



## **The Delaware Health Care Commission (DHCC) Meeting**

May 5, 2022

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

### **Meeting Attendance and Minutes**

**Commission Members Present:** Theodore W. Becker (Mayor of Lewes), Dr. Nancy Fan (St. Francis), Secretary Rick Geisenberger (DOF), Dr. Roger Harrison (Nemours), Richard Heffron, Melissa Jones, Dr. Jan Lee (DHIN), Cabinet Secretary Molly Magarik (DHSS), Dr. Richard Margolis (DSCYF), Nick Moriello (Highmark), and Insurance Commissioner Trinidad Navarro (DOI),

**Meeting Facilitator:** Dr. Nancy Fan (Chair)

**Commission Members Absent:** None

**Health Care Commission Staff:** Elisabeth Massa (Executive Director), Stephanie Hartos (Public Health Administrator), Eschalla Clarke (Social Services Senior Administrator), Latoya Wright (Manager of Statistics and Research), and Tynietta R. Congo-Wright (Administrative Specialist III)

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Fan called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. via WebEx. Dr. Fan asked public attendees to virtually sign-in by placing their name and affiliation in the chat box or by sending their name and contact information to the DHCC Resource Account ([dhcc@delaware.gov](mailto:dhcc@delaware.gov)). She wished everyone a happy Cinco De Mayo and recognized May is National Nurses Appreciation Month and Mental Health Awareness Month.

#### **BOARD BUSINESS**

##### **ACTION ITEM: Approve April 7, 2022, meeting minutes**

It was determined a quorum was present. Dr. Fan asked the commissioners to review the draft April 7, 2022, meeting minutes. Nick Moriello made a motion to approve the minutes. Ted

Becker seconded. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimously accepted by all commissioners present. The approved minutes are available on the [DHCC website](#).

**ACTION ITEM: Approve 2021 DHCC Annual Report**

Dr. Fan shared a draft of the DHCC 2021 Annual Report was shared with the commissioners for their review prior to the meeting. The report was compiled by DHCC staff and highlights the work of the Commission and its various programs and initiatives. Dr. Fan asked if there were any comments from the commissioners. Secretary Geisenberger shared he thought the staff did a very nice job. Hearing no additional comments, she asked for a motion to approve. Secretary Geisenberger made a motion to approve and Ted Becker seconded. The report is available on the [DHCC website](#).

**ACTION ITEM: Format for future DHCC meetings**

Dr. Fan asked Elisabeth Massa to share what feedback was received regarding the format for future DHCC meetings. At the April DHCC meeting, the commissioners were asked to send their feedback to Dr. Fan and Ms. Massa. Ms. Massa summarized the feedback received. There is interest to keep the meetings fully virtual, conduct 1-3 meeting where in-person is strongly encouraged, and to always have a virtual meeting option available. Dr. Fan and Ms. Massa discussed and suggested moving forward the Commission considers three in-person meetings annually with the Retreat being one of those meetings. The location of the in-person meetings is to-be-determined. The room and technology capabilities need to be considered. Since the State of Delaware's Public Health Emergency (PHE) is still in place, the DHCC meetings will for now stay the current course and run as fully virtual. When the PHE is lifted, the Commission will shift to a hybrid meeting model. The Retreat will possibly be scheduled in October or November. Ms. Massa will also be collecting feedback from the public attendees to survey their preference.

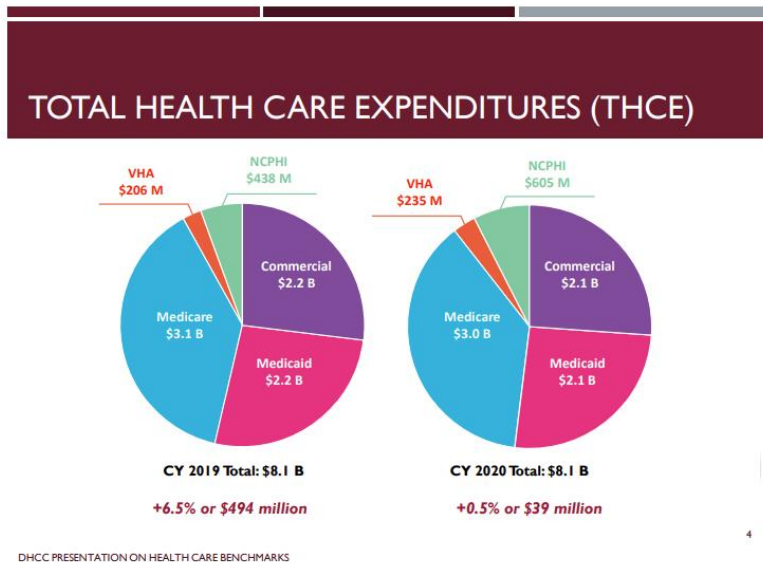
**POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

