



Virginia Health Benefit Exchange

Quarterly Meeting of the Exchange Advisory Committee

April 8, 2021





Agenda – HBE Advisory Committee, April 8th, 2021

- A. Welcome, Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Reports from Exchange Director Victoria Savoy
 - 1. Extension Decision
 - 2. RFP Updates – Platform, Customer Service Center, Consultation, Advertising
 - 3. Navigator Grant Update
 - 4. SEP Enrollment Update
 - 5. Staffing and Development of Department Update
 - 6. Federal actions and Virginia General Assembly legislation
- D. Reports from Subcommittees and Members
 - 1. Eligibility and Enrollment Subcommittee
 - 2. Consumer Assistance Subcommittee
- E. Consideration of questions, recommendations, reports or comments
- F. Response to Committee Recommendations
- G. Other Business
- H. Public Comments
- I. Adjournment

Welcome, Call to Order

Call in number: 1-804-299-5840 ID: 127 146 270#

Reminder:

- Only committee members should have cameras turned on
- Please stay muted until you are called on to speak
- The recording of this meeting as well as the minutes will be made available online



Roll Call

Ex-officio Members:

- Secretary Daniel Carey – Health and Human Resources
- Director Karen Kimsey – Department of Medical Assistance Services
- Dr. Norman Oliver – State Health Commissioner
- Commissioner Duke Storen – Department of Social Services
- Commissioner Scott White – Bureau of Insurance

Voting Members:

- Sabrina Corlette, Chair
- Jane Norwood Kusiak, Vice Chair
- Lee Biedrycki
- Chiquita Brooks-LaSure (ABSENT)
- Scott N. Castro
- Elizabeth Cunningham
- Doug Gray
- Ikeita Cantu Hinojosa
- Starla Kiser
- Kenn Penn

SCC Liaison:

- Victoria Savoy – Virginia Health Benefit Exchange Director



Reports from Exchange Director Victoria Savoy

1. Extension Decision
2. RFP Updates – Platform, Customer Service Center, Consultants, Advertising/Branding
3. Navigator Grant Update
4. SEP Enrollment Update
5. Staffing and Development of Department Update
6. Federal actions and Virginia General Assembly legislation



Reports from Exchange Director Victoria Savoy

1. Extension Decision

- One-year extension – to Plan Year 2024
- Multiple factors considered:
 - Major changes in federal law and policy
 - Recent changes in Virginia law
 - Additional time to transition services currently handled by federal platform



Reports from Exchange Director Victoria Savoy

2. RFP Updates – Platform, Customer Service Center, Consultants, Advertising/Branding

- RFPs have been temporarily paused, to determine impact of Extension factors on Requirements



Reports from Exchange Director Victoria Savoy

3. Navigator Grant Update

- Virginia HBE's annual Navigator grant cycle for Plan Year 2022 to start soon
- Potential additional funds through federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) being investigated





Reports from Exchange Director Victoria Savoy

4. Special Enrollment Period (SEP) Enrollment Update

- SEP extended through August 15, 2021, from May 15, 2021
- Monthly reporting updates from CMS: As of March 31st, ~14,800 new Virginia plan selections
- Extensive Federal marketing; \$100 million budget in various forms: TV, radio, print, social media
- Limited marketing by Virginia HBE; prior marketing contract expired as of December 31, 2020
- Combined HBE and BOI outreach: events; materials; website and social media posts

Reports from Exchange Director Victoria Savoy

5. Staffing and Development of Department Update

- New Exchange Division Staff since December 2020:
 - Amy Mears, Senior IT Program Manager
 - Whitney Thomas, Administrative Coordinator
- Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs and Consumer Outreach to be advertised soon
- State Corporation Commission Office of General Counsel Attorney position to support the Exchange Division and SBE currently being recruited





Reports from Exchange Director Victoria Savoy

6. Federal actions and Virginia General Assembly legislation

Federal Actions:

- SEP through August 15, 2021
- American Rescue Plan:
 - Advanced Premium Tax Credits (APTC) Expanded – removed 400% FPL cap
 - Enhanced subsidies for enrollees under 400% FPL
 - Temporary subsidies for enrollees on or eligible for unemployment benefits in 2021
 - COBRA subsidies for 6 months
 - Forgives repayment of excess APTC for 2020

Virginia General Assembly Legislation:

- HB 1884 (Facilitated Enrollment)- beginning one year after the Virginia HBE is established, VA Dept of Taxation to provide contact information of individuals who would like to be contacted by the Exchange
- HB 2332 (Reinsurance) – requires the BOI to submit a state innovation waiver request pursuant to §1332 of the ACA to stabilize premiums for health benefit plans in the individual market. Impact of expected reduction in premiums would reduce User Fee Assessment. Updated projections are in progress.

Reports from Subcommittees and Members

1. Eligibility and Enrollment Subcommittee – Doug Gray
2. Consumer Assistance Subcommittee – Liz Cunningham

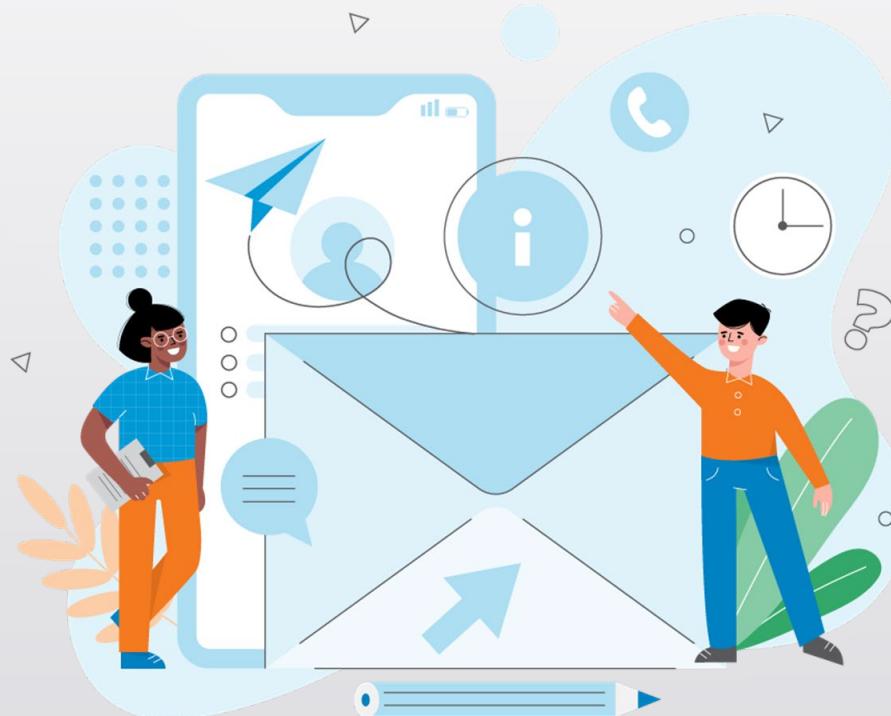


Consideration of Questions, Recommendations, Reports or Comments



Response to Committee Recommendations

- None for this meeting





Other Business

1. Quarterly meeting dates: 4th Thursday in July and October (so far)
2. Chiquita Brooks-LaSure: Nominated to be CMS Administrator



Public Comments





Adjournment