



**Accountable Care Collaborative
Program Improvement Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

October 21, 2020 // 9:30 A.M. to 12:15 A.M.

1. Introductions

Carol Plock welcomed participants and called the meeting to order at 9:33am. The following people were in attendance:

Voting Members:

Anita Rich, Arnold Salazar, Bethany Pray, Catania Jones, Carol Plock, Christina Suh, Daniel Darting, David Keller, Dede de Percin, Donald Moore, Ian Engle, Joanna Martinson, Joseph Prezioso, Julie Reskin, Kelly Phillips-Henry, Kiara Kuenzler, Lila Cummings, Maria Zubia, Maribel Sandoval, Michael Aragon, Shera Matthews, Steve Johnson, Tom Keller, and Wendy Nading.

A quorum of voting members was present.

Non-Voting Members (webinar attendees only):

Alex Scialdone, Amy Ferris, Amy Yutzy, Andrea Loasby, Anna Messinger, Anne Jordan, Ben Harris, Brooke Powers, Cara Hebert, Carolyn Green, Cathy Michopoulos, Elizabeth Freudenthal, Hanna Thomas, Jeremy Sax, Jen Hale-Coulson, Jeremy White, Julia Duffer, Kari Snelson, Kathie Snell, Kellie Jackson, Kimberly Phu, Lauren Staley, Louisa Wren, Marjorie Greichus, Marty Janssen, Matthew Jacobs, Matthew Pfeifer, Matthew Sundeen, Meg Taylor, Megan Comer, Mike Davis, Mindy Klowden, Nate Koller, Nina Bastian, Natasha Brockhaus, Pat Cook, Phyliss Albritton, Spencer Budd, Stephanie Brooks, Sue Williamson, Tim Morton, Tina Gage, Tina McCrory, and Vincente Cardona.

Carol also reminded participants that the October meeting served as several voting members' last meeting, including her own, and welcomed the new voting members to their first meeting.

2. Open Comment

Ben Harris opened the floor to the public for comments related to the meeting's agenda. The public provided no comments.

3. Minutes Approval

Kiara Kuenzler solicited a motion to approve the [September Meeting Minutes](#). Joanna Martinson motioned to approve, Julie Reiskin seconded the motion. The quorum voted to approve September Meeting Minutes. No one abstained.

4. PIAC Operations and Housekeeping

Ben Harris reviewed the [Accountable Care Collaborative \(ACC\) Work Plan](#) and [ACC Operational Dashboard](#) with the committee and solicited questions and feedback about upcoming agenda topics and the operational data.

The group asked the Department if the Medicaid Director would be able to join the November meeting to discuss the implications of the presidential election results on the Medicaid program. The Department agreed to follow up.

Ben acknowledged new voting members: Christina Suh, Joseph Prezioso, Kelly Phillips-Henry, Maria Zubia, Maribel Sandoval, Michael Aragon, Steve Johnson, and Tom Keller and invited the members to briefly introduce themselves to the group. Additional information about the new voting members can be found in the [Department's Voting Member Announcement](#).

5. PIAC and Racial Equity

Kiara reminded participants that PIAC established a Racial Equity Taskforce (Taskforce) comprised of current voting members to address racial and ethnic disparities within the healthcare system. Lila Cummings, Taskforce member, provided an overview of the Taskforce's previous discussions, highlighted the Department's initiatives surrounding equity, diversity and inclusion, and updated participants on the Taskforce's new and focused direction. Moving forward, the Taskforce proposed to focus on three key components: ensuring PIAC's commitment to use the equity strategy screen outlined in its [charter](#), developing a list of short-term, actionable recommendations pertaining to the ACC, and assisting the Department with the development of new health equity and inclusion policies and plans.

Ben opened the floor to voting members for questions and feedback. The group questioned the scope of the Taskforce (limited to the ACC or not), asked if the Taskforce had defined *diversity*, *inclusion*, and *equity*, advocated for data to measure impacts, and emphasized the commitment required over the next several years to make a substantial change.

Taskforce members invited the new voting members to participate within the Taskforce, if interested, by emailing [Lila Cummings](#) or [Dede de Percin](#).

6. Provider and Community Experience (P&CE) Subcommittee Update

Carol introduced Anita Rich, P&CE Subcommittee Co-Chair, to present a [P&CE Update](#). Anita reminded participants that she was terming off the PIAC and stated that Joanna Martinson would serve as Kathie Snell's Co-Chair to the subcommittee moving forward. She noted subcommittee had a vacancy in its voting membership and was actively recruiting a public health representative to apply for the position by emailing [Brooke Powers](#) directly.

Anita explained that P&CE's Care Coordination workgroup, co-chaired by Joanna Martinson and Jen Hale-Coulson, produced a [Transitions of Care Recommendation](#) which P&CE voted to approve and submit to PIAC in the September P&CE meeting.

Joanna reviewed the background of the issues that lead to the workgroup's recommendation, explained the purpose of the recommendation, and highlighted the ways the recommendation could improve care coordination among Regional Accountable Entities (RAEs) and enhance member care.

