

## **Owning Your Own Health Committee**

**February 19, 2014**

Legislature Chambers

1:00 p.m.

Present: Brooke Jobin, Mack Cook, Jackie Kippola, Beverly Chin, Beth Miller, Ashley Ahmadipour, Emily Mallar

Guests: Jennifer Stuckert, Interactive Health Solutions; Frank Kruppa, Tompkins County Public Health Director

### **Call to Order**

Mr. Cook called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes of January 15, 2014**

It was MOVED by Ms. Chin, seconded by Ms. Jobin, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to approve the minutes of January 15, 2014 as submitted. MINUTES APPROVED.

### **Report on Tompkins County Flu Clinics**

Mr. Kruppa said in the past the Health Department has held flu clinics but has been moving away from doing this. Although they do still offer clinics for the public generally they are focused on individuals who need access to sliding fee scales. He said they have not had a lot of participation, mainly because it is readily- available in many other places. They try to charge the same amount that is being charged in the community, however, that is not covering their costs and they will likely have to increase the fee in coming years. Currently, they charge \$30 per vaccine and this is already slightly higher than other places because Community Health Nurses are administering the vaccine.

Mr. Kruppa will provide the Committee with a list of places that offer the vaccine.

Ms. Miller said Excellus can sponsor a flu clinic and offer the vaccine at a cost of \$30. It can be run through as a claim or the Consortium can be billed as a whole based on the number of vaccines administered.

Ms. Ahmadipour said ProAct offers flu clinics at a rate of \$25 per person. This is the same rate that was offered to all of the entities within the Consortium that held a clinic last year. She spoke of the scheduling process and said ProAct would want to know by July 31<sup>st</sup> to ensure there is adequate staff to cover the clinics which are traditionally held by pharmacists. She noted that pharmacists in New York State are only permitted to administer the vaccine to individuals age 19 or older.

With regard to billing, Ms. Ahmadipour said in the past they have invoiced the entity directly and would do the same with the Consortium. With regard to scheduling individuals to receive the vaccine she stated ProAct is willing to handle the scheduling and would need to be provided with a private area in which to administer the vaccine. She said it works best to advertise the clinics ahead of time and have members call the ProAct help desk and sign up for a slot through their customer service team. She explained that everyone receiving a vaccine

was asked to complete an information sheet; the number of sheets is how many vaccines ProAct would bill for.

Ms. Miller said there is no cost (or copay) to employees to receive the flu shot and a clinic provides an opportunity that is convenient. It can also be offered to individuals who are not covered by the Plan; they would only have to pay the \$25 cost.

Mr. Cook asked if there are advantages or disadvantages to submitting the cost as a claim. Ms. Miller said she prefers it is processed as a claim so that Excellus is able to capture the data.

Mr. Cook said if this Committee would like to move this forward in order to meet ProAct's July 31<sup>st</sup> deadline there are three things that should be considered: 1) Does the Committee want to move forward to recommend to the Board of Directors that this Committee actively promotes the concept of a flu clinic, 2) Does the Committee want to recommend to the Board that ProAct be engaged to administer a flu clinic; and 3) Would this Committee recommend to the Board that it be submitted as a claim through ProAct.

There was a brief discussion about planning for a flu clinic with suggestions made for the smaller entities joining the larger employers. Ms. Kippola stressed the Consortium will need ProAct's assistance in reaching out to all of the municipalities. Mr. Cook said approximately 50% of the covered lives received flu shots last year; the estimated cost for this would be \$40,000. This amount could be offset easily by other employee costs such as time lost at work, flu prevention, and paid sick days. Ms. Miller noted that by doing it this way it is more cost effective because people can still go out and get a flu shot and it would run through the Consortium.

It was MOVED by Mr. Weatherby, seconded by Ms. Chin, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to recommend that the to the Board of Directors that the Consortium actively sponsor flu shot clinics. MOTION CARRIED.

It was MOVED by Mr. Weatherby, seconded by Ms. Jobin, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to recommend to the Board of Directors that ProAct Administer the flu shot clinic for a period of one year and that the Committee requests the Finance Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that ProAct submit a claim to the Consortium for \$25 per vaccine. Mr. Cook and Ms. Ahmadipour will reach out to Mr. Locey for guidance on the billing. Ms. Ahmadipour said she could look into a breakout of the billing to show how many vaccines were given for each of the entities within the Consortium. Mr. Cook will take this to the Finance Committee's meeting next week for discussion.

Ms. Jobin and Ms. Kippola were excused at this time.

### **Video of Wisconsin Wellness Program**

At this time the Committee viewed an online video highlighting the effectiveness of Interactive Health (Blue4U) in Wisconsin.

Ms. Miller provided a brief overview of Blue Cross Blue Shield's positive experience with the Blue4U program and why it is being investigated for the Consortium. She explained it provides a baseline of where the health is for the population which then allows the Wellness Committee to begin working on targeted wellness campaigns. Ms. Stuckert explained the health assessments that are done by Interactive Health and said the goal is to catch things early

and provides participants tools and resources throughout the year, including health coaching, and gives everyone a health goal to work towards. The program includes biometric testing along with a health risk assessment.

Mr. Cook raised the issue of how to get this out of this Committee and to the Board of Directors. He suggested a recommendation be made that a small group of Board members form a small demonstration group. Ms. Stuckert encouraged others, such as union representatives, be included in the group which could range from 20 to 30 individuals. She said with at least 20 people they could run an aggregate report. All participants in a demonstration project would have access to all of the tools and resources of the program.

With regard to the demo, Ms. Stuckert recommended that participants go through the health risk assessment and a few try out the health coaching, with a report back to the Board of Directors on what the overall results picked up. The timeframe for the demo would be approximately three months.

The Committee recommends to the Board of Directors that the Consortium participate in a pilot Blue4U wellness program and seeks participants from the Board of Directors and the Joint Committee on Plan Structure and Design. The Committee believes this is a project that can be easily implemented and on a timeline that will allow for an evaluation and feedback.

#### **Discussion of Grant Opportunity Available through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **Discussion of Health Policy and Wellness Statement Samples**

The Committee recommended that municipalities be encouraged to develop a health policy and wellness statement. This will continue to be discussed at the next meeting.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.