

PACIFIC ISLANDERS AND HEALTH CARE REFORM: ACCESS AND COVERAGE FEBRUARY 14/15, 2011

APIAHF
ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER
AMERICAN HEALTH FORUM



Welcome



Dr. Garth Graham
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Minority Health



Herb Schultz
Region IX Director

James Mason
Senior Advisor to the Director
Office of Intergovernmental
Affairs

Priorities of HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius

Strategic Initiatives

- Transform Health Care
- Implement Affordable Care Act
- Implement the Recovery Act
- Promote Early Childhood Health and Development
- Help Americans Achieve and Maintain Healthy Weight
- Prevent and Reduce Tobacco Use
- Protect the Health and Safety of Americans in Public Health Emergencies

Priorities of HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius

Strategic Initiatives

- Accelerate the Process of Scientific Discovery to Improve Patient Care.
- Implement a 21st Century Food Safety Program.
- Ensure Program Integrity and Responsible Stewardship.

Inter-Agency Collaboration & Transparency

- **Web Portal –**
www.healthcare.gov/www.cuidadodesalud.gov
Comprehensive one-stop: Updated with valuable information on an ongoing basis.
- **Community Health Data Initiative (CHDI)**
Putting Data and Innovation to Work to Help Communities and Consumers Improve Health.
Massive collections of data will be made available in accessible formats that allow and encourage the fullest use of data, ensuring greater transparency of programs and greater accountability for results.

A New Reality

“After a year of striving, after a year of debate, after a historic vote, health care reform is no longer an unmet promise. It is the law of the land.”

President Barack Obama
March 23, 2010

Office of the Regional Director

- Role of the Regional Director
 - Implementation of health care reform is the number one priority in Region IX (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Republic of Palau).
 - Chair of the Federal Regional Council (FRC) – A consortium of nineteen separate federal Departments and Agencies representing nearly thirty different program offices in Region IX

Office of the Regional Director

Agency Collaboration

- Work across regional office and among all regions to:
 - **Collaborate and coordinate on issues;**
 - **Troubleshoot potential problems;**
 - **Partner on events and public affairs; and**
 - **Educate the public on the benefits of healthcare reform**
 - **Healthcare.gov**
 - **CuidadodeSalud.gov (Spanish)**
- Represent & communicate health care policies.
 - **Work to implement reforms with State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Officials and Non-Governmental External Stakeholders.**
- Notification of grants and other funding opportunities.

Framework of Health Reform

- Three-legged stool:
 - Expanding Coverage and Access
 - Consumer Protections
 - Improving Quality and Lowering Costs
- 32 million more insured people by 2014 (92% of non-elderly population)
 - 16 million more Americans in Medicaid by 2014
 - 29 million Americans covered via new Exchanges

Progress-To-Date

- Providing affordable coverage to Americans without insurance due to pre-existing conditions (PCIP).
- Providing much-needed financial relief for employers so early retirees (55-64 years old) can get quality, affordable insurance
- 4 million seniors have received a \$250 rebate to assist with the Medicare prescription donut hole.
- Providing small businesses (both for profit and non-profit) with under 25 employees are getting tax credits that allows them to provide coverage for workers.
- Ensuring resources to support state efforts to review premiums and guard against unreasonable premium increases.

Patients Bill of Rights

(Consumer Protections)

- Extends dependent coverage to young adults up to age 26.
- Prohibits lifetime limits and restricts annual limits on coverage.
- Protecting Insurance Premiums
 - Saving families up to \$2,000 annually with their insurance premiums
- Saving our economy \$230 billion over the next 10 years (Congressional Budget Office)

Patients Bill of Rights

(Consumer Protections)

- No pre-existing condition exclusions for children under age 19.
- Prohibits insurance companies from dropping coverage in absence of fraud.
- Removes insurance company barriers between you and your doctor.
- Eliminates co-pays and deductibles for preventative services (commercial or Medicare).

Benefits for Women

- Lower Costs for Women
 - Insurance Industry Reforms that Save Women Money
 - Eliminates all lifetime benefits on coverage;
 - Bans insurance companies from dropping women from coverage when they get sick.
 - New plans and plans in the Exchanges will have cap on out-of-pocket expenses (e.g., co-pays and deductibles).
 - Reforms will help women no longer delay needed care or be forced to make difficult choices between basic necessities and health care.
 - Financial Relief for Women
 - Provides tax credits starting in 2014 for women who cannot afford quality health insurance.
 - Part D \$250 Rebate (2010) 50% Rebate (2011)

Employer Requirements

- 200+ Employees - Auto enrollment with employee opt out.
- Penalties – Two scenarios of assessments.
- Less than 50 Employees – exempt from penalties.
- Free Choice Voucher – less than 400% FPL and premium share 8+% to 9.8%.

Office of Health Care Reform

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure

Planning for Exchanges

- 2010: Exchange planning grants, IT systems & federal policymaking.
- 2011: States enact legislation & federal rules issued.
- 2012: States notify HHS of intent to run exchanges and begin to qualify plans.
- 2013: Exchanges bring IT systems online and ensure operation before enrollment.
- January 1, 2014: Exchange-provided coverage is in effect, tax credits begin.

