

Steering Committee Meeting Notes

Date & Time: May 7, 2020, 1:00-2:30pm
Phone/Web: Dial-in: +1 669 900 6833 US
Meeting ID: 737 586 1177
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7375861177>

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Emily Halcon, City of Sacramento
- John Foley, Sacramento Self Help Housing
- Alicia Gonzales, Sacramento Native American Health Center
- Emely Arienza, Anthem Blue Cross
- Giselle Castro, Access Dental
- Holly Webb, WellSpace Health
- Beau Hennemann, Anthem Blue Cross
- Danielle Cannarozzi, Liberty Dental
- Jennifer Ablog, Kaiser Permanente
- Liz Larrarte, Aetna Better Health
- Michelle AlaChapelle, Steering Committee Consumer Representative
- Ane Watts, Anthem Blue Cross
- Blanca Martinez, Molina Health Care
- Effie Ruggles, River City Medical Group
- Hazaiah Williams, Elica Health Centers
- Tiffany Lan, Elica Health Centers
- Veronica Hernandez, Elica Health Centers
- Scott Crawford, HealthNet
- Sydney Turner, HealthNet
- Erin Johansen, Hope Cooperative
- Cathy Lumb-Edwards, Kaiser Permanente
- Kate Hutchinson, Lutheran Social Services
- Dina Maxwell, Anthem Blue Cross
- Jazmin Orozco, One Community Health
- Janice Milligan, River City Medical Group
- Jodi Nerell, Sacramento Covered
- Kelly Bennett, Sacramento Covered
- Joil Xiong, Sacramento Covered
- Tanya Tran, SHRA
- Shawn Graham, Sacramento Self Help Housing

- Jesse Williams, Sacramento Self Help Housing
- Sarbjit Gill, Peach Tree Health
- Kelly Brenk, Sutter Health
- Kailani Paneda, Sutter Health
- Trina Gonzales, UC Davis Health
- Dr. Jonathan Porteus, WellSpace Health
- Alondra Thompson, One Community Health
- Sommer McKenna, Liberty Dental
- Aide Long, Elica Health Centers
- Shanna Madden, Access Dental
- Dr. Miquel Suarez, HALO
- Elissa Southward, Dignity Health

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Lisa Chan-Sawin, Pathways Support Team
- Gretchen Schroeder, Pathways Support Team
- Ron Spingarn, Pathways Support Team
- Alexis Sabor, Pathways Support Team
- Amanda Rosenberg, Pathways Support Team

Program Updates

- Dashboard
 - Jodi Nerell: Our dashboard covers November 2017 through April 15, 2020. A lot has been happening since the pandemic hit us, but it looks like all the Pathways partners have been working hard during the COVID response. 67% of referrals come from the Health Sector. 33% account for law enforcement referrals. The largest health plan assignments come from Anthem Blue Cross. Nearly 2,000 people have been enrolled since we started and 692 housed have been housed. This is not on the dashboard, but our unsheltered population has dropped to the lowest percentage since the program's inception. Some is due to the COVID response hotel rooms and the City's rehousing dollars through Room and Board. Hopefully, this number will continue to drop. Our age ratios have been consistent.
 - Lisa Chan-Sawin: It's wonderful to see that we've permanently housed over 400 individuals. We hope to accelerate that with the housing dollars this year. Our pilot has not seen a drop in enrollment that other WPC pilots have been experiencing and this is due to all the hard work our partners are doing on the ground.
- ICP+ Launch
 - Lisa Chan-Sawin: We have just launched ICP+ and are really excited about this.
 - Gretchen Schroeder: We mentioned at our last Steering Meeting that we were on the verge of launching. We've opened 20 new beds with WellSpace Health as of March 1st. We're moving full speed on that and working out bumps. I do want to point out that we have been exploring letting our Hub partners make referrals into ICP+. I would like to

encourage our Hub partners to think about who in their panel qualifies. I would like to see more Hub referrals in addition to the hospital referrals.

