

Strong States, Strong Nation



HEALTH SEMINAR FOR NEWER LEGISLATORS

 NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

Access to Health Care Services | April 14, 2018



What's Covered Today

- ❑ Challenges in accessing health care services and opportunities to address key issues in the following areas:
 - ❑ Oral Health
 - ❑ Workforce
 - ❑ Telehealth
 - ❑ Rural Facilities
 - ❑ Peer Support Specialists
 - ❑ Maternal and Child Health
 - ❑ Federal Policy Issues
- ❑ Roundtable Discussion



Session Objectives

- ❑ Understand key challenges and barriers to access to health care
- ❑ Identify state strategies to improve access to health care services for underserved populations



Oral Health

- ❑ Population Health Approaches to Oral Health
 - ❑ Fluoridation, dental sealants and oral health education and screening
- ❑ Oral Health Services in the Community
 - ❑ School-based clinics and oral health care
- ❑ Teledentistry
 - ❑ Remote patient monitoring, store and forward technology
- ❑ Public Financing of Dental Coverage
 - ❑ CHIP & Medicaid dental policy
- ❑ Integration of oral health and traditional health



Workforce



- ❑ Scope of Practice
 - ❑ What a health professional can and cannot do to or for a patient
 - ❑ [NCSL scopeofpracticepolicy.org](https://www.ncsl.org/legislative-policy-advocacy/health-care-policy/health-care-professionals/scope-of-practice.aspx)
- ❑ Recruitment and Retention
 - ❑ Bring providers to – or keep them – in underserved areas
 - ❑ E.g., Loan repayment and pathway programs
- ❑ Emerging Professions
 - ❑ New provider types to help alleviate the doctor shortage
 - ❑ E.g., Community paramedics, community health workers



Telehealth



- ❑ Leverage existing workforce and expand access to emergency, specialty, primary care
- ❑ Key policy issues:
 - ❑ Coverage and reimbursement for services, providers
 - ❑ Medicaid and private insurance
 - ❑ Licensure across state lines
 - ❑ Interstate compacts
 - ❑ Provider practice standards & patient safety
 - ❑ E.g., prescribing, standard of care, informed consent



Rural Facilities



❑ Strategies:

- ❑ Repurpose: urgent care, skilled nursing, outpatient care, emergency care, acute rehab and primary care facilities
- ❑ Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) and other partnerships, e.g., Frontier Health System Model
- ❑ Telehealth
- ❑ Mergers with larger health systems
- ❑ Coordination between rural hospitals and other facilities, e.g., rural health centers or Indian Health Service (IHS) providers
- ❑ Value-based payments, e.g., global budgets for rural hospitals



Peer Support Specialists

- ❑ Services delivered by a person with similar life experiences and previous behavioral health challenges (mental health/substance use disorder)
 - ❑ Support groups, peer recovery education, and peer-run services such as mentoring and case management
- ❑ May be able to better connect with patients and help them obtain treatment, social support and housing
- ❑ Optional certification programs: Mental Health America and others
- ❑ Increasingly, Medicaid and public mental health systems will pay for peer support services

Maternal and Child Health



- ❑ Improving Birth Outcomes and Reducing Infant Mortality
- ❑ Newborn Screening Policies
- ❑ Reducing Maternal Mortality
- ❑ Early Learning and Health Intersections
- ❑ Evidence-Based or Promising Programs





Federal Policy Issues: The Top Ten

- ❑ Expanding short-term insurance plans
- ❑ Sale of health insurance across state lines and association health plans
- ❑ CMS policy on work and community engagement requirements in waivers
- ❑ Health Insurance Market and Premiums
- ❑ Medicaid Payments
- ❑ Future costs of Medicare and Medicaid
- ❑ Resources and responses to Substance Use Disorder (SUD) crisis
- ❑ Medicaid expansion in states and the federal role
- ❑ Prescription drug costs
- ❑ A-87 Cost Allocation Exception



Tools and Resources

- ❑ Telehealth Policy Trends and Considerations
<http://www.ncsl.org/documents/health/telehealth2015.pdf>
- ❑ Improving Access to Care in Rural and Underserved Communities: State Workforce Strategies: <http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/improving-access-to-care-in-rural-and-underserved-communities-state-workforce-strategies.aspx>
- ❑ Improving Rural Health: State Policy Options
http://www.ncsl.org/Portals/1/Documents/Health/RuralHealth_PolicyOptions2016.pdf
- ❑ Scope of Practice Policy: <http://www.scopeofpracticepolicy.org>
- ❑ Oral Health: State Policy Options:
<http://www.ncsl.org/Portals/1/Documents/Health/OralHealth2015.pdf>



Key Questions to Ask

- ❑ What are the greatest barriers to access to care? Where are the greatest needs?
 - ❑ E.g., workforce shortages, types of providers or services
 - ❑ E.g., rural areas, certain underserved populations
- ❑ What state efforts are already underway to address access issues?
 - ❑ What are the costs and benefits of these efforts? What has been successful?
- ❑ What new strategies are available to address access to health care services? What strategies presented today interest you most?
- ❑ What stakeholders (e.g., providers, patients, insurers, etc.) need to be at the table? What data do you need?





Pick a table, any table!

- ❑ Seven tables with an NCSL staff member at each table
 - ❑ Table discussions focus on the strategies presented
- ❑ Each discussion is 20 minutes
- ❑ Rotate four times to different topics/tables
 - ❑ NCSL staff will tell you when to switch



Discussion Table Topics

- ❑ Discussion of accessing health care services and addressing key issues in the following areas:
 - ❑ Oral Health – Erik Skinner
 - ❑ Workforce – Sydne Enlund
 - ❑ Telehealth – Kate Blackman
 - ❑ Rural Facilities – Samantha Scotti
 - ❑ Peer Support Specialists – Karmen Hanson
 - ❑ Maternal and Child Health – Tahra Johnson
 - ❑ Federal Policy Issues – Haley Nicholson



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Roundtable Discussion

- ❑ What are the greatest barriers to access to care in your state? Where are the greatest needs?
 - ❑ E.g., workforce shortages, types of providers or services
 - ❑ E.g., rural areas, certain underserved populations
- ❑ What state efforts are already underway to address access issues?
 - ❑ What are the costs and benefits of these efforts? What has been successful?
 - ❑ Has your state recently proposed or enacted legislation?
- ❑ What stakeholders (e.g., providers, patients, insurers, etc.) need to be at the table? What data do you need?





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La Jolla, California | April 13-15, 2018