**Benchmark Trend Report**

Secretary Magarik share an overview of the Benchmark Trend Report Calendar Year 2020 results. The spending benchmark is the annual change in the State level per capita value of total health care expenditures for all Delaware residents based on data voluntarily submitted by Delaware payers. The report includes Delaware's results on several quality benchmarks. This data represents the second time DHCC collected benchmark spending and quality data from all payers. The Health Care Commission and consulting team collected final calendar year 2019 data as well as the initial calendar year 2020 data from all payers.

Due to the pandemic, calendar year 2020 was an unprecedented year for the nation and Delaware. The Secretary shared Delaware received a very large amount of money in health care related relief funds which went directly to health systems, providers, or the administration who then made money available to providers or entities. In total, Delaware received approximately \$700 million in health care-related relief monies. Since the COVID-19 monies are not easily allocated to a specific year or market, the COVID-19 relief monies are not included in the spending totals contained in the benchmark trend report.

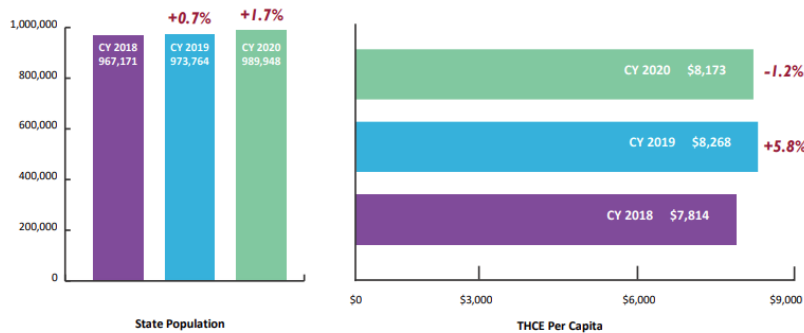
With respect to Total Health Care Expenditures (THCE) which represents the sum of all reported health care spending as well as insurers' administrative and operating costs and their respective gains/losses, Secretary Magarik shared for 2020, the total was approximately \$8.1 billion. Compared to the relatively large increase seen in calendar year 2019 (pre-COVID-19), the 2020 change was a modest 0.5% growth in total health care expenditures.



She also shared State Level THCE results. Per capita is computed by dividing total health care expenditures by Delaware's total population. Delaware's total population increased 1.7% in 2020 whereas total health care spending increase only 0.5%. As a result, on a per capita basis, Delaware's estimated 2020 State level per capita decreased 1.2% to \$8,173 compared to the 2019 figure of \$8,268.

The 2020 benchmark was set at a 3.5% growth rate. 2020's computed per capita represents a 1.2% decrease from the 2019 per capita figure which is well below the 3.5% benchmark growth rate. Based on the refreshed 2019 data, the revised 2019 per capita change was a 5.8% growth rate.

## STATE LEVEL THCE PER CAPITA



DHCC PRESENTATION ON HEALTH CARE BENCHMARKS

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Delaware stayed under the benchmark. Secretary Geisenberger cautioned that for transparency, we could have the opposite news in Calendar Year 2021. Secretary Magarik shared that for the next benchmark data collection cycle, the DHCC will begin the process of collecting 2021 data later in the fall to account for claims lags and adjudication.

Secretary Magarik shared additional information about the market THCE per capita change verses the benchmark. This includes commercial, Medicaid, Medicare, and Veterans Administration. Data was also shared about the Total Medical Expense (TME) by service category (for example: physician, hospital inpatient, hospital outpatient, etc.)

