

Covering Alabama's Kids and Families Statewide Coalition Meeting
Alabama Library Association
Montgomery, Alabama
October 9, 2008
10:00 – 12:00

Attendees: Bonnie Bradley – CHIP; Barbara Hutchinson– Alabama Child Caring Foundation; Ava Rozelle – CHIP; Sharon Parker – Alabama Medicaid; Jim Carnes – Arise; John Pickens – Alabama Appleseed Center; Knoxye Williams – CHIP; Ashley Peyer – CHIP; Gretel Felton – Alabama Medicaid; Angie James – CHIP; Dale Quinney – Alabama Rural Health Association; Mary Finch – Primary Care Association; Connie Arnwine – Jefferson County Department of Health; Gayle Sandlin – Consultant, Alabama Arise; Charlotte Hardison – Medical Association of Alabama; Nichelle Williams – Alabama Appleseed; Claire Haynes – Business Council of Alabama; Linda Champion – Alabama Chapter of AAP; Liz Todd – CHIP; Jeanetta Green – Alabama Department of Human Resources; Kaleigh Flatt – Alabama Department of Senior Services; Susan Colburn – Children's Rehabilitation Services; Lee Rawlinson – Alabama Medicaid; Julia Sosa – ADPH, Office of Minority Health

Call to Order/Welcome:

Jim Carnes called the meeting to order and welcomed the group.

Introductions were made.

Minutes were approved with no corrections.

Reports

Executive Committee – Jim Carnes

There was discussion at the meeting about coalition membership. In particular, identifying individuals and/or agencies who need to be involved and are not.

Also, an extensive discussion was held about making coalition meetings more engaging and meaningful. Some of the recommendations were: having standing agenda items in written report without having an oral report during the meeting. (Agenda items from agencies would be included if there were something significant that needed to be presented or discussed with the coalition); trying to include more workgroup/interactive sessions during coalition meetings; developing a Coalition Highlights Flyer to go out following meetings rather than detailed minutes.

National Covering Kids Southern Regional Conference – Bonnie Bradley

Bonnie recently presented at the National Covering Kids Southern Regional Conference. The main topic of the presentation was importance of collaboration at the state agency level as well as in the private sector.

Project Reports

Renewal and Retention – Gretel Felton – ALL Kids and Medicaid continue to work on this project which involves a technical assistance grant. Medicaid has enlisted the help of interns to survey recipients who do not renew. Medicaid's Legal Department denied a request to allow renewals to be accepted without a signature. Medicaid is still pursuing renewals by phone. Other information was presented in the written report.

Electronic Signature – Information was presented in the written report.

Gaps Profile/Coverage Grant – Jim Carnes - Jim stated that efforts are moving forward for the February 10, Health Access conference in Birmingham. He also talked about Lynn Beshear with Envision 2020 and their Health Care Access Project. He noted that they had enlisted the consulting firm of Mike Spivey to make recommendations and do some research for them. In part, the research will attempt to answer questions about indigent care in the state. Also, there has been a recommendation that Alabama apply for a sub-state Medicaid Waiver.

AVAA – Ava Rozelle - There was a brief review on the project. The final review of the software program is back and is ready to be installed on computers. There will be gradual implementation of the program in identified pilot sites in order to lessen potential problems. There is no plan to do wide spread advertisement but to encourage the public to use the system.

Kid Check – Barbara Hutchinson - Locust Fork had a screening this past weekend that went well. Over 1200 children were screened. Kid Check packets including the instructional DVD have been sent to all School Superintendents as well as the Deans of all 2 year and 4 year Nursing Schools. It is anticipated that the number of health screenings will continue to increase.

Birmingham Initiative – Barbara Hutchinson and Bonnie Bradley – of approximately 28,000 Health Survey Forms sent out through the Birmingham City Schools, over 7300 forms have been returned. Of those, 1341 reported having no insurance and wanted an application. Applications have been sent out to those requesting them and it is hoped there will be a good response. Efforts are underway to target those schools with a low response rate.

Local Projects:

Jefferson – Bonnie Bradley - The Jefferson County Coalition did not meet this quarter. It is anticipated that after the first of the year there will be discussion about how to increase participation in the coalition.

Mobile Project – Ashley Peyer – Provided in Written Report.

Insuring Partners

Medicaid – Gretel Felton – Provided in Written Report for August and September.

- ◆ SOBRA Cases – 193,963
- ◆ SOBRA Recipients – 399,459
- ◆ MLIF Cases – 21,434
- ◆ MLIF Recipients – 58,094
- ◆ Plan First – (women with no children) – 13,595
- ◆ Average Cases per worker – 1,197
- ◆ Average Recipients per worker – 2,542

Further details on QI 1 Funding was included in written report as well as information on the move of the Birmingham District Office and relocation of several out stationed workers.

The Plan First waiver is was renewed and will now cover women up to 55 years of age.

ALL Kids – Ava Rozelle

Current enrollment for ALL Kids is 71,393. Processing time is currently longer. Additionally, Regional staff have been participating in an increasing number of Rapid Response activities. Ava provided an update on the Maximizing Enrollment of Children in Medicaid and ALL Kids grant from Robert Wood Johnson. 28 states applied for the grant and there will be a site visit at CHIP on October 23rd. The final selection is anticipated in November.

Alabama Child Caring Foundation – Barbara Hutchinson

- ◆ .The approximate enrollment is 9,173 with about 1500 on the waiting list.
- ◆ The Community Foundation of South Alabama has made a gift to the Foundation that could ultimately be the 2nd largest in Foundation history. The Community Foundation is attempted to have its donors identify ACCF as the recipient of their donation, the Community Foundation will in turn match this and send the monies to ACCF. Blue Cross Blue Shield would then match that donation. This would be a 4:1 match. The Community Foundation's goal is a donation of \$60,000 by the end of this year. 400 children in an 8 county area would be covered.

Discussion – Gayle Sandlin – Health Access conference February 10, 2009

There was extensive discussion about possible topics/speakers that should be considered as possible sessions at the upcoming conference. A wide range of topics was discussed. A sample includes: Autism Spectrum Disorders, Lifespan Model of Health Care, School Nurses, Infant Mortality Issues, Children's Mental Health Issues, Dental Health, Medical Home Concept, Education and Behavior Change, Alternative Medicine.

Announcements

Rosemary announced that the Scale Back Alabama program is soliciting weigh-in sites. To get more information you can contact www.scalebackalabama.com

The meeting was adjourned.

HANDOUTS:

Medicaid Written Report

Mobile Coalition Written Report

Statewide Health Access Conference Planning Highlights