



State Consumer Health Information and Policy (SCHIP) Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Location: Florida Center 2727 Mahan Drive Building 3, Tallahassee, FL 32308

Members Present: Karen van Caulil, Ph.D., Joyce Case, Jarrod Fowler, Diane Godfrey, Dennis Hollingsworth, Lindy Kennedy, Cindy Meredith, David Shapiro, Andrew Weatherill, Ed.D.

Agency Staff Present: Jaime Bustos, Pamela King, Crystal Ritter, Meredith Hayes, Jamie Harley, Milly Hardin, Sketch Piers, Tafty Jackson, Suzanne Kirayoglu, Dana Watson, Dylan Dunlap, Patricia Vidal

Interested Parties Present: Brian Smart, Alex Golden, Ashley Tait-Dinger, Deborah Foote, David Dieterich, Jill Parker, Lisa Rawlins, Anthony Durate, Owen Quinonez, Bruce Culpepper, Steve Stallard, Cynthia Cooper, Claudia Wright Walton, Jason Hand, Susan Anderson, Steve Stallard

Meeting Materials: [State Consumer Health Information and Policy Advisory Council \(myflorida.com\)](https://myflorida.com)

Call to Order & Welcome:

Dr. van Caulil called the meeting of the SCHIP Council to order at 10:01 a.m. and reminded the attendees that the meeting was being recorded for note-taking purposes. She welcomed the members and attendees.

Roll Call:

Since there were two new council members, Dr. van Caulil asked everyone on the Council and Agency staff to introduce themselves as a means of roll call.

After introductions, Ms. King noted the members present in person and virtually. She highlighted the members not in attendance for the record and clarified that there was a quorum.

Agency Update:

- Mr. Bustos provided Agency updates specifically touching on legislative bills impacting the Florida Center (SB 668 Electronic Health Records, and SB 7016 Live Healthy Bill).



The Council ask for Florida Center staff to provide a summary of all legislation impacting the Agency and/or health care facility providers.

Review and Approve Meeting Minutes:

Ms. Kennedy moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Hollingsworth seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Previous Action Items: Ms. King provided the following update on the action items from the previous meeting:

- A list of bills that may be of interest to the Committee was previously emailed.
- It was determined that providing copies of Agency bill analyses would be counterproductive as they could be outdated by the time it was provided to the members and that the best analyses could be found on the legislative website.
- The Agency reviewed Senate Bill 668 language to ensure intent was clear, but it was no longer valid as the bill has not moved forward.
- It was determined that the training video for the transparency page could not be moved due to technical issues. The Agency has added a new mega menu tab at the top of the FloridaHealthFinder's (FHF) homepage called "Site Navigation Videos" that will take users to the video.
- It was clarified that the option to search by city and provider was already available on FHF by selecting "All" and then filtering. Updates are underway to improve search functionality in phase 2 of the updates.
- Jaime Bustos will be reaching out to Council members to schedule time for individualized walkthroughs for them and their constituents of the Florida Health Transparency pages.
- A QR code and email signature for FHF were sent to all members of the Council.
- The Agency is still working to see if a note could be added to FHF for consumers to "Confer with their insurance plans to see if they provide services with certain providers or organizations".
- Two links to a printable pdf about FHF were sent to Council members. The Council requested that the information be consolidated into one link for sharing.
- Staff surveyed Council members and the meetings for 2024 have been scheduled.
- The staff is still working with the Chair to set up the retreat and will include the Health Information Exchange Coordinating Committee (HIECC) and the Legal Work Group members once the date is solidified.
- Dr. van Caulil asked that the Agency push off the retreat for this year but should have a "parking lot" for what topics and issues to address.



Further discussion about the retreat was tabled until later in the meeting.

HIECC Report:

Dr. van Caulil asked Ms. Marie Ruddy to provide the update from the last HIECC meeting. Ms. Ruddy shared that the HIECC met on February 14, 2024.

Ms. Ruddy noted that the Agency provided an update on state health care provider interoperability. She advised that there continues to be an increase in connectivity to the national networks for Patient Record Exchange (Query Exchange). In 2022 there were 182 hospitals connected to the national networks and in 2023 there were 234 hospitals connected. The Agency anticipates this number to increase as the Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA) moves toward completion.

The Agency also shared that they are continuing to see success in utilization of the Florida HIE's Encounter Notification Service (ENS). The number of alerts in ENS increased by over 30 million from 2022 to 2023. The ENS had an addition of 37 subscriber agreements signed in 2023. A distinction was made that subscription agreements may be signed for multiple facilities. Also, the ENS had an addition of 82 new data senders last year.

The Committee discussed the impact that the changes to 42 CFR Part 2 make substance use data exchange policy more similar to HIPAA standards, and the impact this could have on data exchange both for the state and nationally. There was further discussion on the sharing of behavioral health data in general and the efforts that are being made to improve the needs in this area.

