

Healthcare Workforce Strategic Planning Taskforce Minutes – May 18, 2011

Convener: Suzanne McCarthy
Leaders: Paul Halverson, Dan Rahn
Attendees: Omar Atiq - AMS, Ann Bynum-UAMS-Regional Programs, Ed Franklin – AATYC, Susan Hanrahan – ASU, Linda McIntosh-ANA, Bob Mason, ASDA, Mark Riley-APA, Mike Smets-APA, Billy Tarpley, ASDA, Artee Williams – ADWS, Jean Zehler-ANA.
ACHI Staff: Arlo Kahn, Kenley Money, Shanoa Miller, Pat Russell, Craig Wilson

1. Dr. Rahn welcomed Susan Hanrahan, Artee Williams and Ed Franklin to the work group.
2. Review and Discussion of the Proposed Work plan :
Suzanne McCarthy presented six goals for the workforce strategic plan that have been proposed by ACHI staff. Taskforce members were asked for reactions to the goals and suggested revisions. (The goals are listed in an attachment to these minutes.) It was noted that the goals are very ambitious for the amount of time we have. Members suggested replacing the phrase “health care system” with “health system” in the entire plan to include workforce changes that may be outside the usual health care system. Additionally, the plan should address interdisciplinary training, the need to re-direct applicants refused admission to one type of training into another health-related field, needs of non-English speaking populations, and the importance of health literacy. Process suggestions included that a single e-mail address be provided for all responses, that a glossary of terms be developed, and that a website or SharePoint be developed for workgroup communication. There was a review and discussion of the recent informal survey of key stakeholders regarding important problems and solutions related to Arkansas’ workforce.
3. Kenley Money presented preliminary workforce data, including 30 minute drive time maps, primary care physicians by region and county, and mortality by county. Members commented on limitations of the data, the need for more accurate practice information, and the value of asking licensing agencies to gather additional useful data related to practice.
4. The workgroup discussed how best to categorize and study various types of providers. The group agreed to conduct work in phases. It was suggested that chiropractors and podiatrists be moved from “allied health” to “specialty care.” Members were asked to submit suggestions for categorization and priority for the first phase. Dr. Rahn cautioned about not getting lost in data collection (“limit data time”) and allowing enough time to think of innovations to solve the health system problems while recognizing that barriers exist.

5. The workgroup discussed the process for a wider stakeholder group which will meet June 23rd. Members commented on the need for transparency and a wide array of workforce stakeholders

6. The next meeting of the Health Care Workforce Strategic Planning Taskforce will be June 15, 2011, 4:00-5:30 p.m. at ACHI.