



February 16, 2022 | 12:00pm - 1:00pm | Virtual Meeting Only

Type of Meeting Monthly eHealth Commission Meeting

Facilitator Kaakpema "KP" Yelpaala, eHealth Commission Chair

Note Taker Monique Berry Timekeeper Monika Saran

Commission Attendees Kaakpema "KP" Yelpaala; Rachel Dixon; Dr. Arthur Davidson; Chris Wells; Jason Greer; Jason McRoy; Kevin Stansbury; Michael Archuleta; Mona Baset; Sophia Gin; Toni Baruti; Dr. Wes Williams; Micah Jones; Parish Steinbrecher;

Patrick Gordon; Amy Bhikha; Camille Harding

Absent: All Commissioners and Advisors were present

Minutes

#### Call to Order

# Kaakpema "KP" Yelpaala, eHealth Commission Chair

- Roll call was taken. 16 present. Quorum reached
- Chris Wells motions to approve the January 2022 eHealth Commission meeting minutes
- Kevin Stansbury seconds the motion

# **Opening Remarks**

# Elisabeth Arenales, Deputy Director, Office of Saving People Money on Health Care

- The Governor and Lt. Governor's Offices have restructured the health team so everyone is under one umbrella. The Office of Saving People Money on Health Care is still directed by the Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera with Elisabeth serving as her Deputy and continuing in her role as the Senior Policy Advisor on Health Care.
  - O The value of pulling all the health work under one umbrella is to enable us to work together better and to have a more integrated approach to how we think about health care. Health technology is an essential component of what we are doing and will be doing. Gives us an opportunity to think about how to be strategic in the way we incorporate conversations about eHealth as we move forward.
- With this change, the Office of eHealth Innovation is moving under the Office of Saving People Money on Health Care with the Office Director reporting directly to Elisabeth.
  - O Stephanie Pugliese has been selected as the Director.
- Rachel Dixon: How do you see the Commission engaging with and supporting your work going forward?
  - O The Roadmap was reviewed prior to the restructure and is very impressive as well as a challenge to undertake all of the work, but exciting.
  - How we can work together is to some extent an open question. Elisabeth and Stephanie have spoken and still need to talk about what they think can accomplish moving forward. This includes COVID and public health and how much we are doing in that space.
  - O Internally, the Governor's Office is reviewing COVID recovery projects including tracking. There is work going on regarding the Workforce space.
  - Finally, Elizabeth has been thinking about where we want to be in the next five and ten years and how we embed that work in the conversations going with respect to the Behavioral Health Administration; to the changes going on with long-term care; to work with rural areas that are still struggling with getting access to broadband and technology.



#### **Announcements**

# Stephanie Pugliese, Director, Office of eHealth Innovation (OeHI)

- New OeHI Team Members
  - Welcomed Monique Berry as our new Project Coordinator. She will cover many of Natalie's duties until the position is filled. She will continue to support our website and once the Operations and Special Projects Coordinator position is filled she will begin working on the current and planned Roadmap projects
  - O Welcomed Ashley Heathfield as our new Senior Project Manager. She will focus on Virtual Health and Digital Health Equity
  - O Thanked Natalie Neubert as her last commission meeting was in January 2022.
  - Open Positions
    - Operations and Special Projects Coordinator currently conducting interviews
    - Project Manager currently conducting interviews
    - State Health IT Coordinator and Deputy Director Posting TBD
- eHealth Commission Reappointments and New Appointments
  - O Welcomed Toni Baruti, Chief Technology and Innovation Officer at AllHealth Network
  - O Welcomed Patrick Gordon, President and CEO, Rocky Mountain Health Plans
- State Health IT Updates
  - Rural Connectivity Program Decision to onboard 60 independent providers to the Analytics and Health Information Exchanges was identified as the first priority for the Office of State Planning and Budgeting and the second priority for the Joint Technology Committee. Will share the results with the Commission as it moves through the Budget process.
- Commissioner Updates
  - Draft of the Request for Information for Strengthen Community Health through Technology via the White House - We will share the draft to the Commissioners for input in the coming weeks.
  - O The deadline has been extended through the end of March 2022.

