Louisiana Health Care Commission Meeting Minutes
Poydras Building Hearing Room
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
October 25, 2013

Members present: Rhonda Bagby, Robert Barsley, Evola Bates, Scott Broussard, Roderick Campbell, John Steven Caraway, Derrell Cohoon, Amy David, Rita Finn, Emma Fontenot, Donna Fraiche, Holley Galland, Linda Hawkins, Bridgette Jamison, Anil Kukreja, Donna Mayeux, Rachel Moore, Ron Nezat, Phyllis Perron, Debra Rushing, Tej Shah, Jeremy Stillwell, Representative Ledricka Thierry, Cheryl Tolbert and Laura Trunk


Staff present: Crystal Marchand Campbell and Kristen Kieren

Chairperson Donna Fraiche called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

Mr. Derrell Cohoon made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Donna Mayeux seconded the motion.

Chairperson Fraiche introduced the newest Louisiana Health Care Commission (LHCC) members:

- Amy David, At-Large Appointment
- Rachel Moore, Louisiana State Medical Society

Mr. Greg Cromer, CEO for the Louisiana Health Cooperative discussed technical problems that consumers are having with enrollment in the health insurance market place website for the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Mr. Billy Justice, Director of Marketing and Sales for Vantage Health Plan, Inc. stated that a large segment of the population believes that an individual has to purchase a health insurance policy from the government through the health insurance exchange and may not be aware that an individual can purchase a health insurance policy from a private insurance company.

Mr. Tej Shah, Senior Vice President of Business Development and Strategy for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana (BCBSLA) stated that the office has experienced some difficulty with individuals signing up for health insurance through the exchange. He also stated that December 15, 2013 is the deadline to enroll for coverage to be effective on January 1, 2014.

Ms. Linda Beauvais with the Capital Area Agency Council on Aging discussed the organization’s role as a private, non-profit navigator for the federal health insurance exchange. She stated that the agency serves their traditional service area of thirteen parishes surrounding East Baton Rouge parish and the focus is on individuals age 50 – 65 years old.
Mr. Brian Burton with the Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center (SWLAHEC) discussed the agency’s role as a navigator for the health insurance market place. He stated that SWLAHEC was awarded $1.1 million on behalf of the four Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) in Louisiana.

Ms. Jordan Ring with The Martin Luther King Health Center, Inc. discussed the navigator grant the clinic received and the clients that are assisted.

Mr. Jonathan Chapman with the Primary Care Association advised that the organization has had some success in enrolling individuals over the telephone for health insurance through the marketplace; however, he stated that an issue is that some people believe that the health insurance is free.

Ms. Emma Fontenot, Deputy Commissioner, Office of Health Insurance, Louisiana Department of Insurance, discussed the review and approval of the health insurance plans approved by the LDI on the federal health insurance exchange for the ACA.

Mr. Barry Ward, Deputy Commissioner, Licensing & Compliance of the LDI briefly discussed the health insurance producers and navigators for the health insurance marketplace. He stated that the LDI does not maintain records of health insurance producers that are certified to sell health insurance for the marketplace.

Ms. Crystal Campbell briefly discussed the two active LHCC subcommittees. She stated that the LHCC Access to Care Brochure Subcommittee will have new health care resource guides for the Northshore and Southwest Louisiana areas available in December. She also stated that health care resource guides for the Acadiana and Houma regions will be created in February, 2014. Ms. Campbell briefly discussed the LHCC Medicaid subcommittee that was created at the August 23, 2013 LHCC meeting and suggested that the LHCC members advise if there are any additional issues that should be studied.

Chairperson Fraiche suggested forming a central repository for questions and information sharing in regards to the ACA. A motion was made to amend the LHCC meeting agenda to provide for a new subcommittee to serve as a repository for questions and comments from the public regarding the ACA. The motion was approved. Commission member, Dr. Anil Kukreja made a motion to vote for the creation of the subcommittee. Dr. Holley Galland seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the motion was approved.

With no further business, Commission member Dr. Robert Barsley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commission member Mr. Scott Broussard seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.