

## **Health Subcommittee Human Services Coordinating Council**

Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 2pm  
125 Putnam Pike, Dayville, CT 06241

Members Present: John Goodman (United Services), Patrick McCormack (Uncas Health District), Nancy Beaudry (NDDH), Arvind Shaw (Generations Family Health Center)

Others Present: John Filchak (NECCOG), Hoween Flexer (NECCOG), Sam Alexander (NECCOG), Eric Sanderson (NECCOG)

Called to Order: 2:13pm

Introduction of Members Present

Introduction of Guest Speaker: Arvind Shaw, Generations Family Health Center

- Instead of Physician care, most care is delivered in the ER or not at all
  - Huge risk for people in the region as most are not receiving preventative care and at the risk for ER visits and high medical costs
  - 2x times higher risk for patients in the region. Due to the flawed delivery system
  - ACA gave CHC more responsibility – insuring 4.5 million people have access with lower annual costs
  - Community Health Center play a large role in the Affordable Care Act – with costs totaling 700/yr. and serving 23 million people
  - Claims paid by the state for Husky were analyzed by the DST Care Analyzer – Greatest degree of activity and cost is in NE CT (Generations Data)
  - The region has the most expensive patients in the state according to John Hopkins University Methodology
  - There is federal protection for CHC's; no premiums for insurance, AG defense and government coverages of damages awarded
  - Windham County ranks last in the CT County Health Rankings in most categories
  - There is a shortage in Primary Care Providers, which is a significant piece of the equation
  - Bridging the gap in the primary care access is essential and will be a long-term challenge
  - Recently passed legislation will address building up health care providers
  - Preventative appointments and education significantly reduce net costs
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- Behavioral Health retention is a major issue as people have long wait times for appointments and have difficulty keeping them when they are scheduled far in advance
  - Without access to Behavioral Health care, the issues can compound and become worse
  - More patients need assistance and care is not as effective if people are unable to go to the correct service
  - Behavioral Health is another major issue, as it was previously part of medical visits
  - There are major obstacles surrounding behavioral health; over regulation, provider shortage, and insurance coverage

- There is a 32% rate of depression diagnosis and appointments made
- Transportation presents challenges to patients and makes it difficult for individuals to make appointments – mobile medical facilities have been successful in addressing this issue (Dental Van)
- Some of the medical transportation systems are unreliable and cause patients to miss appointments, along with being very costly and cumbersome with long wait times, etc.
- Having CHC's in all communities is essential and should be a focus
- Dual Medicare and Husky patients total 5,000
- The number of uninsured patients has decreased from 24.9% to 11%, pre-ACA there were 40K uninsured in the Generation service area
- Schools need to fill the behavioral health care gap and refer students early
- Pre-Mature Deaths in Windham County are high
- Childhood mortality rates, low physical activity and preventable hospital visits are high
- Many of the health care issues are multi-generational
- Care management for children need to expand, with school district assistance
- The new state innovation model will pay for health care outcomes
- Homeless care is a challenge; as medical care isn't the top priority- need to address their immediate needs and establish and connection and trust
- Treating patients without the use of opioids is essential – creates tensions between doctors and patients and between health care providers
- Restrictions on opioid prescriptions were addressed by Generations and have now been addressed by legislature

Materials Included:

- Patient Transportation Survey (Generations Family Health Center)
- Windham County- County Health Rankings
- DSTHS CareAnalyzer: Risk Assessment
- DST Care Analyzer: Overall Risk Assessment (Generations)

Meeting Adjourned: 3:55pm