#### **New Business**

#### **Commission Introductions and Priorities**

- Dr. Wes Williams, Ph.D, Chief Information Officer, Mental Health Center of Denver
  - Metal Health Center of Denver is a private, not for profit behavioral health care provider and one of Colorado's 18 community health centers.
  - o On the commission for 4 years and is the chair of the Consent Workgroup.
  - His priority focus is on how Coloradoans struggle with mental health as we move into the third year of pandemic. Feels it's important that Coloradoans have control over their own health care information - consent to share specific parts of their health record with providers without giving up their privacy.
- Parrish Steinbrecher, Division Director, Department of Health Care Policy and Financing HCPF
  - Replacing Chris Underwood as HCPF representative.
  - Goal is to help make all these projects a reality whether it is through the funding, priorities, or the resources. Will ensure that we execute on time and deliver the goals the team has set out for us.
- Mona Baset, Vice President, Digital Services, SCL Health
  - Brings different perspectives to the group including providers as well as the consumer engagement perspective.



- Her priority is involved in the most recent Roadmap refresh. Her approach is to drive the work forward with a sense of urgency, simplicity and focus so we can get a lot of things done quickly for our communities.
- Michael Archuleta, Chief Information Officer, Mt. San Rafael Hospital
  - o Mt. San Rafael Hospital is a community hospital in southern Colorado.
  - Overall focus is on the provider side with an emphasis on integration, digital transformation and cyber security.
  - His priorities are to bring in the acceleration of digital transformation to the State of Colorado and continuing to focus on strong cyber security initiatives and frameworks that need to be designed to continue to keep our overall community safe.
- Kevin Stansbury, MS, JD, FACHE, Chief Executive Officer, Lincoln Health Community Hospital
  - Lincoln Health in Hugo, Colorado operates a 15 bed, critical access hospital; a long term care facility; a 10 bed assisted living facility; home health and hospices; 3 to 4 primary care clinics and a transport service. Necessary for us to provide many different services because no one else will.
  - Represents the frontier and rural communities with vast distances, low populations, and low volumes.
  - O Priority is to pursue the triple aim: lower cost, improve quality and improve access. We also need to shift the paradigm in health care, and technology can be a part of that shift. We can focus more on the social determinants of health and population health rather than waiting on someone to get sick or injured. We can do a much better job through technology of chronic disease management, accident prevention, and overall wellness.
- Dr. Arthur Davidson, MD, MSPH, Director of Public Health Informatics, Denver Health
  - Consults for Denver Health
  - Primarily focused on governance
  - Focus now is to create reusable knowledge, which specifically will be the three (3)
    identity management solutions mentioned in the Roadmap and making them available
    while incentivizing their reuse.
- Toni Baruti, Chief Technology and Innovation Officer, AllHealth Network
  - AllHealth Network is one of the 18 private, nonprofit mental health centers that services Douglas and Arapahoe Counties.
  - Have been in healthcare for over 25 years working in the safety net space for providers and payers - her goal is to bring some expertise on primary care.
  - Her priority for this commission is for digital equity especially within the behavioral health space, which has moved at least 90% telehealth - understanding the populations served and digital equity becoming another social determinant of health. Ensuring its accessibility to the underserved population.
- Chris Wells, Ph.D., M.S., Director of the Center for Health and Environmental Data (CHED), Department of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
  - Directs the Center for Health and Environmental Data and a lot of the digital transformation activities.
  - Priorities focus on social health exchange and to show that we are developing and making recommendations and seeing something concrete.
- Jason Greer, CEO, Colorado Community Managed Care Network (CCMCN)

# **Meeting Minutes**



- CCMCN is working on trying to find a way to bring innovative technology solutions together with community partners and then focus on creating community improvement.
- Founding member of the Commission (Vice Chair and Chair of the Care Coordination Workgroup).
- The priority he would like to see is to take all these technologies (data, care coordination, telehealth, and analytics) and channel it towards targeting health equity improvement with a sense of urgency.

# • Patrick Gordon, President and CEO, Rocky Mountain Health Plans

- Responsible for about 300,000 enrollees in the individual market, Medicare, and Medicaid and brings the perspective of the payer.
- Focus on greater interoperability, health information exchange can close gaps in health equity. Looking to promote participation in the health information exchange and social health information exchange space and across networks by the health providers and community resources across the state.

