

HEALTHY AND WELL KIDS IN IOWA (*hawk-i*)
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

May 19, 2003

BOARD MEMBERS:

Eldon Huston, Chair
Susan Voss (for Terri Vaughan)
Charlotte Burt (for Ted Stilwill)
Mary Mincer Hansen (absent)
Susan Salter
Wanda Wyatt-Hardwick (absent)
Jim Yeast (absent)

LEGISLATIVE BOARD MEMBERS:

Senator Kenneth Veenstra (absent)
Senator Amanda Ragan (absent)
Representative Brad Hansen (absent)
Representative Jane Greimann (absent)

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES:

Anita Smith
Anna Ruggle

GUESTS:

Kristine Klauer
Barbara Fox Goldizen
Ann Campean
Carrie Nordling
Sara Schneider
Deb Kazmerzak
Angela Dorsey
Jennifer Vermeer
Jim Donoghue
Karen Brown
Diane Ellis
Ron Askland
Lisa Huff
Erin Paugh
Ed Conlow
Jane Borst

AFFILIATION

John Deere Health
MAXIMUS
Iowa Health Solutions
Des Moines Public Schools *hawk-i* Outreach
DHS - *hawk-i*
Covering Kids Task Force
Iowa Medical Society
Legislative Fiscal Bureau

Center 4 Healthy Communities
Community Health - SCRC
Mercy Medical Center
Center for Healthy Communities
HCKC - Visiting Nurse Service
House Democratic Staff
Iowa Department of Public Health

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (*hawk-i*) Board met on Monday, May 19, 2003, in the Oak Room, Des Moines Botanical Center, 909 E. River Drive, Des Moines, Iowa. Eldon Huston, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. A quorum was not present.

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ROLL CALL:

Mr. Huston asked the audience members to introduce themselves. Mr. Huston informed the guests that there would be an opportunity for public comment later in the agenda. Anyone wishing to address the Board should notify Mr. Huston.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2003, AND MAY 1, 2003, MEETINGS:

There was not a quorum so this agenda item was moved to the June 16, 2003, agenda.

REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS, & OTHER STATE NEWS:

Ms. Smith reviewed the correspondence.

- "Christian Science Monitor" article entitled, "Healthcare for U.S. Children - Controversial Budget Cut Target". The article reports that as states struggle to close budget gaps hundreds of thousands of children covered under SCHIP may find their insurance curtailed or gone. A handful of states are talking about eliminating SCHIP and dozens are trimming eligibility, benefits, and enrollments. The Missouri House voted to eliminate the state's SCHIP program due to their budget deficit. Doing so would leave 83,000 children uninsured. SCHIP opponents charged that the program was "Medicaid for millionaires" and the governor countered that it was morally wrong to leave so many children vulnerable. In a compromise, SCHIP was spared but the budget crisis is supposed to be worse next year.
- May 5, 2003, "Kaiser Health Policy Report" - "Opinion - Gephardt Health Care Proposal Could Spur Action on Issue of Uninsured, Kondracke Says". Representative Richard Gephardt of Missouri is proposing to provide universal health care that would be funded by keeping the money in the budget that the President has proposed be used for tax cuts. The Gephardt plan would double the federal subsidy to employers to pay insurance premiums, require employers to provide coverage, create a Medicare buy-in for people age 55 to 64, subsidize the purchase of COBRA benefits for the unemployed, and expand SCHIP to cover parents of eligible children. It would also provide subsidies to state and local governments to help offset the cost of employer coverage.
- "Cover the Uninsured Weekly News Digest" quotes the April 28, 2003, "New York Times" on some of the drastic cutbacks being contemplated by some states. This article also touches on the Medicaid reform legislation being discussed that proposes a block grant of Medicaid and SCHIP dollars. States are concerned because they would be required to continue to cover mandatory groups, but with the limited funding of a block grant.
- Portland, Maine "Press Herald" article May 6, 2003, "Baldacci Proposes 'Dirigo Health'". Maine's Governor has introduced a proposal that would ensure that Maine residents have health care coverage within four years. Maine has been progressive nationally in taking the lead addressing health care issues, particularly prescription drug coverage.