The Agency provided a demonstration of their Emergency Patient Look-Up System (E-PLUS). They shared the benefits already seen from past disasters and their work to increase awareness and utilization during an emergency event. They were also made aware of the SCHIP Council's desire to hold a workshop later in the year.

The next meeting of the HIECC is scheduled for May 8, 2024, from 1-3 p.m.

The only other business for the HIECC was a nomination for Joe Velderman to serve as replacement for Peter Kress in representing long-term care facilities. His information was provided for the Council's consideration.

Approval of New HIECC Member: After discussion, Lindy Kennedy moved to approve Joe Velderman as a new member of the HIECC. Diane Godfrey seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.



Pathway to Prosperity Overview: Taylor Peck with the Department of Children and Families provided an overview of the pathway to prosperity program and their efforts to improve services to Floridians.

Taylor started off with an overview about Hope Florida. Noting that Hope Florida is an initiative spearheaded by First Lady Casey DeSantis, which utilizes Hope Navigators to guide Floridians on an individualized path to prosperity, economic self-sufficiency, and hope by focusing on community collaboration between the private sector, faith-based community, nonprofits, and government entities. The initiative helps to break down traditional community silos, maximize support, and uncover opportunities.

Taylor also explained the role of Hope Navigators. They work hand-in-hand with individuals to identify their unique barriers to prosperity and engage all sectors of the community to be a crucial part of the solution. Hope Navigators help to identify long-term goals and develop a strategic plan to make success a reality. Additionally, Hope Navigators help identify and organize opportunities for Floridians who wish to help their neighbors by connecting them with volunteer opportunities through a care portal.

Direct participating agencies working with the Department of Children and Family include Department of Elder Affairs, Guardian Ad Litem, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Veteran Affairs, and Agency for Persons with Disabilities. Ms. Peck noted that other agencies are involved indirectly by providing data or providing services.

Dr. Weatherill noted that the Department of Education may want to have further conversations about program. He noted that schools could be a resource in directing Floridians to the Hope Navigator initiative.

There was much discussion by Council members about the program and their willingness to connect with the various constituencies they represent.

Unit Updates:

Mr. Bustos provided an overview of the Florida Center Unit activities since the last meeting:

- Office of Data Dissemination and Transparency: Mr. Bustos updated the Council on the work being done to modernize the transparency websites.
- Office of Data Collection and Quality Assurance: It was noted that the Office of Data Collection and Quality Assurance held its first meeting of the Blood Clot and Pulmonary Embolism Policy (BEPEP) Workgroup and that they would be meeting again in the near future. Mr. Bustos reminded the Council that this was a time-limited workgroup.
- Office of Health Information and Exchange: Mr. Bustos provided a brief update on the Florida HIE, E-PLUS, and Patient Safety Culture Survey Program. The Council asked for



more information on the Patient Safety Culture Survey program. Meredith Hayes gave an update on the current process for the program.

Update of Federal Policies Impacting Data Sharing

Milly Hardin provided an update on changing federal regulations and policies that may impact Florida patients and providers. The update included information on the TEFCA. She clarified that the implementation of this policy for HIE does not directly impact the Florida HIE, since providers have been connecting nationally for a number of years.

Ms. Hardin also provided information on changes that were made to 42 CFR, Part 2 related to the sharing of substance use disorder data. The provisions were changed to more closely resemble the requirements in the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act. She did clarify that compliance with these provisions is not required until 2026.

Lunch 12:00 – 12:10 p.m.

Action Items (Continued)

Dr. van Caulil discussed the retreat with the members. During the discussion they decided the end of this year or the beginning of next year would be a good time to have the retreat align with the evolving program implementations.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Meeting Summary: Pamela King and Dr. van Caulil provided the meeting summary.

Next Steps:

New Action Items	Owner
Provide a summary of legislation impacting the Agency	
Provide a list of connected ENS facilities to the members	
Add reminder to FHF for consumers to see if their insurance plans participate with certain providers or organizations.	
Add an item on the regular Agenda for Retreat Discussion Items	
Notify the Council members when the Florida HIE’s ITN has been released	
Have a presentation on the timeline for research data being available on the transparency sites at the next meeting.	



Share the slide deck on federal policy updates	
Provide a matrix of the Council responsibilities and any program with contracts associated with those responsibilities at the June meeting.	
Jaime Bustos will schedule premeeting calls with members before scheduling an overview of the new transparency websites for them and their constituency.	
The Council requested they receive materials two weeks prior to the meetings.	
Provide information on how FHF system determines where facilities are located in relation to the person looking for facilities near them.	
Get Hope Florida marketing materials to share with the council members.	

Adjourn: With no further business to discuss, Ms. Godfrey moved to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Ms. Kennedy. With no objections the meeting adjourned.

DRAFT