

Minutes of the Health Information and Analysis Oversight Council

September 20, 2021

Council members present: Ms. Laura Adams; Mr. Rob Birmingham, Office of the State Auditor; Ms. Fay Donohue; Ms. Colleen Elstermeyer, designee of Executive Director David Seltz, Health Policy Commission; Ms. Lauren Peters, designee of Secretary Marylou Sudders, Executive Office of Health and Human Services; Mr. Niels Puetthoff, designee of Commissioner Gary Anderson, Division of Insurance; Ms. Cassandra Roeder, designee of Secretary Michael Heffernan, Executive Office for Administration and Finance; Dr. Meredith Rosenthal; and Ms. Sandra Wolitzky, Office of the Attorney General.

Ms. Donohue called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTE [VOTE]

Ms. Donohue called for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 22 meeting, which was followed by a formal roll call vote; the minutes were unanimously approved.

II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Campbell began his presentation with an update on CHIA's finances. He walked the Council through CHIA's FY 2022 budget by spending category, including payroll. The Council asked for clarification on category definitions and what the spending trends were in prior years. The Council also discussed CHIA's staffing levels and the number of FTE employees.

Mr. Campbell then asked Ms. Emma Schlitzer, External Affairs Manager, to provide the Council with an update on recent and upcoming publications and data releases. The Council briefly discussed how well CHIA's publications were received and how success is measured. Mr. Campbell noted that the next presenter would dive into that topic more. The Council also discussed in greater detail the upcoming health equity reports that are in development and the value of that research.

Mr. Andrew Jackmauh, CHIA's Chief of Staff, was then introduced to provide greater detail to the Council on CHIA's engagement with stakeholders. Mr. Jackmauh began with explaining to the Council CHIA's primary objective of servicing the health data needs of sister agencies, state payers and providers, as well as the research community. He noted that CHIA regularly reviews its work to ensure it aligns with this objective. Mr. Jackmauh then walked the Council through specific metrics that the Communications and External Affairs team uses to monitor stakeholder engagement with specific CHIA publications. The Council discussed various methods of evaluating successful engagement.

Mr. Campbell then resumed his presentation to provide a brief update on the e-APCD project, explaining that it is nearing its completion. He also explained to the Council that CHIA is meeting with stakeholders to review new primary care and behavioral health spending data collection requirements.

III. UNDERSTANDING THE MHIS AND AFFORDABILITY ISSUES IN THE COMMONWEALTH

Mr. Campbell introduced Ms. Christine Loveridge, Manager, and Ms. Bridget Gayer, Associate Manager, to present on additional research from the Massachusetts Health Insurance Survey (MHIS). Ms. Loveridge and Ms. Gayer walked the Council through a research brief that was sourced from the MHIS, as well as a new series from CHIA which explored health care affordability issues experienced in the Commonwealth. At the conclusion of the presentation, Council members briefly discussed the history of the MHIS and how the survey is fielded.

IV. DISCUSSION OF 2021-2023 ANALYTIC PRIORITIES

The Council then moved to review CHIA's current and future analytic priorities. Mr. Campbell began by framing the discussion around CHIA's data assets and its current analytic activities. He then outlined CHIA's enterprise priorities through 2023, including its data operations priorities and the launch of the e-APCD, among others. Mr. Campbell noted that CHIA is also reviewing sister agency analytic and data

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needs to determine other areas of interest for the agency. The Council reviewed items to discuss in more detail at the next meeting, as well as some communication outreach strategies for CHIA to consider.

V. CLOSING

Ms. Donohue closed the meeting with reviewing agenda items to discuss during the December 2021 Council meeting, including further discussion around CHIA's analytic agenda, additional discussion on CHIA's budget and finances, as well as a review of the e-APCD.

With no other business to discuss, the meeting concluded at 1:58 p.m.