

**Community Health Forum Meeting
 July 27, 2011
 11:30 a.m.
 Augusta Health
 Augusta Community Care Bldg. – Rms. 2 & 3
 Minutes**

***Town Hall meeting with local legislators and special guest, Dr. Bill Hazel,
 State Secretary for Health/Human Resources***

Welcome/Introduction of First-time Participants

Carol Blair welcomed everyone and asked that any new attendees today introduce themselves. The following new persons were introduced.

<i>Name:</i>	<i>Agency Represented:</i>
Roger Whiteway	Christian Science for Virginia
Claudia Lopez-Muniz	New Directions Center
JoAnn King, R.N.	Community Member (retired nurse)
Brett Wills	Moms in Motion
Katy Gerloff	Humanities Foundation
Robin Floyd	Heritage Hall Nursing Home & Rehab.
Roger Boles	Home Instead Senior Care
Pamela Tetro, NP, CDE	Augusta Health
Macon Rich	Caring Solutions
Rachel Grimm	Infant & Toddler Connection of Augusta-Highland
Tammy Judy	Shenandoah Valley Social Services
Nancy Armstrong	Virginia School for the Deaf & Blind
Amy Huffer, R.N.	Virginia School for the Deaf & Blind
Denise Smith	Gentle Shepherd Hospice
Karen Bourne	Brightview Baldwin Park Assisted Living & Retirement Community

Introduction of Special Guests

Dr. Doug Larsen, Central Shenandoah Health District introduced the special guests at today's meeting:

Dr. Bill Hazel, Virginia Secretary for Health and Human Resources
Delegate Dickie Bell
Judy Wyatt – representing Delegate Steve Landes
Holly Herman – representing Senator Emmett Hanger

Presentation by Dr. Hazel

Dr. Hazel presented information regarding the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act in 2010 and the need for health system reform in Virginia. One area of reform will involve the increase in Medicaid enrollees and needed staff to accomplish this. A task force is being developed to look at health system reform in Virginia. Another area of reform in Virginia is the healthcare delivery system. Ideas mentioned for a better delivery system include: physician training and cost, volunteering of physicians, electronic medical records and data connection, remote healthcare via telehealth, and setting up a health information exchange.

Questions from the Audience

Dr. Hazel addressed questions regarding Medicaid waivers for disabled and brain injured. The access to waivers is not always possible and there are not enough resources. For people who prefer in-home care, Medicaid waivers help disabled persons. Some people have been institutionalized for 30 to 40 years and institutions have become their homes. These persons may not be able to have at home care. A win-win solution has to be developed that benefits everyone. Another question involved wellness/obesity among children and healthier lifestyle issues. Dr. Hazel said that the solution to this involves a government run versus a private option for wellness care. Another question was asked about the reasons why Virginia did not pursue legislation to ban handheld cell phone use while driving. Mr. Bell replied that the data didn't support the danger, usually it is a law enforcement issue of whether or not texting actually occurred and was a cause for an accident. Also, the concern of rights, freedom, and personal liberties of Virginia residents was taken into consideration.

Following the main meeting today, an ice cream and watermelon social was held.

Next Meeting: September 28, 2011 – 11:30 am in the Conference Rooms of the Augusta Community Care Building/Augusta Health Campus

(Minutes recorded by Rhonda Clifton, Administrative Assistant.)