



## Community Healthcare Access and Rural Transformation (CHART) Model Advisory Council Meeting

### DETAILS

**10:00 a.m. Friday, April 29, 2022**  
**Microsoft Office Teams Meeting (Virtual)**

### OBJECTIVE

To review the status of the CHART Model in Texas and provide input on the key components of the draft Transformation Plan.

### SUMMARY

**Table 1: CHART Advisory Council Attendance**

MEMBER NAME	YES	NO	MEMBER NAME	YES	NO
Boatright, Donna		X	Miller, Elizabeth*	X	
Borrego, Fabian*	X		Quan, Carolyn*	X	
Cruz, Eva	X		Stevens, J. Michelle*		X
Diel, Michael	X		Whitesides, Jessica		X
Ferrino, April	X		Young, Gary	X	
Guillory, Shenita	X				
Henderson, John	X		<b>Additional Attendees</b>		
Isaac, Daverick*		X	Adkins, Alicia (HHSC)	X	
Ita, Trina		X	Shaw, Robert (HHSC)	X	
Long, Lydia*	X				
McCain, Rebecca*	X				

\*Participants from potential participant hospitals are not formal members of the CHART Advisory Council until their respective hospitals sign participation agreements but are however encouraged to attend and contribute to meetings.

### **Agenda Item 1: Welcome**

Ms. Alicia Adkins, CHART Program Supervisor, Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed attendees. Table 1 above shows member attendance at the meeting.

Ms. April Ferrino, Fiscal Program Coordination and Special Projects Director, Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), welcomed attendees and provided an overview of the meeting. Highlights included:

- Agenda overview.
- Advisory Council information and resources.

- Upcoming key dates for Transformation Plan.

### **Agenda Item 2: Attendee Introductions**

All meeting attendees stated their name, organization, and with summer coming up, what would you recommend as a trip.

### **Agenda Item 3: Update: Medicaid Alignment**

Ms. Alicia Adkins, CHART Program Supervisor, HHSC, provided an update on Medicaid Alignment. Highlights included:

- The CHART Model requires Medicaid Alignment, which involves financial, operational, and quality components.
- The CHART Model involves Medicaid Participation Targets starting in 2024.
- HHSC has current value-based contracting requirements for Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs).
- Overview of Alternative Payment Models (APMs) and the APM Framework.
- Updates on HHSC staff meetings with four Medicaid MCOs in the Community as proposed in HHSC's application.
- Phase I and Phase II of HHSC's proposed approach for Medicaid Alignment.

There was a group discussion and highlights included:

- Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Groups (EAPGs).
- EAPGs covering Emergency Department, regular outpatient services, EAPGs rate, and Critical Access Hospital still being reimbursed at cost.
- Telemedicine project and equipment.
- Estimate on response time for previously submitted MCO questions.
- HHSC's proposal for Medicaid Alignment does not include making a dramatic shift on payment but focuses on the goal of moving rural hospitals further along the Advanced Payment Model continuum.
- Technical assistance to support the decision-making process for potential rural hospitals.

Meeting attendees participated in a pop quiz question: When will the Advisory Council be able to provide feedback on the Transformation Plan? The answer is (A) May 18 – June 18.

### **Agenda Item 4: Group Activity: CHART Transformation Plan (Part 1)**

Meeting attendees participated in a group activity discussion on the Transformation Plan. Highlights included:

- CHART Transformation Plan activity included in meeting materials.
- Overview of HHSC's proposed strategic priorities and action steps focus on the short-term to lay the groundwork for CHART implementation in Texas.
  - Strategic Priority: Distributing telemedicine equipment funding and three action steps.

- Telemedicine project is a point of customization for hospitals to craft a project that meet their facility's needs.
- Potential panel of telehealth subject matter experts during a potential participant hospitals meeting.
- Strategic Priority: Facilitate Medicaid Alternative Payment Model (APM) and one action step.
  - Hosting series of meetings with MCOs and Participant Hospitals.
- Strategic Priority: Identify Technical Assistance Needs and three action steps.

