

Vermont Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

July 27, 2020
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Conference call ONLY
Please do not go to the
Waterbury State Office
Complex

Guest Number/Code:
552130920
Call-in: (802) 828-7667

- | | | | |
|----|-------|--|---|
| 1. | 10:00 | Call to Order | Devon Green and Erin Maguire, Co-Chairs |
| 2. | 10:00 | Roll Call
Establish Quorum | Zack Goss, Health Care Training and
Communication Manager (DVHA) |
| 3. | 10:05 | Approve Previous Minutes | Devon Green and Erin Maguire, Co-Chairs |
| 4. | 10:10 | Membership and Recruitment | Zack Goss, Health Care Training and
Communication Manager (DVHA) |
| 5. | 10:45 | DVHA Commissioner's Update
(including Health Care Provider
Stabilization Grant Program
launch, Medicaid/QHP
enrollment and system
maintenance, and COVID-19
testing) | Cory Gustafson, Commissioner (DVHA)
Alicia Cooper, Director of Payment Reform,
Reimbursement, and Rate Setting (DVHA)
Addie Strumolo, Deputy Commissioner (DVHA)
Nissa James, Health Care Director (DVHA) |
| 6. | 11:20 | Public Comment | |
| 7. | 11:30 | Adjourn | Devon Green and Erin Maguire, Co-Chairs |



AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF VERMONT HEALTH ACCESS

Committee Requirements for Composition, Current Composition, and Recruitment Planning

July 27, 2020

- There are federal and state requirements for the Committee's composition.
- Today, we will review the requirements;
- Review the Committee's current composition; and
- Discuss the proposed plan for recruitment of members to participate in the Committee.

Federal Requirements*: Medical Care Advisory Committee



Board-certified Physicians & Reps. Health Professions

Vermont Dept. of
Health
Commissioner



42 CFR § 431.12
Medical Care Advisory
Committee

Members of Consumer Groups



DVHA Commissioner, as
State Medicaid Director
(Non-Member)



Committee Membership Must Include:

- (1) **Board-certified physicians and** other representatives of the health professions who are familiar with the medical needs of income-eligible population groups and with the resources available and required for their care;
- (2) **Members of consumers' groups, including Medicaid beneficiaries**, and consumer organizations such as labor unions, cooperatives, consumer-sponsored prepaid group practice plans, and others; and
- (3) The director of the public health department, who does not head the Medicaid agency.

*There is no minimum number of members.

Federal Requirements: Consultation with Stakeholders for Exchanges

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, [Section 1311](#) (Affordable Choices of Health Benefit Plans): Consultation with Stakeholders required for Exchanges including:

- Health care consumers who are enrollees in qualified health plans;
- Representatives of small businesses and self-employed individuals;
- State Medicaid offices;
- Advocates for enrolling hard to reach populations.

Vermont Requirements*: Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee



1. Beneficiaries of Medicaid/Medicaid-funded programs



2. Individuals & Reps. Eligible for/Enrolled in Exchange

Commissioner of Health



Health Insurer Representative



(State Statute: 33 V.S.A. § 402)
Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee

DVHA Commissioner (Non-Member)



3. Advocates for Consumer Organizations



4. Health Care Professionals and
Representatives Broad Array Health Professionals



***Minimum of 22 Members and “of the remaining members ... one-quarter of the members shall be from each of the following [4] constituencies.”**

Current Composition of the Medicaid and Exchange Advisory Committee

***8 Vacancies**

Joan Lavoie ('20), Dale Hackett ('21)
Gladys Konstantin ('20), Lisa Draper ('20), **Vacant (1)**



Medicaid Beneficiaries

Mike Fisher ('22), Kirstin Murphy ('22),
Sharon Henault ('20), **Vacant (2)**



Consumer Advocates



Commissioner of Health (Kelly Dougherty)



Health Insurer (Rebecca Heintz, BCBSVT)



DVHA Commissioner (Non-Member), Cory Gustafson

Health Care Professionals



Exchange Representatives



Helen Labun ('22), Erin Maguire ('20), Julie Tessler ('20), Jason Williams ('22), Jessa Barnard ('20), Devon Green ('20)

All Vacant (5)

Current Recruitment – 2 Completed Applications for Consideration, Members with Expiring Terms

- One applicant could be considered for a consumer advocate role due to professional position or could be considered for Medicaid beneficiary role.
- One applicant would be for a consumer advocate role due to professional position.
- Current members: If term expires during the period of the federal public health emergency, the term is automatically extended for the period of the federal public health emergency.
 - Application will need to be submitted for reappointment to be considered for the period after the federal public health emergency.

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Health Care Professionals



Exchange Representatives



Helen Labun ('22), Erin Maguire ('20), Julie Tessler ('20), Jason Williams ('22), Jessa Barnard ('20), Devon Green ('20)

All Vacant (5)

Next Step - Targeted Outreach and Recruitment:

Who is missing?

