



President's Report to the Board of Directors

Monday, June 28, 2021

- **Funding:**
 - Focus has shifted to Infrastructure Bill with \$10 billion ask for the Community Health Center Program (resource material attached to this report).
- **Covid Response:** No new federal activity to report.
- **340B Drug Pricing Program:**
 - Re: Manufacturer refusal to honor 340B pricing at contract pharmacies:
 - Negative: HRSA has rescinded its December 30, 2020 Advisory Opinion issued by General Counsel.
 - Positive: In the same action, HRSA has stated this action does not negate the letters sent to 6 offending manufacturers finding them in violation of 340B statute for not providing 340B priced medications to CE contract pharmacies with potential civil monetary penalties to be paid to CEs harmed.
 - Re: Data requests and resultant discriminatory reimbursement:
 - We have worked with other 340B advocates to craft federal legislation prohibiting discriminatory reimbursement based on 340B status. The bill is expected to be introduced by Senator Spanberger (D) VA in the next weeks and be debated when Senate convenes at the end of July. Direct advocacy with Senators Graham and Scott is planned.
 - HRSA has issued a NPRM for a final rule rescinding the Trump era Insulin/EpiPen Rule.
 - Comments consistent with NACHC recommendations submitted.

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• State activity:

- Governor McMaster issued 226 vetoes to the FY2021-22 General Appropriations Act.
 - \$5 million in health center funding was not vetoed.
 - The following relevant health related funding line items were vetoed:
 - \$250,00 in funding Nurse Family Partnership;
 - \$200,000 in funding for New Morning Foundation; \$375,000 earmark for Beaufort Jasper Hampton Comprehensive Health Center; and
 - \$200,000 earmark for Community Medicine Foundation.
- DHEC CARES Panel (Community Assessment Review and Equity)- SV Chair for Upstate Region.
 - CARES Panels are authorized to disband upon agreement on adequate and appropriate allocation of the vaccine; however,
 - The Upstate CARES Panel has proposed continuing as a collaborative learning community with the broader agenda of addressing access and health equity in the Upstate.

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- **Leadership and Staff Development:**

- Leadership Team continue weekly briefings with one meeting per month expanded to include the Clinical Department Heads – i.e: Directors of Family Medicine and Pediatrics.
- Dr. Dominic Mellette and Sue Veer are in 4th week of classes in the UCLA/Johnson and Johnson Health Care Executive Program.
- Annual evaluation process has been initiated with self assessment tool distributed. All senior staff have developed draft emergency leadership transition plans that will be reviewed in conjunction with the evaluation process.
- NACHC Workforce Development Grant/Health Equity:
 - Secured contract with consultant for developmental work with middle managers and identified leaders on Eliminating Systemic Racism.
 - Survey tool developed to assess staff understanding, perceptions, and attitudes regarding systemic racism.

- **Covid 19 Response:**

- In maintenance mode.
- Continue messaging to staff with current 68% vaccination rate.

- **Administration Department:**

- Held first in person departmental meeting since February of 2020 with virtual option for the unvaccinated members of the department.

- **Clinical Departments:**

- **Department of Pediatrics:**

- Meeting with providers to address operational questions and concerns.

- **Department of Family Medicine:**

- Actively participating in addressing various provider staffing changes.
- Committed to leasing new property to relocate The Bethany Center.

- **Department of Pharmacy:**

- No specific action to report.

- **Integrated Behavioral Health:**

- New vacancy in Beckman LC4/Hometown position and continued challenge recruiting for existing vacancy in Calhoun Falls/McCormick position.
- Proceeding on two tracts for recruitment – Beckman Center partnership and CHC BH Department.

- **Funding:**

- Working with Finance and Development on ARPA grant documents.

Strategic & Operational Updates

- **Board Development activities:**
 - Welcome new member: Johanna Bishop.
 - New Board Member Orientation scheduled for Friday, July 9th.
 - Material being updated.
- **Strategic Planning activities:**
 - Finalized and secured retreat location.
 - Pre-meeting schedule finalized.
 - Planning full management team meeting in preparation for August meeting with Board to review internal assessment data.

Board Development and Engagement

- Participated in regular meetings of those partnerships and affiliations listed. Notable activities this reporting period include:
- **OCHIN:**
 - CEO Steering Committee held monthly.
 - Also participating in monthly Progressive Leadership Lab.
- **SCPHCA:**
 - Monthly meetings of Legislative Committee, 330 Network, and Board of Directors.
- **CIMS:**
 - Monthly meetings of Managing Partners.
 - Chair of Clinical and Care Coordination Committee which meets monthly, and in which CHC's Quality and Population Health team are active and well-respected participants.
- **Beckman Center for Mental Health Services:**
 - No activities to report.

External Partnerships & Affiliations

Community Integrated Management Services (CIMS)

- Managing Partner – Parliamentarian
- Chair of the Clinical and Care Coordination Committee

South Carolina Primary Health Care Association (SCPHCA)

- Board Member
- Chair of Legislative Committee
- Lead on 340B Task Force

National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC)

- Board Member
- Member of Legislative, Health Policy, and Rural Health Committees
 - Chair of 340B/Pharmacy Access Work Group
 - Member of Task Force on Undoing Racism
- Member of the Oversight Team for Organizational Assessment

Beckman Center for Mental Health Services

OCHIN CEO Steering Committee

NACHC:

- June 2021 Meeting of the NACHC Board of Directors:
 - Held in person in Delray Beach, Florida
 - 2-day format
 - Reported out on ongoing work of the Organizational Assessment
 - Topics of interest discussed during the meeting:
 - Process for increasing the interaction of the Regional Representatives on the Board with the health centers in their respective regions.
 - Consultant expense on budget and Form 990 > \$4 million annually. Requesting inventory of consultants, scope of work, deliverables, and accountability measures.
 - Staff turn-over with only 1 of the 24 people employed in the Federal and State Affairs Department 24 months ago remaining. Requesting an updated organizational chart.
 - Reviewed compensation analysis and CEO performance review.
 - Announcement of Advocates for Community Health organization.
- My term on the Board expires in September 2021 and election for next term closes Monday, June 24, 2021. Three additional candidates are running for the Region IV Representative board position.

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OCHIN CEO Steering Committee

Consulting Activities

- Continue under retainer with the Connecticut and Texas Primary Care Associations to inform and assist with the response to the assault on 340B:
 - Monthly retainer = \$500 each.
- Pharmacy Oversight Committee has been retained by HopeHealth in Florence to be on “stand-by” for consultation as they move forward with opening 3 entity owned pharmacies.
 - Monthly retainer = \$500 (not subject to any salary allocation).
- Planning and coordination of 2021 340B Coalition Summer Conference is ongoing with contract secured for 2022 Winter Conference.
 - 2021 Summer Conference sessions are designed and all panelists confirmed.
 - Recording session are underway.
 - Anticipated that 2022 Winter Conference will be held in person with a virtual option for those preferring to remain distanced.

SV Personal Leave Time

May 25, 2021 – June 27, 2021

- 4 hours of Annual Leave used (Board Chair approved)

Please don't hesitate to email or call with any questions you may have or additional information needed:
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