- "Houston Chronicle", April 25, 2003, "Child Health Care Under Knife". Texas has a \$9.9 billion dollar budget deficit. There is a belief by some legislators that the programs (Medicaid and SCHIP) are serving people that really don't need it, and they are proposing to drastically cut SCHIP. Income limits will be reduced from 200% of FPL to 165%, cutting approximately half the kids from the program. Enrollment will be capped at 270,000 and a waiting list implemented. The plan would also cut Medicaid for pregnant women, elderly and disabled.
- "Boston Globe" April 23, 2003, "Return of Health Coverage Sought". Massachusetts recently cut adults from their SCHIP program. This article discusses a plan through which they hope to be able to restore the funding for those parents.
- "Los Angeles Times" April 25, 2003, "Davis Asks U.S. for Money to Insure Children". California's governor is asking the federal government to allow using local dollars rather than state dollars to draw down federal SCHIP funding.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Budget:

To date, claims have been paid for 62% of the projected expenditures for Medicaid expansion, 75% of projections for *hawk-i* premiums, 63% for fiscal agent costs, and 11% of outreach projections. Ms. Smith said that she anticipates receiving the bulk of the outreach claims towards the end of the fiscal year. About 52% of projected expenditures for *hawk-i* administration have been spent. Costs of HIPAA implementation have not been submitted yet. Interest earned from the *hawk-i* trust fund totals \$123,386.

Enrollment & Statistics:

Total SCHIP enrollment as of April 30, 2003, was 27,870; 14,781 enrolled in *hawk-i* and 13,089 in Medicaid expansion.

Ms. Smith reported that 73,000 children have attained coverage since the implementation of *hawk-i* either through Medicaid, Medicaid expansion, or *hawk-i*.

Mr. Huston asked if Ms. Smith knew the average length of time children are enrolled in *hawk-i*. Ms. Smith responded that initially states were concerned about the high rate of dropouts from the SCHIP programs. However, the results from the retention and disenrollment study indicated that people were dropping off for good reasons: other insurance or their economic circumstances had improved. SCHIP programs were proving to be more of a bridge as opposed to a long-term program. Ms. Smith said that no Iowa-specific study has been completed.

Mr. Huston said that if it wasn't too costly, he would be interested in such a study.

Legislative Update:

The Governor signed the Department's technical bill on May 12, 2003. Administrative rule amendments to be filed as Notice of Intended Action will be brought to the Board in June for approval. Ms. Smith said the Legislature has asked for a report on the impact of eliminating the six-month waiting period so MAXIMUS will begin capturing those statistics. A change order for that process is under way.

Ms. Smith said that the technical bill did reduce the required number of *hawk-i* Board meetings from ten to six. The Board discussed when they might want to meet, and what time of day they would like to meet. Ms. Smith said when the program was implemented, an entire day was needed for Board matters. Subsequently the length of time was reduced to a half a day, and now it appears most meetings will require less time. Ms. Smith said that from an administrative standpoint, meetings should be held in the months of June and December. In June Board action is needed as a result of legislative changes and for contracts that are effective at the beginning of the fiscal year. In December the annual report to the Legislature and the federal report need to be approved.

The Board decided to schedule meetings every other month beginning in June. The start time is being changed and beginning with the June meeting, meetings will begin at 1:30. Additional meetings will be scheduled as needed.

Ms. Smith said that she did not have any update on the status of the appropriations bill but does not believe there are any concerns. The appropriations bill includes the dental carve out provision for *hawk-i*.

Revised Application Update:

Supplies of the first printing of the new application (100,000 applications) have almost been exhausted. Due to the elimination of the six-month waiting period the application is being revised. Questions about insurance will still be asked for statistical purposes. Ms. Smith said that questions about race/ethnicity are optional so the word "optional" is being added in two places on the application.

Ms. Smith said a consumer representative from one of the Covering Kids groups commented that the new application looked like it "would be fun to fill out". At this point, no negative comments have been reported. Ms. Smith said she had received a question about the cost of printing because of all of the color. The average cost for printing the new application is 11 cents. The cost of printing the old applications was 31 cents for English and 72 cents for Spanish. The new application replaces both the English and Spanish applications as well as the income guideline inserts.

Privacy Notice Implementation:

Due to the high number of privacy notices mailed out by the Department to comply with HIPAA, a call center was staffed to answer questions. Very, very few calls were received.

Development of Electronic Application:

Ms. Smith told the Board that staff is working with MAXIMUS to develop an electronic version of the *hawk-i* application. Ms. Smith said that although this will allow applications to be filed electronically, applicants will still need to send in an original signature page because CMS will not allow an electronic signature. The electronic application should be much more efficient and cost effective. Upon submission, the information will automatically populate into MAXIMUS's database, thus eliminating data entry errors. It will not allow an incomplete application to be submitted and will print out a list of the verifications that will need to be submitted. The electronic application will also reduce printing costs because it is anticipated that fewer paper applications will be needed. MAXIMUS hopes to do most of the programming in June and hopefully it will be ready for testing in July.

