



Health Equity TAC Housekeeping Items

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Health Equity TAC Meeting
September 30, 2020

New Member Introduction

Fathiya Abdi



Committee Survey Results

- Thank you for your participation
- All respondents felt committee is functioning well and that input during Committee meetings is being heard and utilized by the Exchange
 - “Having the multidisciplinary team has been nice. Many ideas and perspectives have been good to consider.”
- Positive feedback about the level of information and content of materials that are shared
 - “Continue to send surveys and items to review
- Members valued Board attendance/engagement (appreciate covering some topics as smaller group; appreciate dialogue/mutual learning; appreciate their contributions as subject matter experts)
- Topics members described as of most interest over prior year: COVID response efforts; DEI/equity work; development of DEI training program; discussions about connecting immigrants to health coverage

Committee Survey Results

- Great suggestions we will work on incorporating:
 - **Context:**
 - Would be helpful to have a presentation on “big picture” of state health policy and how the Exchange views its role in state health policy - how fits with OIC, HCA, DOH, Gov’s office, etc.
 - When introducing new topics/initiatives/ideas – include context that helps members further understand bigger picture: where HBE can impact change, relevant past stakeholder feedback, prior HBE work in the area
 - It may be good for interested TAC members to listen to Board meetings
 - **Collaboration**
 - Consider inviting speakers from other Exchange’s, academics/researchers, nonprofits/foundations to talk about what Exchanges can do to support health equity
 - HCA: Invite Rachelle Alongi, HCA Policy Communications Manager, as needed regarding Cascade Care and HCA health policy over the next year; expand data updates to include Apple Health
 - **Dialogue**
 - In-person meetings...someday (☺). Continue offering video option for meetings for the foreseeable future, due to COVID concerns
 - Spend a little time at the beginning just reminding ourselves of “who is in the room” and someway to learn about what the person is currently engaged in through their work
 - Continue to hold/build-in space for dialogue; explore opportunities for smaller group dialogue (smaller group meetings between TAC meetings on specific subjects?; virtual break-out groups?)

Committee Survey Results

- Areas of interest for 2021:
 - what Exchange can do to address impact of COVID-19 on access to care, health equity and health coverage
 - implementation of DEI workplan (impacts HBE is having in support of diverse communities through spending, new contracts, hiring, staff changes – monthly data update?)
 - deeper dive into health equity as it relates specifically to Black/African-American customers
 - implementation of DEI training program
 - engagement with small and diverse businesses (information about HPF options v. COBRA);
 - community outreach and education (health literacy; Cascade Care; available subsidies)
 - continued updates on hot topics

Committee Survey Results

- Board strategic planning: What topics should be prioritized Board?
 - All priorities should be viewed through health equity lens
 - Systemic racism and its manifestation in the Exchange. This is not a “blame” process but just an examination of how systems get built, with great intent, but can still embody unintentional racism
 - Given the large increase in number of uninsured in Washington due to effects of COVID-19, priority should be given to getting them enrolled in coverage (strong marketing campaign and outreach); community outreach and education for wellness
 - COVID impact: “Community members are overwhelmed with information, not getting the right information, and are in trauma so have less mental capacity to figure it out.”
 - Community engagement should inform priorities (working session that is either public or with key individuals to identify priorities and work collaboratively to clarify those priorities; learn from what community members are saying through survey results, common questions from customer services staff, community meetings, etc.; when Board members come to TAC meetings, could explain how the community group recommendations were considered)
 - Make sure the implementation of priorities takes into consideration the impact on vulnerable populations

Committee Survey Results

- How should the Exchange further address health disparities and continue to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion?
 - Start with the community
 - What is working, what isn't, what does the community need/want? How do communities prioritize these areas for themselves?
 - Continue to recognize and address the disparities as you have been and partner with community partners that have the same missions
 - Implement DEI workplan
 - Apply DEI at Navigator level and assess how their interactions with Exchange staff can be improved because this effects interactions with clients
 - Explore social determinants of health and how can HBE can impact them
 - Social economic impacts. HBE supplier diversity, hiring, and how HBE can be a ripple that then influences other agencies. HBE is in a unique position to help influence state agencies.
 - Intersectionality – work with partners and pull together what data is already there to help highlight opportunity areas (working with both state agency and carrier partners)

