ARKANSAS LANDSCAPE

- Large and growing percentage of uninsured
- Poor health status
- Balanced state budget but Medicaid shortfalls projected in 2013
Multiple Health Care System Improvements in Process

- Payment and Quality Transformation
  *Bundled Episodes of Care*

- Workforce Strategic Plan

- Health Information Technology
  *State Health Alliance for Record Exchange*

- Increasing Coverage
  *FFE-Partnership Exchange*

Political Climate

- Popular Governor

- Legislature with Majority Democrats but Vocal, Growing Minority of Republicans

- Recent Poll Opposes “Exchange” Implementation
Exchange Planning

• Arkansas Insurance Department is Lead Agency

• Commissioner is Governor Appointee

• Funding to Date
  – Exchange Planning
  – Level One Cooperative Agreement

OVERVIEW OF PLANNING GRANT

Activities
  – Background Research, including Marketplace Study
  – Six Workgroups and Steering Committee
  – Community Meetings and Surveys
  – Exceeded Goals Except for Gaining Authority for SBE

Arkansas Without Authority for State Exchange
  – Legislative Opposition during 2011 Legislative Session
  – Next Regular Legislative Session 2013
  – Governor elected Not to Issue an Executive Order or Call a Special Legislative Session to Authorize a State Exchange
...less than one year ago

- September 2011 - Level One Application prepared but not submitted
- September 2011 - Exchange Partnership Model Announced at CCIIO Meeting
- October, 2011 – Statewide Summit
- November, 2011 – State Exchange Planning ended
- December 2011 – Level One Cooperative Agreement application submitted

FFE PARTNERSHIP EXPLORATION

Level One Cooperative Agreement (funded February 22, 2012) focuses on development of State functions allowed under FFE-Partnership:

- Consumer Assistance
- Plan Management

(and Arkansas/FFE Eligibility & Enrollment Integration)
Selected Timelines and Benchmarks

• Essential Health Benefits Benchmark – selected by 9/30/12

• Declaration Letter and Blueprint Submission by 11/16/12 (or 10/05/12)

• Initial Review ➔ Design Reviews ➔ Implementation Reviews

• Approval/Conditional Approval by 1/1/13

Who is in Charge of Planning?

• Commissioner is “Governance Authority” for Planning Decisions

• Rules and Appropriations Approved by Arkansas Legislature

• Timing is a Critical Issue
BUILDING PLANNING TEAM
MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS

AID Exchange Planning Team

Partner Agencies
DHS, AID, DIS, UAMS, OHIT

Vendor Support
– Planning Management
– Program Development (Plan Management, Navigator Program, more to come)
– IT / Automation

Steering Committee / Two Advisory Committees

STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee meets once monthly and includes:

• Insurance Department (2)
• Department of Human Services (2)
• Arkansas Health Agency Leaders
• Department of Finance & Administration
• Advisory Committee Co-Chairs (6)
• State Legislature (2)
• Governor’s Office
• At-large Stakeholders (3)
Advisory Committee Co-Chairs Represent Designated Stakeholder Groups

Consumers
– Individuals
– Small Employers

Insurance Industry
– Issuers
– Producers/Brokers

Health Care Providers
– Private
– Public

STAKEHOLDER INCLUSION OPERATIONAL MODEL

Planning Staff & Advisory Committees
Research / Alternatives Analysis

Advisory Committees
Develop Recommendations with Alternatives

Steering Committee
Final Recommendation to Commissioner
### Key Dates and Benchmarks

**In-Person Assisters**

- IPA Program and Processes Defined by December 2012
- IPA RFP Complete by January 2013
- IPA RFP Advertised by February 2013
- IPA Awards by May 2013
- IPA Training by June 2013
- IPA in the Field July 2013
- Open Enrollment October 2013
Key Dates - QHP

- QHP Certification Processes Defined by 12/12
- QHP Applications by 2/13
- QHP Approval by 5/13
- QHP Outreach/Marketing by 7/13
- QHP Open Enrollment 10/13

Challenges

- Sharing of Factual Information
- Timelines for Achieving Required Milestones
- Federal Regulations Not All Released
- Federal Grant Cycles Timing
- Opposition “Wait” Messages
- State Government Processes/Timelines
  - Appropriation
  - Procurement
  - Hiring
  - Contracts
LESSONS LEARNED

*Building Consensus*

Keep on message:

- “Arkansas will not have a State Exchange”
- FFE Partnership provides Arkansas:
  - Ability to meet ACA deadlines for compliance with law
  - Opportunity to tailor Plan Management and Consumer Assistance components to meet needs of Arkansans
  - Local Design and Implementation of Consumer Services and Protections

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LESSONS LEARNED

- Building your team
- Partnership with Medicaid Agency is critical
- Consider and document Majority and Minority opinions
- Make decisions → Move on
- **Keep consumer focus**
Improved Health Coverage

• Increased Access to Care
• Improved Health Outcomes
• Decreased Costs
• Affordable Care
• Sustainable Health Care System
• Helps Keep Health Care Local

QUESTIONS?

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