including oral health. The goal is to reduce the size of the assessment and mainly focus on the data. Teams will begin writing sections of the document after the training and have until September or October to complete first drafts. Edits will be made until the end of the year. Duke Health and Durham County Department of Public Health staff will do final edits in January and February 2018. The final report is due March 2018.</p> <p>The Community Health Assessment priorities may change based on data collected during the health assessment process, where the energy is in the community and where people are engaged. Partnership committees will be based on the health priorities.</p>		
<p>Announcements <i>Committee Members</i></p>	<p>Goley Pointe was formerly the Few Gardens housing community. The area has been redeveloped since 2012 with 28 housing units. Twenty units are reserved as permanent housing for chronically homeless families who have a family member with disability prioritized and also for chronically homeless individuals. There is also market rate housing located in the community.</p> <p>The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA) will host a health town meeting at Fisher Memorial in the new future. They have invited Rep. Butterfield and Commissioner Jacobs and representatives from health agencies. They want community members to ask questions and listen to concerns of residents.</p> <p>PremiumHelp has doubled enrollment numbers in the past year including individuals from Durham County. Tiki has been</p>		<p>Marissa will contact Tiki about PremiumHelp information to include on the ACA handout.</p>

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	<p>in conversations with the NC Justice Center about holding an advocacy training in the next month with partner organizations about enrollees can make their voices heard. She is working on setting up a phone line so enrollees can share their stories.</p> <p>Marissa is working on pulling together a handout on the ACA with messaging on how to enroll.</p> <p>The United Way of the Triangle is cutting funding to senior programs such as Meals on Wheels to focus on children and adults. Blue Cross Blue Shield North Carolina is reducing funding to health clinics from \$2 million per year to \$300,000 for the entire state.</p>		
<p>Upcoming Workgroup Meetings: Housing Support Services: March 29, 1-2:30 PM, City Community Dev'pt Dept., 807 E. Main St., 2-200, Oral Health: March 28, 8-9 AM, Health Dept., Durham County Human Services Bldg, First Floor Board Room</p>			