

Dirigo Health Agency  
Board of Directors  
Minutes of Meeting  
November 20, 2006

The Dirigo Health Agency Board of Directors held a meeting on Monday, November 20th, 2006. Dr. Robert McAfee, Chair, convened the meeting at 1:00 PM in the Dirigo Health Agency Board Room, located at 211 Water Street in Augusta. Other Board members in attendance: Ned McCann, Jonathan Beal, Dana Connors, Trish Riley and Acting Commissioner Anne Head. Also in attendance: Karynlee Harrington, Executive Director of the Dirigo Health Agency, Will Kilbreth, Deputy Director of the Dirigo Health Agency and Dr. Dennis Shubert, Director of the Maine Quality Forum.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes from the October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006 meeting.

**Updates from the Governor's Office: Trish Riley**

Ms. Riley provided updates on the Blue Ribbon Commission.

- The group had agreed that it was less important to discuss the uninsured and more important to focus on level of income
- The group was focused on initiatives where they could find consensus or significant majorities
- Next meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> (November)

Ms. Riley provided updates on other statewide and national health policy initiatives.

- The Advisory Council on Health Systems Development
- HealthInfoNet / Governor's Association oversight of electronic exchange
- Open enrollment for Medicare part D
- Public Health Working Group
- SCHIP program
- Medicaid Commission chaired by former Governor King

**Updates from the Maine Quality Forum: Dr. Shubert**

Dr. Shubert discussed the Forum's ongoing projects.

- In a Heartbeat – MQF was engaging in data collection around EMS for myocardial infarction
- Data Website – Dr. Shubert gave updates on the status of the project as well as discussing hospital review.

Dr. Shubert noted that the Maine Hospital Association had sent a letter to the MQF and the Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance expressing concern about using claim (administrative) data to provide quality information about hospitals.

Dr. Shubert noted that he planned to respond to the letter, and indicated that administrative data was already driving quality metrics for provider reimbursement across the country, that administrative data includes co-existing conditions, and that Maine is at the forefront of creating administrative data collection. For these reasons he felt it was appropriate for the MQF to use the data collected to provide quality information.

### **Updates from the Agency: Karynlee Harrington**

Ms. Harrington discussed the status of the DirigoChoice plan and other Agency indicatives.

- Plan Demographics for October
  - Individual enrollment percentage now 44%. Agency is anticipating end of 2006 Individual enrollment of 46% instead of 44% as previously predicted
  - Current average new enrollment is 711 members per month. Dis-enrollment is averaging 336 per month, mostly for non-payment. Ms. Harrington noted her desire to implement a dis-enrollment survey in 2007 if funding would allow.
  - Enrollment appears to be increasing - this fact may be attributable to the recent Anthem mailing to Small Group employers and to the Agency call center. Approximately 45% of callers have applied. Ms. Harrington also noted an improved relationship with Brokers since the inception of the call center.
  
- Recently introduced Chamber Product
  
- DirigoChoice Loss Ratio paid through September 2006:
  - Aggregate 78.5%
  - Individual 101.6%
  - Small group 64.7%
  - Sole Prop 72.3%
  
- Status of Anthem Contract 2007
  - Signed earlier in the morning and had been delivered to the Bureau of Insurance.
  - No EMP in 2007

- The current plan for Individuals and Sole Pops who renew prior to the Superintendent's decision on DirigoChoice rates is to enroll using 2007 Small Group rates.
- The Agency plans to introduce a Customer Service unit to consolidate service requests coming into the Agency
- Agency Financial updates
  - Still cannot produce Balance Sheet as final year end reconciliation not complete with state auditor
  - Ms. Harrington provided the Agency income statement for October 2006
  - Member months are running at 100.6% of projections
  - Costs of subsidy program are running at 97.4% of projections
  - The subsidy PMPM is currently \$189, as opposed to a projection of \$195
  - The subsidy PMPM represents a 19% increase over 2005
- Status of 2006 SOP Law Court hearing
- Update on 2006 SOP receipts
- Ms. Harrington reported on her attendance at a meeting in Boston of the Reforming States Group health policy group
- Ms. Harrington announced Dr. Shubert's resignation effective December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006.

### **Comments from the Public**

Gordon Smith from the MMA gave an update on the practice assessment project that the MQF had contracted

The Board set their next meeting January 8th, 2007.