Commissioner Navarro commented about the Medicare Advantage numbers. Dr. Lee asked about the per capita spending in relation to the cost to insurance. Fred Gibson, with Mercer, stated the denominators are different for the various calculations. Dr. Lee said it was important to look at the impact on individual citizens and their costs on healthcare. Steven Costantino noted other states are seeing similar benchmark trends due likely to deferred care during the pandemic. Nick Moriello commented insurance premiums go directionally what you are seeing for the total cost for the population will have relativity to the insurance premiums. Commissioner Navarro shared Delaware may likely have one or two other insurers on the Marketplace. Dr. Lee thanked Highmark for staying on the Marketplace.

Next, Secretary Magarik provided a summary of the quality benchmark results. In general, 2020 results were similar to 2019. The Secretary wrapped up her presentation by asking if there were any additional questions.

Dr. Roger Harrison asked with respect to the quality benchmarks, as we think about targeting intervention and spending are we looking as some of the racial demographic difference for some of those areas such as obesity, opioid use, and cardiac conditions?

The Secretary replied we would have to go back and look at some of these data points as some are from national level entities. The quality benchmarks are to the purview of the commission, and we can look at what we can change or add to racial and demographics.

Melissa Jones asked, if we are setting the benchmarks going forward, would it be too much to add the racial, age, and gender contributions to the reports as well? Secretary Magarik replied we can take that as adding additional data as demographic plus geography to include race ethnicity and age. Secretary Geisenberger agreed with Sec. Magarik

The [trend report](#) and [Secretary's presentation](#) are available on the DHCC website.

**From the WebEx Chat Box:**

## **UPDATES**

### **DIDER**

Ted Becker, as the DIDER liaison for the Commission, share an update on DIDER activities. The board met on April 13 and welcomed a new member Dr. Vince Daniels. The DIDER board reviewed the annual report from Temple University Kornberg School of Dentistry. The Admissions Director, Dr. David Dams, has taken a very strong personal interest in the outreach to Delaware students. Kornberg has started a welcoming program to the Delaware students from the University of Delaware (UD) – a day long program of information sessions which will help the recruiting of dental students from UD. Kornberg's class of 2022

Mr. Becker shared was no information provided in regard to the breakdown of the students and that information has been requested.

The Dental Manpower and Capacity Study is still ongoing. There will be a joint meeting with DIMER on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **DIMER**

The board met on April 6<sup>th</sup>. There are two new board members, Joseph Rubacky III, DO, and Michael Axe, MD. The board reviewed the annual reports from Delaware affiliated medical schools and the Christiana Care Branch Campus. Our DIMER students are coming back to join the branch campus.

Each of the schools that are in each of the hospitals that have residency programs to do a report describing what is going on in their programs. We have new residency matches in

Delaware Health Systems. Our goal is to attract more DIMER students who want to practice down state.

The Delaware Health Sciences Alliance report is complete. For a copy, please contact the

Delaware Health Care Commission at [dhcc@delaware.gov](mailto:dhcc@delaware.gov)

Sec. Geisenberger asked where's the data housed as we try to track these people over time? Sherman responded in the past, there was data, and it is no longer available in the state system. We keep excellent records on all applicants that go through the programs. Looking to form a system to maintain contact yearly with all applicants that graduate and go on to practice.

Jan Lee asked if it would be helpful for us to do some assessment of the people who are currently practicing in those areas and just ask the question. What made you come here?

Sherman stated the key is that many of us survive and do well. The vision is creating a true networking project with all of our DIMER students and maintain and make them part of the family.

Dr. Fan noted one of the barriers has always been that this is all self-reported. Students and residents move on and do not report. Another key issue is there are a group of states that don't have a medical school and have been able to really enhance their community.

### **Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program**

Applications are now being accepted for the program. Visit this link for more details and to apply:

<https://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dhcc/loanrepaymentnew.html>

All applications are on a six-week rolling interval. Residency Waivers are relevant only to application cohorts 1 and 2. Practitioners who graduated or completed a residency program after July 2021 are eligible to apply in cohorts 1 and 2.