- Holly Webb: I know they are working hard to get folks in. Referrals are helpful and I know it is successful at this point in time.
- Jonathan Porteus: We are grateful for all the work people have put in to get this going, especially with the current challenges.
- Lisa Chan-Sawin: Thank you for all your hard work. We are so glad to have this resource in the community.
- Blanca Martinez: Do we have a breakdown by health plan of who is accessing the beds?
- Holly Webb: I'm not aware at this point what the health plan usage is. That is something we can get from our ICP director.
- Lisa Chan-Sawin: That's an excellent question. This is a new resource, but we can give an update at the next Steering meeting and work offline to get the information.
- Transition Planning Update
 - Lisa Chan-Sawin: Many of you were integral in our initial transition meeting launch efforts. Most transition planning was put on pause for March and part of April which was driven by a pause by the state in CalAIM. Pathways was authorized through the State by an 1115 waiver which was set to end at the end of this year. Due to COVID, the state has decided to pause CalAIM. We don't know how long, but the state has expressed interest in extending the current waiver. Because of that, we need to put transition planning on pause. We regrouped with our health plan partners yesterday to reconnect and start thinking through new timing and the implications of extending for a year. I want to open it up to any plans to weigh in.
 - Beau Hannemen: We had a productive conversation yesterday. It's important to know that the state is trying to keep WPC going another year which is so critical. Losing a few months has made it impossible to launch CalAIM in January. I think it's positive that the state is looking to extend the waiver. While there is a lot of uncertainty around CalAIM, this delay actually gives us more time to think through the details and do this the right way, so we can engage deeply with all our partners. The delay doesn't mean we stop these conversations but actually keep it going so we get it right the first time.
 - Lisa Chan-Sawin: I think we will know more in the coming months, especially since the state will need to go through a public process to get an extension approved. We will continue to push out updates and our latest thinking as well as the state's updates.
- PY4 Annual Report Highlights
 - Preliminary Variant and Universal Metric Report
 - Lisa Chan-Sawin: 2019 was the 4th year in our program demonstration. Every year, we submit twice a year a set of required metrics to DHCS that all pilots are expected to report. These metrics are tied to the City's application for WPC and Pathways. We work closely with Sacramento Covered to run this process.
 - Joil Xiong: I want to thank all the partners for making sure we had all the metrics and that the process ran smoothly this year. It ran differently but everyone was helpful in getting the metrics in on time. We had to change our approach to data

collection since our data was pooling differently than what the state had found our data to show. Every year we are seeing drops in all-cause readmission. We saw an over 50% drop in All Cause Readmission rates. For housing services, we are measuring whether these enrollees who have been referred are actually receiving services. Everyone who has been referred has received services which is great. Of course, this is preliminary, and the state will do their analysis as well. We will have more updates at our next meeting.

PY4 Annual Variant & Universal Metric Report: Preliminary Results

Metric Name <small>(Goal: 10% annual reduction)</small>	Pathways Data					
	Baseline (2016)	PY2 (2017)	PY3 (2018)	PY4 (2019)	% Change PY3 (Pathways)	% Change Baseline (Pathways)
All Cause Readmission Rates	13.00%	19.00%	14.00%	6.30%	-55.01%	-51.55%
Ambulatory Care – ED Utilization	353.00	402.00	516.79	152.37	-70.52%	-56.84%
Inpatient Utilization	81.73	101.35	183.52	58.60	-68.07%	-28.30%
Housing Services	49.15%	49.15%	90.15%	99.88%	10.80%	103.21%

- Submitted Question: Is this for all enrolled members and all health plans?
- Joil Xiong: Yes. It also includes FFS enrollees and includes data from hospitals for this FFS population.
- Submitted Question: Last year, there were some discrepancies in the state data. Do you anticipate to see these again or will it align better this year?
- Lisa Chan-Sawin: We expect to see some additional discrepancy but we hope the changes we made in our collection process will shrink this. We will have this gap because not all hospitals in the region have reported so we will have some differences in who has submitted data. The state is aware of these challenges due to the unique nature of our pilot, but they hope to see the data gap shrink.
- Emily Halcon: In addition to the work Joil and her team did, we are also doing an independent evaluation. There is a larger data pull happening in May or June. Some initial reporting from this evaluation shows similar trends. I'm hoping Desert Vista who is running the evaluation can come and present more detail at our next meeting.

- Blanca Martinez: For housing services, is the denominator members or clients for FFS who were referred to housing or were already in housing and received post-housing services?
- Lisa Chan-Sawin: This is all individuals who were referred to housing partners and who actually received these services.
- Blanca Martinez: So, they could have retained housing, but not all these people have been housed?
- Lisa Chan-Sawin: Right, the state is looking to measure the access to housing services, rather than if they were housed. Our program design is linking the health and housing services, and this is the trend we were hoping to see.
- Joil Xiong: It is as Lisa said, but there is a metric on the report not shown here that shows enrollees who have been housed for 6 months or more.
- Lisa Chan-Sawin: Please let us know if there is data not shown here that you would like to see next time. Blanca, we can get you that data offline.