The meeting attendees participated in a group discussion and highlights included:

- HHSC is considering expanding the Community due to high level of interest from potential Participant Hospitals outside original community defined in CHART Model application.
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs may be a potential model for telemedicine.
- Group pricing on Telehealth equipment for participating hospitals.

Meeting attendees participated in a final pop quiz question: What is Medicaid Alignment in the CHART Model? The answer is (A) Participant Hospitals are required to meet certain Medicaid Participant Targets starting in 2024 that requires a certain percentage of their Medicaid income is under a capitated payment arrangement.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Short Break**

Meeting Attendees did not take a break due to time.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Group Activity: CHART Transformation Plan (Part 2)**

Ms. Alicia Adkins, CHART Program Supervisor, HHSC, continued the group activity discussion on Transformation Planning. Highlights included:

- Equity Strategy.
  - HHSC plans to require hospitals to propose and implement a telemedicine project that addresses at least one social determinant of health (SDOH) and how health disparities impacted by their selected Community health challenge(s) will be addressed.
- Quality Strategy.
  - CMS will require participant hospitals to report on three measures and is also requiring Lead Organizations to select an additional domain. HHSC is currently considering prevention as its additional domain as it aligns HHSC's effort to reduce potentially preventable events.
- Operational Flexibilities:
  - CHART Model offers three types of operational flexibilities. HHSC is responsible for requesting flexibilities and enhancements from CMS.

- Some of the flexibilities are hospital-specific and some, if selected, apply to the entire Community.
- HHSC proposes selecting the Flexibility to Exclude Outliers in the Medicare Capitated Payment Amount (CPA) for the entire Community.

The meeting attendees participated in a group discussion and highlights included:

- Flexibility to Exclude Outliers in the Medicare Capitated Payment Amount (CPA). There was a group consensus to select this Model Design Flexibility.
- The base year that will be included in Capitated Payment Amount calculation.
- HHSC must decide on the Model Design Flexibilities, Benefit Enhancements, and Beneficiary Engagement Incentives in the Transformation Plan. The current plan is to select of the hospital-specific flexibilities since participation confirmation will not occur until November 1. HHSC will subsequently work with hospitals and CMS to confirm flexibilities.

### **Agenda Item 7: Update: Hospital Recruitment**

Mr. Robert Shaw, CHART Grant Specialist, HHSC, provided an overview of hospital recruitment to date. Highlights included:

- 47 hospitals submitted an interest form by the March 28 deadline.
- HHSC hosted two monthly meetings with potential participant hospitals.
- HHSC attended TORCH Spring conference and met with nine hospitals and has virtually met with four more hospitals.
- HHSC plans to host a joint meeting with CMS and interested hospitals in May.
- CMS will provide an estimated Medicare CPA for the 47 hospitals by June.
- Key resources posted recently to the CHART website were highlighted.

### **Agenda Item 8: Open Discussion (Q&A)**

Ms. Alicia Adkins, CHART Program Supervisor, HHSC, facilitated an open discussion for meeting attendees. Highlights included:

- Supporting hospitals in decision-making process in the Transformation Plan.
- CHART Advisory Council members requested to send feedback and questions to the HHSC CHART inbox.

### **Agenda Item 9: Review Action Items for Follow-Up**

Mr. Robert Shaw, CHART Grant Specialist, HHSC, noted the following action items:

- HHSC to coordinate check-in meetings with CMS to ensure State meets alignment requirement through Calendar Year 2023.
- HHSC CHART Model Team to research financial readiness tool and other supporting resources to assist rural hospitals in the decision-making process.
- Participants to provide any additional feedback on the topics covered in this week's meeting by Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.
- HHSC to send a copy of the Draft Transformation Plan after submitting to CMS on May 18<sup>th</sup> and members will have until June 18<sup>th</sup> to provide feedback.

- HHSC will schedule the next quarterly meeting.

**Agenda Item 10: Adjourn and Thank You**

Ms. Alicia Adkins, CHART Program Supervisor, HHSC, adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.