### **Health Workforce Subcommittee-Update**

Meeting was held April 20<sup>th</sup>. The ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Agreement between Delaware and the Delaware Academy of Medicine became effective April 2022. A breakdown of the budget was explained.

Data for DHF sourced from the Division of Professional Regulation (DPR) and Delaware Health information Network (DHIN) report will be published in early summer. Data integration with the National Provider Identifier (NPI) is ongoing.

Delaware Academy of Medicine “Healthcare Workforce in 2022: Action and Opportunity report will be published this summer. The population demographics and Projections, Disease trends, workforce infographics and geographic distributions with discussion of forecasting current solutions and shorter and longer term.

### **Primary Care Reform Collaborative (PCRC)**

Met in April. The Office of Value Based Health Care gave a presentation on their 2023 rate filing requirements. There was a lot of really good information that was shared with us.

Dr. Robert Phillips resented n the recent NASEM report, which is 400 pages. Dr. Fan’s slides are available on the [DHCC website](#).

The Payment and Attribution Workgroup has met three times and has a fourth meeting scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup>. They discussed the PV model and recommendations and made a few of their own. Attribution was a major discussion.

The Care Coordination Workgroup met April 14<sup>th</sup>. Their next meeting is May 6<sup>th</sup>. This group reviewed the current recommendations of the payment and Attribution Workgroup, discussed differences between Care Coordination and Care Management.

The next PCRC meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2022.

### **Strategic Retreat**

This will be a little of an in-depth discussion. One topic of discussion will be Diversity/Inclusion/Equity in Health Care Policy.

### **From the Chat:**

### **ADJOURN**

Next meeting will be June 2, 2022 9:00am-11:00am

## Public Meeting Attendees

May 5, 2022

Anthony Onugu	
Brian Olson	La Red Health Center
Bruce Matthews	DIDER
Bryan Gordon	Christiana Care
Carmen Olariu	
Charles Constant	
Cheryl Heiks	Delaware Health Care Facilities Association
Chris Haas	Department of Insurance
Chris Otto	Christiana Care
Christina Crooks Bryan	DHA
David Roose	Department of Finance
Delaney McGonegal	Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers
Frank Pyle	Department of Insurance
Fred Gibison	Mercer
Gurpreet Kaur	DHIN
Jenna Moffitt	
Jessica Luff	
Jill Fredel	DHSS
Joann Hasse	League of Women Voters of Delaware
Jonathan Mathieu	Freedman Health Care
Juan Arjona	DHIN
Judy Chaconas	
Juliann Villecco	DHSS
Kathy Collison	DHSS
Katie Macklin	Alzheimer's Association Delaware Valley Chapter
Kiki Evinger	DHSS
Kim Blanch	
Kim Hammond	Highmark
Laurie Klanchar	Mercer
Lincoln Willis	The Willis Group, LLC
Liz Brown	DHSS
Lizzie Lewis	302 Strategies
Lolita Lopez	Westside Family Healthcare
Lori Ann Rhoads	Medical Society of Delaware
Maggie Norris Bent	Westside Family Healthcare
Mary Kate McLaughlin	
Mashiya Williams	DELFCF
MBittle	
Melanie Anderson	Highmark
Melissa Marlin	Finance
Mollie Poland	Nemours



Nicole Freedman	Morris James
Nicole Moxley	DHSS
Nina Figueroa	DHR
Nora Hoban	
Pam Garnder	Christiana Care
Pam Price	Highmark
Pat Redmond	Nemours
Paula Roy	
Reid Millius	
Richard Holladay	DHSS
Richard Schroder	DHIN
Rishika Gupta	CVS Health
Russ Larson	
Ryan O'Connor	Freedman Healthcare
Sally Frechette	DOI
Sarah Noonan Davis	DHSS
Sherman Townsend	DIMER
Stacey Schiller	DHIN
Stacey Worthy	
Steven Costantino	DHSS
Tori Harris	
Tyler Blanchard	
Victoria Brennan	Office of Controller General
Wayne Smith	DEHA
Zugui Zhang	Christiana Care