Discussion Items

- COVID-19 and Pathways Program
 - Lisa Chan-Sawin: We do know that the WPC and Health Homes transition plans that health plans were required to submit to the state on July 1st are no longer required. The state is working on a new deadline, but we know that the health plans are interested in continuing the conversation regardless of a confirmed submission deadline.
- 1115 Waiver Extension Proposal and Alternative
 - Lisa Chan-Sawin: There are three 1115 waiver approaches at the state now. Emergency 1115a allows the state to apply for an emergency 1115 and make changes to their current Medicaid program. The regulatory flexibility only extends 60 days after the emergency is lifted. The waiver will not extend WPC pilots but will allow WPC to pay for

Comparing Three 1115 Waiver Approaches

DHCS Emergency 1115a Submitted, Pending	DHCS 1115 Proposal	Alternative 1115 Proposal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow WPC Pilots to pay for temporary, emergency housing, including rehab of facilities and providing supplies and other emergency supports, like meals • Allows pilots to modify current budgets to pay for COVID-19 response • No new money 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight one-year extension of existing waiver programs, including WPC • Unclear what happens to ECM or HHP, which are not included in the current waiver • Any changes delays CMS approval • No new money 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows pilots to use WPC funds to pay for anything COVID-related • Expands target population to any patient in the county (not just WPC enrollees) • Advocates for a better federal match rate = lower local match • Additional \$300M allocated to WPC pilots

additional supports and COVID response using current dollars. There are no new dollars attached. This would help counties who need to have additional COVID staff and resources.

- Lisa: With a normal 1115 option, the state said they want to pursue a straight 1 year extension to programs. No new money is attached, so we would need to look at our existing budget and use unspent portions to fund the additional year. We don't know what will happen yet to ECM and Health Homes. A number of county associations and the CA Association of Health Systems have a new proposal on the table. This would lead to new money for WPC dollars and ask the state to use WPC money for COVID response and be able to use these funds for a wider population. There are some potential challenges to this. Our current 1115 waiver doesn't meet the test for getting approval for a new waiver. By asking for new money, it raises other challenges for the state rather than a 1 year flat extension.
- Emily Halcon: Obviously, the City has been in conversations with many of you for what this will mean. This is not a standard City item. The Mayor and Executive Committee have discussed the straight extension option, and this has been met with a lot of enthusiasm. We want to make sure we keep a continuum of care for our patients and don't want to leave them hanging.
- Lisa Chan-Sawin: We know there is a lot of uncertainty. The state will have two hearings in May and we will share these dates and links with everyone. In a normal 1115 process, the state puts out a proposal and is required to have a public feedback period to gather input. After looking at the feedback, the state incorporates these suggestions and does a formal proposal to CMS. It can take a few months to get a response and a more complex extension will take longer to get back to us.
- City's Pathways-Related COVID-19 Response
 - Lisa Chan-Sawin: We are doing a lot of work with Sacramento Covered to identify our patients in the motels and shelters. We are trying to think through what we need to do in terms of a COVID response and how we can best benefit our patients and beneficiaries.
- Sacramento COVID-19 Response Team Update
 - Lisa Chan-Sawin: Thank you all for taking the time to speak with me and my team. One of the first things my team did was look into federal flexibility coming to the state and how it will push down to plans and providers. We also looked through our procedures and made changes to make remote support services possible and remove any other barriers. Hopefully, the referral pause did not create many hiccups. We have seen referrals begin to pop up again.
 - Emily Halcon: The City and county have been in full COVID response for 7 or 8 weeks now. We are doing a lot of work that impacts Pathways but is not Pathways- specific. The website, sacramentostepsforward.org/covid-19-resources/ contains documents and our weekly report-out. The approved plan contemplated up to 900 new bed spaces through trailers, motel rooms, and shelter expansions. As of now the trailers are open and the motels are used. Over the past few weeks, we found out that there have been

- very few cases in our community along the homeless population. So, we are now pivoting to use these resources for high-risk individuals, of which many may be Pathways patients. Sacramento Covered has been on the ground making direct referrals based on the priority criteria the County had developed. The vast majority of referrals seem to be from our referral team and the Pathways outreach team. We need to look into our data to confirm. Unfortunately, these are short term and emergency solutions. They are very minimal services based on isolation and safety so we will need to discuss more permanent solutions. A vast majority of folks in motels can be visited and receive services excluding those in medical isolation areas due to a positive COVID testing.
- Lisa Chan-Sawin: The SSF updates are also very helpful in tracking this issue and getting updated numbers.
 - Emily Halcon: Regarding the work around the Re-Housing Dollars, I know all the housing partners are making tremendous efforts. I'm working this week to provide additional support to make sure those dollars are being used effectively. It will be critical to underscore the importance of these services. You should hear more from us or Lisa's team next week.
 - Michelle A laChappelle: The Governor developed a campaign to encourage volunteerism and I'm wondering if we've made any efforts in this area.
 - Emily Halcon: We did have some conversations about how to engage volunteers especially in the more laborious efforts, like food delivery and transportation needs. Ultimately, we came to the conclusion that volunteers are not the most appropriate for the needs we have given our vulnerable population. That being said, I do think the county office of emergency services is looking for volunteers for some more COVID-related activities.