## • Rachel Dixon, CEO, Prime Health

- Prime Health is a nonprofit focusing on advancing health justice and health equity by leveraging innovation to address issues of quality and costs in a sustainable and scalable way.
- o New Vice Chair of the Commission and Co-Chair of the US Together Health
- Echoes what Toni stated on Digital equity thinking on how we build the future of healthcare, the new systems and models that we think about learning from new technologies and advancing new technologies.
- Echoes Mona's statements that we are action oriented; moving things forward; setting aggressive timelines; setting clear goals and objectives, and deliverables; and producing as a commission to advance all this work.
- Highlight Kevin's priorities to keep the focus on sustainability and accessibility for rural, community, and tribal based organizations at the system/provider level and at the direct consumer patient level.

# • Amy Bhikha, Chief Data Officer, Colorado Governor's Office of Information Technology

- Represents the State's perspective on data and how we can integrate with all the use cases and all the pieces that are critical like Data Governance and Data Sharing within State Data and how it is shared externally.
- Works with Art on the Information Governance Committee and echoes his comments on the importance of governance.
- Chair of the Government Data Advisory Board with representation for all the agencies that are focused on these pieces.

# • Camille Harding, Strategy and Innovation Officer, Office of Behavioral Health

- Represents Department of Human Services and where they are headed with the new Behavioral Health Administration.
- In terms of thinking about digital tools for those needing behavioral health services, she agrees with Wes. We need to think about consent and how that lends itself to improved care coordination and patients having access to their own information.

#### • Micah Jones, Director of Compliance & In-house Counsel, Contexture

o Contexture is the umbrella organization for CORHIO in Colorado and Health Current in Arizona. Contexture creates connections that advance in individual and



community health wellness through the delivery of actionable information and analysis.

- His role on the commission is a special advisor his background is as a regulatory attorney (reviews Contexture's policies, permissive use policies, and minimum necessary policies) and experience in health care IT infrastructure funding.
- What sticks out the most is the first goal of the Roadmap to create data that is accessible in an equitable manner. He shares Rachel's goal to ensure there is digital equity without leaving people behind.
- Other priorities include the focus on action oriented projects and innovation. He believes that Health Information Exchange will be integral in order to provide actionable data that can lead to future innovation.

# • Sophia Gin, Senior Vice President, Global Delivery Systems at Cigna International

- Sophia is responsible for the Global Delivery Care Systems, including provider networks, insurance partnerships and oversees the fraud and abuse integrity and data analytics.
- She has a domestic and international commercial payer background and is focused on priorities that the eHealth Commission sets that has a measurable impact to the users of the innovation of digital tools. She is a Colorado native that is focused on consumer value and seeing how their lives actually changed.
- Also interested in saving people money and easing their financial burden

## • Jason McRoy, Director of Analytics, Quality Health Network (QHN)

- o QHN is the health information exchange serving western Colorado.
- Echoes some of the themes mentioned earlier including the value we see in the Roadmap and shifting to obtaining tangible outcomes. Being able to quantify and evaluate what we are achieving in terms of equity and including rural communities.

## • Kaakpema "KP" Yelpaala, CEO and Founder, InOn Health

- o Thanked all the Commissioners for their input.
- One thing that becomes clear is that there is a diverse range of expertise on the Commission, and a good mix of people who have a history of the Commission and new people.
- KP would like to see how we move into execution.

#### **Public Comment Period**

- No public comments on the site
- Jeffery Nathanson
  - Suggested the Commission think about how to integrate the various programs in the State of Colorado from the Department of Public Health and Environment to the Office of Behavioral Health. The more that the State can braid resources is to everyone's advantage.
  - O Is asking for urgency to be deployed in the next 18 months so we do not lose out on the opportunity.

#### eHealth Commission Meeting Closing Remarks

- Open Discussion
  - Will have the crosswalk draft for the commission to review this week and will discuss in the next meeting.
- Future Agenda Items
  - O Next meeting will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month, March 9, 2022.

#### Motion to Adjourn

Kaakpema "KP" Yelpaala, eHealth Commission Chair





- Kaakpema "KP" Yelpaala requests motion to adjourn Rachel Dixon motions to adjourn the meeting Micah Jones seconds the motion

- Meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM MST