

**FloridaHATS Executive Committee Meeting (Teleconference)**  
**September 27, 10:00 AM EST**

**Attending:**

Joseph Chiaro, MD, FAAP, CMS

Phyllis J. Sloyer, RN, Ph.D., PAHM, FAAP, Children's Medical Services, FDOH

John Reiss, Ph.D., Institute for Child Health Policy at UF

Eleanor Cofer, RN, CMS

Holly Hohmeister, Contract Manager, FDCC

Janet Hess, MPH, CHES, Project Director, USF

The following items were discussed:

**Legislative Proposal**

1. The draft bill for the 2011 session is still in review at Department of Health. Ms. Hess asked for feedback about the language in preparation for a legislative summit in Hillsborough County on October 7. It was suggested that anyone advocating for the bill should emphasize that it does not provide for service payment; rather, it supports state-level infrastructure to help communities organize regional service systems, provides education and training, and authorizes CMS to follow their clients up to age 26. These components need to be established in law in order to implement, with a clearly identified locus of responsibility. No other states are legislatively authorized to support clients past age 21. Also, with respect to health care reform, new federal provisions will increase access to health care coverage for more young adults, but they do not address provider capacity to serve young adults with disabilities or pediatric onset chronic health conditions.
2. The group decided to eliminate the \$70,000 budget request due to the economic climate. Funding to supplement current support from CMS for infrastructure will need to come from existing or alternative sources.
3. The group agreed that we should amend the bill to include language referencing the 2008 mandate to establish a Task Force and provide recommendations (see KidCare legislation for guidance). Ms. Hess will make those revisions and update the talking points to include impact of health care reform for this population of youth and young adults.
4. It was strongly recommended to include youth and young adults whenever possible when talking to legislators, and have the young people personally share their stories. Senator Andy Gardner was suggested as someone who could provide support for the bill; he has a child with developmental disabilities. Senator Gaetz has expressed some interest in sponsoring the bill but we likely will not be able to meet with him until after the election, when committee assignments are made.

***Updates:***

- We received notification from Dr. Chiaro that this bill - as well as most other bills being reviewed by DOH - is on hold until after the November election. At that time, DOH will reconsider all proposals and submit their recommendations to the new governor and his administration.
- The health care transition bill was voted as a priority health issue for Hillsborough County, and will be included in the community's legislative platform.

### **FloridaHATS Activities**

5. Ms. Hess reviewed current and upcoming activities, including the development of a promotional brochure, the FloridaHATS Facebook page, a training module for secondary school educators, and a web-based service directory. Dr. Sloyer suggested that we coordinate information about the directory with Kristin Roberts at CMS, who is updating the CMS provider directory.
6. The group agreed that we should host a kick-off face-to-face meeting of the clinical care statewide workgroup in early December, and then have a full Task Force meeting next spring at one of the coalition sites (we are budgeted for 2 face-to-face meetings this year). We can also schedule full Task Force teleconference in December to update everyone about activities.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM.