

CHAC Meeting Notes

June 1, 2007

Present: Jill Patton, Sherrod Beall, Bill Warren, Margaret Starner, Bob Juskevich, Julie Pickering, Lynn Westberg, Jenny Wrenn, Tom Rebbin, Eileen Wasserbach, Kip Boyd and Tony Demond.

The May, 2007 meeting notes were approved as distributed.

Lynn gave an update on the **208 commission**. The number of proposals under consideration has been narrowed down to 4. Lynn pointed out that doesn't necessarily mean that any of these proposals will be likely to be implemented as is – they represent a range of what the commission will consider proposing. When asked, Lynn said that a “composite” of these proposals was unlikely since there was such diversity among the commission members. She also said that there was a strong “insurance voice” on the commission. The subject of having members volunteer for one of the 4 “task forces” being set up to aid the commission was discussed; Lynn said she was nominating someone for the “rural” task force but pointed out that a stronger “rural voice” was still needed; however, no one from our group seemed able to commit. Lynn added that there is a long way to go before any results will be in.

It was mentioned that the final recommendations from JSI should be coordinated with the commission. Jill brought up the fact that the Lewin Group, hired to do the financial modeling for the final 4 proposals for the commission, had just been bought by United Health Care, but Lynn said that Lewin had satisfied the commission members that there would be no conflict of interest.

There was some discussion of **insurance issues**: that Anthem (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) is being dropped by many local providers because of payment problems; that many insurance carriers will no longer cover small businesses in the state; and a more positive note being that Colorado has a new insurance commissioner, Marcie Morrison, who is well respected.

Eileen reported that she will be submitting a **grant application** to the Colorado Health Foundation for \$5,000. We discussed where she should say it will be spent (public forums, advertising, public education and DVD distribution were decided upon).

Tony reported that the Urgent Care facility he heads will accept Medicare patients, but that they must pay cash up front and do the paperwork for reimbursement themselves.

The **focus meetings being held with JSI** (June 4-6) were discussed. Some members will be attending meetings on the 4th and 5th, but our main meeting for CHAC will be the one on June 6th, for non-profits. Apparently 12 non-profits have been invited. It was decided that Bill Warren would write up a short description of CHAC and our objectives relevant to JSI's consultancy. At least 4 members will attend that meeting.

It was suggested that we set up a subcommittee (4 to 5 people) to do preliminary preparation for another **HSD campaign** in November 2008 – to be discussed at the next meeting, July 6th.