

Meeting Minutes



Healthy Living/Health Services Subcommittee

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

Senate Room A – General Assembly Building

Present: Delegate Robert H. Brink and Senator Harry B. Blevins, Co-Chairs
Delegate Rosalyn R. Dance Senator George L. Barker
Delegate Riley E. Ingram Senator Ralph S. Northam
Delegate John M. O'Bannon, III Senator Linda T. Puller
Delegate Christopher P. Stolle

Call to Order

Delegate Robert H. Brink, the HL/HS Subcommittee Co-Chair, called the meeting to order. Delegate Brink recognized Dr. Michele Chesser who gave an overview of the Subcommittee agenda.

Presentations

State Health Commissioner Karen Remley provided an update regarding Virginia's AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). Commissioner Remley stated that the Health Department's HIV Care Services Program has "expanded enrollment criteria and eliminated the wait list...[as] a result of aggressive program management, cost-savings efforts, implementation of strategies to meet client demand and sustain program capacity, and identification of additional funding sources. The collaborative efforts of medical providers and their staffs, community partners and advocates, local health departments, elected officials, ADAP staff, and Virginia's client community were critical in addressing the challenges this program faced."

Robin Hills, Clinical Assistant Professor with the VCU School of Nursing, discussed expedited partner therapy as an "option to facilitate partner management" in treating chlamydia and gonorrhea.

Beth Bortz, President and CEO of the Virginia Center for Health Innovation (VCHI), presented an overview of the newly-formed Center. Ms. Bortz noted that VCHI will be established as a 501c3 nonprofit corporation which will be governed by a Board of Directors, the majority of whom will be from the business community. The Vision for VHCI reads:

"The Virginia Center for Health Innovation is envisioned as a nonprofit, nonpartisan, consumer-centered, trustworthy vehicle for sparking and sustaining health innovation in Virginia. The Center will advance the vision of Virginia as a national leader in individual health, community health, health care, and economic growth."

Courtney Tierney, Director of the Prince William Area Agency on Aging, addressed the importance of providing respite services to support the numerous family and friends who provide uncompensated care in the Commonwealth. In requesting an increase in Respite Care Initiative funding from \$456,209 to \$1 million, Ms. Tierney stated the increase would save State funding by "reducing premature institutionalization, delaying institutionalization, avoiding institutionalization all together, and supporting families."

Stephen W. Bowman presented the findings of his review of the potential fiscal impact of House Bill 1090 (Delegate O'Bannon). HB 1090 proposed changes to current Medicaid guidelines for determining whether real property had been sold or transferred for less than its tax-assessed value.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. This was the last scheduled meeting of the HL/HS Subcommittee in 2012.

Prepared by: Sylvia A. Reid
 September 24, 2012