Transparency

- The law holds insurance companies accountable – benefits vs. administration/profits
 - 80 percent / 20 percent
 - 85 percent / 15 percent
- Every significant health insurance rate increase will undergo a thorough review

Gloria Nagle
Associate Regional Administrator
for Medicaid, Centers for Medicare
and Medicaid Services, Region IX

Role of Public Programs

Medicare

- Improves Medicare coverage for preventive services
- Adds at least 12 years to the solvency of the Medicare Hospital Insurance trust fund.
- Improves Medicare payments for primary care.
- Creates a new national, voluntary long-term care insurance program
- Strengthens Medicaid-financed home and community-based services
- Encourages reimbursing health care providers on the basis of value, not volume.

Promoting Prevention and Improving Public Health

- Invests in a national prevention and public health fund and strategy.
- **Prevention and Public Health Fund (\$750+ million)** for 2010 for prevention and to expand primary care workforce.
- Removes financial barriers to preventive care and encourage prevention.
- Promotes prevention and wellness for Seniors and older Americans.
- Nutrition labeling.

Promoting Prevention and Improving Public Health

- Educates individuals and communities on disease prevention and health promotion.
- Awards grants that promote individual community health.
- Promotes workplace wellness.
- Improves access to preventive services for Medicaid participants.
- Other individual incentives.

Investing in Our Nation's Health Care Workforce

- Invests in the National Health Service Corps.
- Reauthorizes and improves scholarship and loan repayment programs.
- Increases workforce diversity.
- Develops workforce planning and analysis.
- Incentivize primary care and practice in underserved areas.

A New Focus on Education and Worker Training

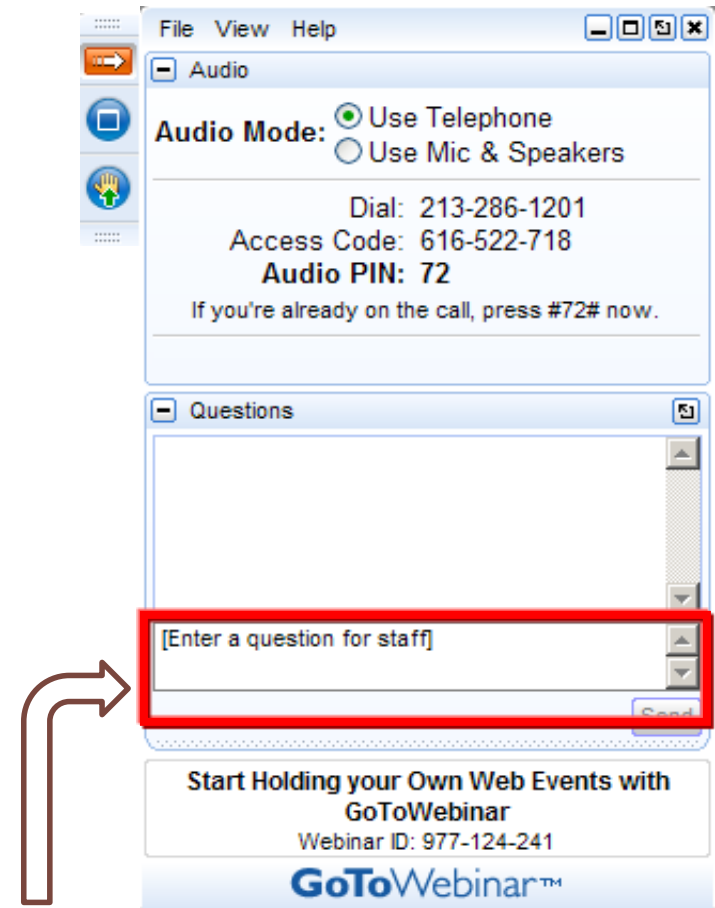
- Increasing access to providers in underserved areas.
- Focus on career training.
- Expanding tax benefits to health professionals working in underserved areas.
- Building primary care capacity through Medicare and Medicaid.
- Providing financial assistance for students.
- Making health care education more accessible.

Containing Costs and Improving Quality: Now/Future

- CMS Center for Innovation/Federal Coordinated Health Care Office
- Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)
- Bundling payments
- Incentives for better quality
- Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAD)
- Reducing avoidable hospital readmissions
- Health care acquired infections
- Administrative simplification for federal, state and private plans
- Driving down waste, fraud and abuse in Medicare and Medicaid

Q&A

- **Webinar Users:** Please enter your questions into the question box
- **Telephone Participants:** Press *0 to be connected to an operator and get in the question queue



Enter your questions
here

Upcoming Pacific Islanders and Health Care Reform Webinars

- **Series 2: Consumer Assistance and Protections**
 - **March 7** (11:30 am American Samoa; 12:30pm Hawaii; 2:30pm West Coast; 5:30pm East Coast)
 - **March 8** (7:30am Palau; 8:30am CNMI, Guam, Yap, Chuuk; 9:30am Kosrae, Pohnpae; 10:30am RMI)
 - Register Now:
<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/756774906>
- **Series 3: Quality and Cost Containment**
 - Late March/early April
 - Registration available soon

Contact Us

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