UPDATE OF DENIAL OF NAME BRAND DRUGS:

In April the Board requested a list of the brand name prescriptions that were denied by Wellmark. During the period reviewed (March 2003) there were a total of 371 prescriptions denied for a variety of drugs. Those denied most often were: 106 denials for antibiotics, 31 for attention deficit disorders, 29 for antihistamines, 26 for antidepressants, and 26 for contraceptives. Anna Ruggle reported that this data was requested from the managed care plans also. Iowa Health Solutions does not have a list because if the prescribed drug is not on their preferred drug list it is not entered into their system. John Deere has a list of edits so that if the drug is not covered it either gives the pharmacy an alternative or tells the pharmacy it is not covered. This information is not captured, so there is no way to get a report of the denials.

Mr. Huston asked that this information be shared with the Clinical Advisory Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

GRASSROOTS OUTREACH UPDATE:

Angie Doyle Scar, *hawk-i* outreach coordinator, updated the Board on recent outreach activities.

Statewide Outreach Activities:

Outreach activities were conducted at the following statewide conferences: Prevent Child Abuse; Pediatric Nurse Practitioners; and Risky Business.

State *hawk-i* staff met with the following agency/group representatives:

- Iowa Family Policy Center, Chuck Hurley, President, and Michael Hartwig, Vice-President. Focused on engaging them to help develop a message to reach the faith-based community.
- Chamber Alliance, Dave Roederer, Executive Director. Focused on partnering with businesses. A follow-up meeting is being scheduled.
- Iowa Homeless Youth Centers, Howard Matalba, Street Outreach Counselor and Native American. The Iowa Homeless Youth Centers assists homeless and high-risk youth and families. Mr. Matalba agreed to become a partner in reaching not only high-risk families but also the Native American community in **hawk-i** outreach.
- "Is it Good for the Kids? - Community Growth Chart work group. Coordinated with Polk County Outreach Coordinators to provide input into recommendations to raise the grade on the "Community Growth Chart" for the **hawk-i** program from the 2002 grade of a D+ to a B- for the 2003's growth chart.

Local Outreach Activities:

Ms. Doyle Scar reported that she reviewed the local outreach agencies' quarterly reports of activities and progress for January through March 2003.

- Three outreach agencies reported successfully using public service announcements in their local communities.
- Many agencies focused outreach efforts on reaching the faith-based community.
- Several agencies reported success working with their local businesses and workforce centers.
- Two agencies reported staff shortages resulting in difficulties and delays in implementing action plans. Conference call follow-up with one agency reflects substantial progress in the new quarter. State staff will work with these agencies to ensure progress in the future.

Planning for 2004 Outreach Activities:

The Continuation Application for FY 2004 was due May 12th. A **hawk-i** Action Plan was required as part of the Continuation Application. Plans require compliance with this year's criteria and to build on progress to date. The action plans are presently being reviewed.

Lisa Huff reported that a state outreach task force meeting was held May 8th and was conducted over the ICN. The feature presentation was "Promotional Pieces That Get Better Results" by Owana McLester-Greenfield. Outreach coordinators had been asked to provide promotional letters, articles, and other materials used for **hawk-i** outreach. Ms. McLester-Greenfield critiqued the materials and offered suggestions. Ms. Huff said it was a very good meeting and there was favorable feedback from the coordinators. The next outreach task force meeting will be July 17th at 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Smith told the Board that she contacted the income maintenance supervisors throughout the state asking if there was interest in a **hawk-i** presentation. There has been a lot of misunderstanding about what **hawk-i** is and the role of the income maintenance worker. For example, coordination when people lose Medicaid eligibility

and transition to *hawk-i*; or when they apply for *hawk-i* and qualify for Medicaid. Ms. Smith and Mike Baldwin have been asked to make presentations in Sioux City, Des Moines, Clinton, and Spencer.

Ms. Smith said it was previously thought the Board would have to take action to authorize funding for the 2004 outreach contract. Upon review of the contract, it is a two-year contract and the funding is authorized for 2004.

COVERING KIDS UPDATE:

Deb Kazmerzak reported that the Covering Kids Now Task Force is working on their second "issue brief" to be released in June. This brief will discuss the new SCHIP prenatal care rule.

The next task force meeting is in August and they are hoping to have Chuck Palmer attend. Mr. Palmer is involved in overseeing the Medicaid reform effort being chaired by Senator Mary Kramer and Lt. Governor Pedersen. Ms. Kazmerzak said the task force is hopeful that an initial draft of the Medicaid reform effort will be available at that time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Smith indicated that the June agenda will include several contracts and administrative rule amendments requiring Board approval.

Susan Voss indicated that the Insurance Division is putting together information for their State Fair booth in August. The Insurance Division is willing to share some space for *hawk-i* promotion.

There was no other new business to present before the Board.

The Board's next meeting is Monday, June 16, 2003, at 1:30 in the Oak Room at the Des Moines Botanical Center.