Carol opened the floor for questions or comments about the recommendation. The group asked several operational questions to the recommendation such as: how would RAEs, providers, and members become aware of the new process and referral form, if trainings would be offered to RAEs



and providers regarding the referral form and transition process, where the referral form would be housed (RAE websites, Department website, care coordination entity websites, etc.), and how would member engagement and communications be handled.

Members recognized the need for a similar process for the Hospital Transformation Program (HTP) once implemented and suggested PIAC consider developing a recommendation for that program as well. Several members provided helpful information about similar support programs for care coordination such as [Unite Us](#) and an upcoming program being developed the Metro Denver Partnership for Health called the Social Health Information Exchange with the group as well.

Anita, Joanna and Jen thanked the group for their feedback. They supported the group's suggestions, explained that some of the answers to their questions would be determined regionally by RAEs, and agreed to continue the discussion about implementation of the recommendation during the care coordination workgroup meetings. Lastly, they invited voting members to participate in the workgroup and noted more information would be found on the [P&CE webpage](#) or by emailing [Brooke Powers](#).

Carol solicited a motion to approve the recommendation, David motioned to approve, and Donald Moore seconded the motion. All voting members voted to approve the recommendation, no one objected or abstained.

7. Alternative Payment Model (APM) Update

Kiara provided a high-level overview of the APM and introduced Nina Bastian and Kimberly Phu, from the Colorado Health Institute, to review [Potential Updates to the 2021 Program Year](#) and the [Measure Set Recommendations for 2021 Program Year](#). Nina and Kimberly solicited feedback about the proposed measure set recommendations, workgroup recommendations, and considerations for performance year 2022.

The group asked for clarification about the terminology "alternative payment" and suggested the program felt like more a quality incentive program. The Department acknowledged the nomenclature confusion and stated it was considering rebranding the program more appropriately.

Voting members asked if the Department was concerned about the government incentivizing providers to vaccinate (a protentional, controversial issue), how the proposed metrics incentivize or disincentivize towards health equity, if the APM program unintentionally discouraged providers from accepting new patients due to extra work without guaranteed compensation, if the Performance Measurement and Member Engagement (PMME) subcommittee has reviewed the proposed recommendations, if any of the measures would benefit from the increase in telehealth services, and if an increase in quality of care truly decreased health care costs.

Voting members also asked if the Department had identified any disparities in utilization of primary care services, if that data was available to share, if the data could be stratified, and if there was any information on how the Department and/or providers would address identified disparities. The Department agreed to follow up regarding any information available on utilization trends.

With limited time left to answer questions, Nina and Kimberly explained that the APM was designed to weigh and incentivize measures differently but permitted provider choice and flexibility. The Department will adjust provider payments based on provider performance, providers that demonstrate



improved performance from their own baselines will receive the maximum enhanced provider rate for the fee for service claims they submitted, while providers who did not meet their selected metrics would receive a decrease in their provider reimbursement rate for fee for service claims submitted. Additional information can be found online in the Department's [Primary Care Payment Reform webpage](#) and [2020 APM Guidebook](#). PMME stated the subcommittee has not yet reviewed the proposed measures.

Kiara thanked Colorado Health Institute for sharing the updated recommendations and requested remaining questions and feedback to be emailed directly to focusgroups@coloradohealthinstitute.org for additional follow up.

8. PIAC Changing of the Guard

Ben thanked the veteran members David Keller, Carol Plock, Bethany Pray, Julie Reiskin, Anita Rich, Shera Matthews, and Arnold Salazar for their many years of dedication, service, and leadership to PIAC and the Department. He acknowledged their many accomplishments over the years and reiterated the impact they had not only on the ACC but also throughout the state.

Medicaid Director, Tracy Johnson, also thanked the departing voting members for the priceless devotion to stakeholder engagement and expressed extreme gratitude for their guidance and support throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. She encouraged the departing members to continue to participate and stay engaged in the Department's various stakeholder forms to any extent possible.

9. Open Comment

Ben opened the floor to the public for comments, but the public provided no comments.

10. Next Steps

Carol summarized the meeting and noted the following action items:

1. Welcome and onboarding for new voting members.
 - a. Department to host coffee talks.
 - b. Department to host new member onboarding sessions.
 - c. Department and PIAC to host closed retreats in January and February to strategically plan and set priorities for PIAC and its subcommittees.
2. Host a conversation with HCPF leadership on the impact of the Presidential Election on the future of healthcare.
3. Continue the racial equity and inclusion conversation with the Racial Equity Taskforce.
 - a. Voting members interested in participating should contact [Lila Cummings](#) or [Dede de Percin](#).
 - b. Consider defining equity, diversity, and inclusion.
4. PIAC members review the ACC Operational Dashboard for October 2020.
5. Reach out to [Broke Powers](#) if interested in fulfilling P&CE's public health representation vacancy.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:14pm.