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To elicit Exchange representatives, identified organizations to date:

- Vermont Chamber of Commerce;
- Vermont Business for Social Responsibility;
- Vermont Small Business Development Center;
- ThinkVT;
- Farm Health Task Force;
- Vermont WomenPreneurs;
- Vermont Hospitality and Lodging Association.

Next Step - Targeted Outreach and Recruitment:

Who is missing?

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To elicit Board-certified physicians and other health care providers who are familiar with the medical needs of low-income populations, identified organizations to date:

- Vermont Medicaid's Clinical Utilization Review Board;
- Vermont Medical Society;
- Bi-State Primary Care Association;
- Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems;
- Vermont Care Partners;
- Vermont State Dental Society; and
- UVM Health Network.

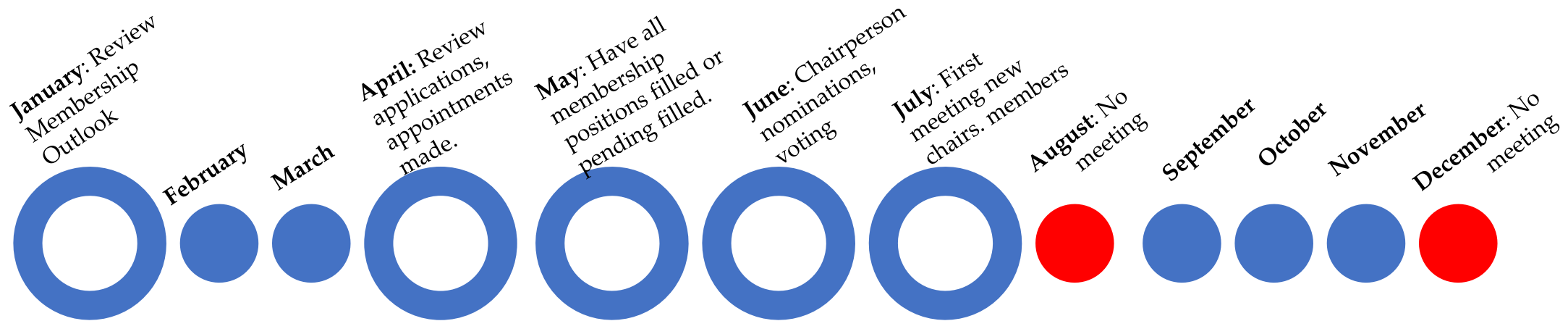
Next Step - Targeted Outreach and Recruitment: Discussion

To elicit participation by Medicaid members and Consumer Advocates, the Committee identifies:

- 1).
- 2).
- 3).
- 4).
- 5).

Recruitment Timeline: Proposal of Process

- Recruitment: Ongoing (amplify efforts during January, February and March)
- Accepting Applications: Ongoing
- January Meeting: Review Membership Outlook
 - Number of members
 - Vacancies & Upcoming Vacancies
 - Members who are approaching end of term (re-application necessary to be considered for re-appointment)
- April – May: Review applications and appointments made.



DVHA's Recent Work:

- Restatement of the SFY21 Budget;
- 1115 Waiver Planning;
- Health Care Provider Stabilization Grant Program Launch;
- COVID-19 Testing;
- Medicaid and Qualified Health Plan Enrollment.

- Even before the COVID-19 Emergency, one of our priorities was to ensure Vermonters' access to high quality health care and human services;
- This became our primary focus when the Governor declared a State of Emergency in Vermont because of our mission to support Vermonters in being healthy and well;
- Throughout the COVID-19 Emergency, we have been focused on the financial stability of our entire health care system -- including providers of an array of social services – to ensure that Vermonters have access to the care they need.

Health Care Provider Stabilization Grant Program – Providing Financial Assistance to Health Care and Human Service Providers

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- [Announced](#) by the Governor on Tuesday, July 14th;
- All materials posted to the DVHA COVID-19 website, located here: <https://dvha.vermont.gov/covid-19>;
- [Grant program overview](#);
- [Online Application Portal](#) launched on Friday, July 17th;
- [Webinar series](#) held Monday – Friday the week of July 20th;
- [Online form established for any questions](#).

As of Thursday, July 23rd:

- 219 applications were submitted/in progress;
- 63 questions had been submitted;
- The General Program Overview webinar had approximately 100 attendees;
- The Revenue webinars had approximately 100 attendees (combined attendance).

COVID-19 Testing:

- Vermont Medicaid implemented changes early in the Emergency to ensure that no co-payments would apply for COVID-19 testing, diagnosis, and treatment services for Vermont Medicaid members;
- Vermont Medicaid is currently working on supporting expansion of diagnostic testing for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 and diagnosis of COVID-19 in Vermont in a sustainable way, i.e. coverage and reimbursement for pharmacists who order/administer specimen collection.

System Maintenance and Upgrades - Complete

Enrollment Update:

- As of July 24, enrollment has increased by approximately 8,400 Medicaid households and 1,300 qualified health plan households (since March 20, 2020).
- Number of reasons behind the increases
- Federal Public Health Emergency extended

- Public Comment
- Final Committee Discussion
- Reminder: There will be an August meeting this year – August 24th!