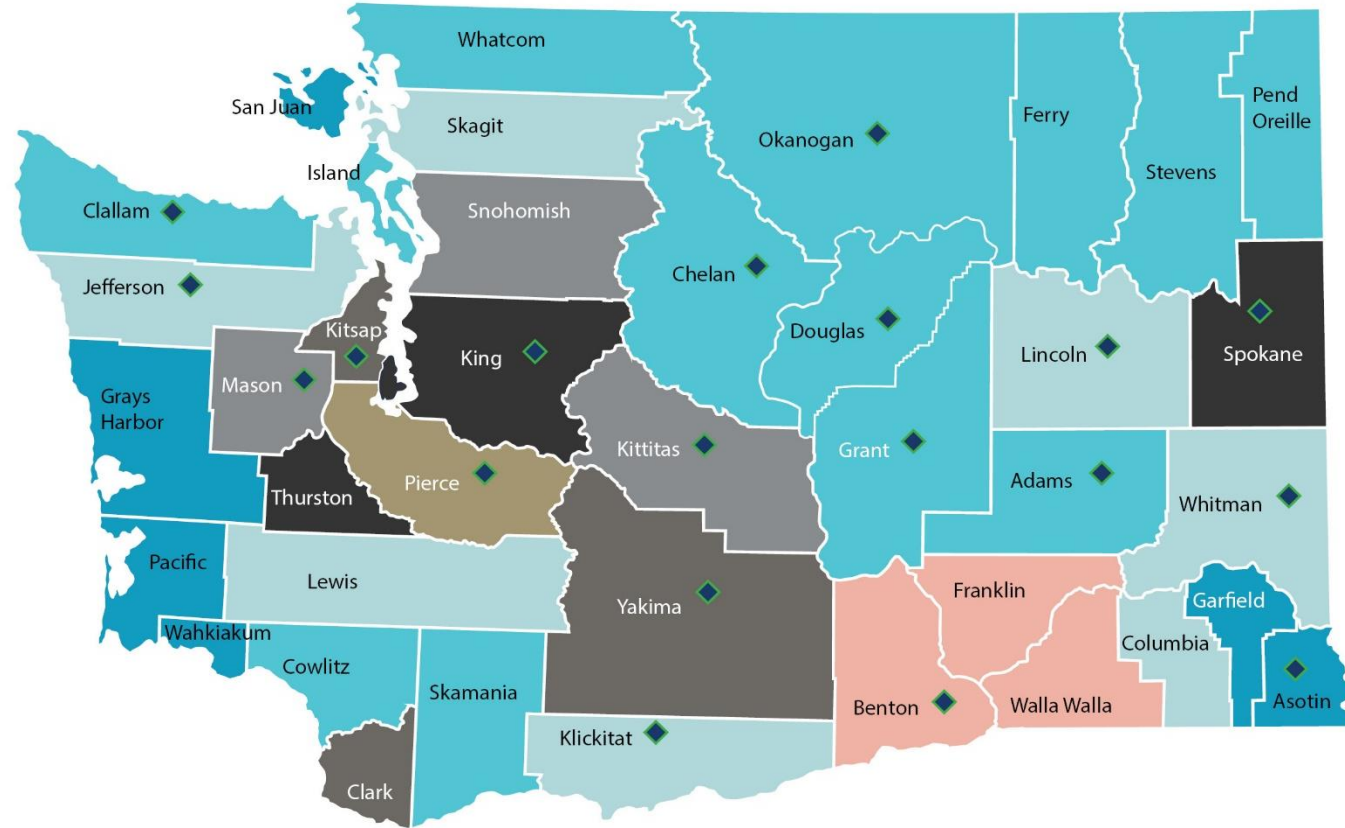
Social Determinants of Health Procurement

- Washington Health Benefit Exchange (WAHBE) seeks to explore how the health of customers can be further improved, and how persistent disparities can be further reduced by addressing Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). SDOH includes factors like socioeconomic status, education, income security, neighborhood and physical environment, employment, and social support networks; as well as access to health care. This will require exploring how WAHBE's statutory authority, organizational strengths, internal resources, existing partnerships, and upcoming projects/strategic initiatives could be leveraged, and identifying where WAHBE is uniquely positioned to contribute.
- WAHBE seeks to contract with one qualified Vendor/Consulting Firm
- The anticipated period of performance for the Social Determinants of Health project begins November 1, 2020 and runs through October 31, 2021.
- Procurement closes October 12th

2021 Plan Offerings

- Board approved plans September 24th
 - Average 2021 rate *decrease* from 2020 rates
 - 13 carriers offering on the Exchange
 - Community Health Network of Washington, Regence, and UnitedHealthcare new for 2021
- Major themes
 - More carrier and plan options for consumers
 - Lower priced plans available in most counties
 - New Cascade Care offerings
 - Standard plans are available to consumers in all counties
 - 5 carriers submitted public option plans; plans submitted in 19 counties
- Plan Certification presentation, 2021 Plan Certification packet and the 2021 Premium Scenario packet available at: <https://www.wahbexchange.org/event/exchange-board-meeting-plan-certification-092420/>.

Carrier Participation on Exchange



Issuers Per County



◆ Cascade Care Select (Public Option) Plans Offered

Questions?





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