

# ACA Planning Group

## MEETING NOTES

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San Luis Obispo County



**Tuesday, February 24, 2015**  
**3:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

In Attendance:

LAST	FIRST	AGENCY	LAST	FIRST	AGENCY
Aronsen	Trisha	CCFC	Pirkl	Rollie	SVRMC
Bernhardt	Dave	Transitions MHA	Ramirez	Elena	ASN
Bommarito	Kevin	State Senate- Monning's office	Scott	Theresa	GenCal
Castañeda	Susana	Health Agency – PH / CEC	Taylor	Mike	Health Agency – PH
Diringer	Joel	Diringer & Associates	Thomas	Catherine	Health Agency- M/C Outreach / CEC
Fleming	Raye	CAPSLO Health	Umhofer	Betsy	Govt Rep – Congresswoman Capps
Garcia	Pati	DSS	Walter	Nancy	SVRMC
Kelly	Nora	Health Agency- PH / CEC	Warren	Susan	North County Connections
Kilburn	David	ASN / SLO Hep C	Wendt	Wendy	First 5
Lassen	Abby	ARCH	Wilson	Wendy	Catholic Charities
Macedo	Christina	CAPSLO	Wood	Craig	CHC
May	Ly	RHA – Covered CA			

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Michelle Shoresman welcomed the stakeholder representatives, reviewed agenda items to discuss in the meeting and asked each person to introduce themselves and reminded everyone to sign in.

### **2. Department of Social Services Update – Pati Garcia**

Pati discussed the LA Times article that was shared with the group, titled: “Medi-Cal Applicants Entitled to Benefits Despite Delays.” It stated that people who apply for Medi-Cal should have their outcomes determined quickly and all applications should be approved within 45 days. Pati stated that, for our county, new applications are granted eligibility within 45 days. A Benefits Identification Card (BIC) card will initially be issued. If clients have previously had Medi-Cal (M/C), they are advise to use the same card. When clients are Cal Fresh eligible, they receive express enrollment for Medi-Cal. We still have a slowly shrinking back log that we are working on (approximately 3000 applications) and dedicated staff working on these. We have received approximately 2980 new applications this open enrollment period. (?)

Benefits for Parolees – Some post release clients get to do a M/C Application either days prior (or the same week) client gets released. Some clients may or may not remember doing the application. We have done about 155 applications in the County Jail and, upon their release, they are given a card and a contact name. If entities have post-release clients that do not know if they applied for M/C, refer clients to call SLO Department of Social Services (DSS) Call Center Office at 805-781-1972 for any inquires no matter where they live in the county. Call Pati Garcia with any questions.

Prior to 4/1/15, anyone that was convicted on a felony upon a drug sale/distribution is no longer restricted from getting food stamps. Drug felons are eligible with fewer restrictions as of 4/1/15 for food stamps and General Assistance (GA).

Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE) – HPE is the only program that begins the day the application is done. Remind entities that eligibility starts on the day you start the application. Try to fill out the day client is admitted. There is no retro in presumptive eligibility. Sometimes enrollment is not possible due to client being unconscious, in ICU or in coma. If client is not able to cooperate, try to rely on family. Eligibility begins the day you apply and is only given for 2 months. It is the client's responsibility to follow-up with a regular application at the Department of Social Services.

### **3. Behavioral Health Integration Project Update – Joel Diringer**

There is a Blue Shield grant locally to develop a system with Cen-Cal, CHC, Transition-Mental Health Association (TMHA) and a number of other players, coming together county-wide to integrate behavioral health care with medical care.

These entities are meeting regularly to troubleshoot systems integration, logistics of providing two types of care in a coordinated way (primary care and behavioral health care). Mental health stigma in care settings is also being discussed as is customer service and more general concerns.

### **4. SAMHSA PROJECT – Joel Diringer**

County has applied for a grant that would place CHC in or near a Behavioral Health Clinic. CHC will be the main provider and TMHA will be the preventive outreach. This will be an attempt to integrate behavioral and medical care. We are just in discussion for 4 years grant up to 400,000 per year.

There will also be components of the project related to the County's Tobacco Cessation Program.

This project will be named SLOHIP, San Luis Obispo Health Integration Project.

### **5. Enrollment Update – ALL**

CHC c/o Craig Wood - Compared with last year, there was a large reduction of sign-ups. We are not seeing as many new applicants as last year. We had approximately 700 new applications.

ASN c/o David – Had some challenges. Some clients did not know that the 1049A Form was coming. About 50% of the people were going without coverage some; coverages were cancelled. Another issue was that some clients did not want to give consent. Without consent, care managers cannot enroll clients. In Covered CA, issues continue and they vary.

Covered CA Officer Ly May - Information for the public: If a person needs an advocate, they can still go through the CECs to report changes in income, insurance, etc. You can call Covered CA for technical, update, consumer assistance, and administrative for procedure changes.

Open enrollment has ended, but there is now a special enrollment period. Special enrollment is from 2/15 to 4/30; can still enroll, but may be subject to a tax penalty.

All other special enrollments are still effective i.e. job change, gap in insurance for qualifying events, etc. There is a "Job Aid" for CECs and there are 2 new trainings for changing events for Medi-Cal and immigration.

Lois Capp Rep c/o Betsy – Are citizens still having trouble getting care? Any new provider's services? Group noted that they believed Dignity Care is open for ACA (provider formally known as Cuesta Medical Group). This does not include French & Arroyo Grande Hospital's specialists.

Cen-Cal c/o Theresa – Various specialties are available through CHC. Both Dignity and Tenet have also improved primary and specialty access for CenCal Health members via their Foundation's multi-specialty clinics.

A large percentage of primary care for CenCal Health members in SLO County is provided by CHC. As of February 21, 2015, CenCal Health's expansion population totaled 12,295 for SLO County and 18,039 for Santa Barbara County

Joel - Statistics for State -- 1.4 million people enrolled though Covered CA. 90% renewed this year and stayed with same plan. Expansion numbers by county: SB 70,000 SLO 28,000

## **6. Other Business**

**Next Meeting:** May 12, 2015; 3 – 5pm @ SLO County Library