

## **Healthy Living/Health Services Subcommittee**

General Assembly Building – Senate Room A

September 1, 2009 - 1:00 p.m.

### **Minutes**

#### **Attendance**

Senator George L. Barker  
Senator Harry B. Blevins  
Senator Ralph S. Northam  
Senator Linda T. Puller  
Senator Patricia S. Ticer

Delegate Robert H. Brink  
Delegate Harvey B. Morgan  
Delegate John M. O'Bannon, III  
Secretary Marilyn B. Tavenner

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Senator Linda T. Puller, Subcommittee Co-Chair.

#### **Presentations**

Jill Hanken, Staff Attorney of the Virginia Poverty Law Center, presented on *Health Access for Uninsured Virginians* relating to the Child Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) and health access improvements that have been recommended by JCHC and other Commissions.

Lou Markwith, Executive Director of the Virginia Association of Free Clinics, discussed the exploding need for free clinic services due to the economic downturn which included charts showing:

- ♦ Unduplicated patients and visits
- ♦ Prescriptions dispensed
- ♦ Member clinic growth
- ♦ Free clinic localities
- ♦ Chronic conditions
- ♦ Accreditation and return on investment

Rick Shinn, Director of Public Affairs of the Virginia Community Healthcare Association, presented on the economic downturn and the impact on community health centers. The presentation included: the increasing number of uninsured individuals serviced, services provided for the uninsured, and the pharmacy assistance program.

Ms. Nancy Davenport-Ennis, CEO & Co-Founder of Patient Advocate Foundation, reported on the Virginia Cares Uninsured Program (VCUP). Ms. Davenport-Ennis reported that VCUP assists “uninsured Virginians by providing professional sustained case management services.” Eligibility guidelines, services provided to patients, demographics and needs, and financial information for VCUP were described.

Timothy Perkins, BS, EMT-P, Systems Planner with the Office of Emergency Medical Services Virginia Department of Health gave an overview of Virginia’s air medical services.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Kemmler, Director of the Bureau of Administrative and Support Services of the Virginia State Police briefed Commission members on types of service provided by the State Police aviation.

Anita Ashby, RN, MSN, CEN, NREMT-P, CMTE with the Wellmont Health System and Paul Davenport, NREMT-P, RN, CMTE, MBA with the Carilion Clinic Patient Transport Services, presented the objectives for the medical helicopter operations in rural areas of Virginia.

Michele Chesser, Ph.D. Senior Health Policy Analyst, presented the staff report on Virginia’s Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. The presentation included an overview and evaluation of the program including the extent of preparedness for future population growth and systemic changes, and policy options.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next HL/HS Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2009.

Prepared by: Sylvia A. Reid – October 13, 2009