California Health Foundation Market Studies on Coverage: Ready or Not ACA is Coming

In this issue of At A Glance we want to highlight a perspective from the California Health Foundation (HCF) on the readiness of the “market place” to adapt local safety net programs and prepare communities for health insurance coverage. READ MORE

Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): Information and Activities on the SAMHSA Website

There is so much information to sort through on the SAMHSA website it is often difficult to know where to begin. To “kick start” your review, At A Glance has reproduced the following outline of information available. READ MORE

Behavioral Health Treatment Needs Assessment Toolkit for States

The Behavioral Health Treatment Needs Assessment Toolkit is intended to provide states and other payers with information on the prevalence and use of behavioral health services. READ MORE

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Announcements – NPR Series: African Americans Remain Hardest Hit by Medical Bills

READ MORE
California Health Foundation Market Studies on Coverage: Ready or Not ACA is Coming

HCF has produced market studies highlighting variations in the following:

- Health Care Affordability
- Access
- Quality of Care Across the state

Market studies were conducted regionally and included: Fresno, Los Angeles, Riverside/San Bernardino, Sacramento, San Diego, and the San Francisco Bay Area. A variety of issues were explored, however one issue that was examined among all regions was the status of community safety-net systems. While the ACA expansion of Medi-Cal in 2014 provides a great deal of opportunity for California safety-net systems, some safety-net systems lag in terms of responding so as to benefit. The result will be regions that are unevenly prepared and low income communities that will consequently be left without health coverage and timely access. Lastly, even the most prepared communities may experience a “gap” as they will require time and assistance to help people identify and gain coverage. The following are highlights from the HCF report:

Almost all safety-net providers in the study reported concerns about sufficient funding and workforce to care for newly insured people and for those who remain uninsured.

Safety-net providers are bracing for potential competition for insured patients from other providers and a consequent reduction in revenue.

As federal and state policymakers launch Medi-Cal expansion and the health insurance marketplace (Covered California), they may wish to coordinate with community safety-net leaders to focus resources and assistance to those communities that are further behind in preparing for national reform.

The complete issue brief is available under document downloads on the HCF website. The 2009 edition, as well as the six regional market studies, is available under Related CHCF Pages.


Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): Information and Activities on the SAMHSA Website At A Glance

There is so much information to sort through on the SAMHSA website it is often difficult to know where to begin. To “kick start” your review, At A Glance has reproduced the following outline of information available. Each area of information is listed, briefly identified, and a hyperlink to the information page is made available. By the time you finish surfing, clicking, reviewing and reading just through this listing, we guarantee you will not only be more familiar with SAMHSA but a number of issues related to mental health and substance use policy considerations in the implementation of ACA. Happy Surfing!

Behavioral Health Treatment Needs Assessment Toolkit For States

The toolkit includes step-by-step instructions to generate projections of utilization under insurance expansions; and factors to consider when deciding the appropriate mix of behavioral health benefits, services, and providers to meet the needs of newly eligible populations.
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT NEEDS ASSESSMENT TOOLKIT FOR STATES

The Behavioral Health Treatment Needs Assessment Toolkit is intended to provide states and other payers with information on the prevalence and use of behavioral health services; step-by-step instructions to generate projections of utilization under insurance expansions; and factors to consider when deciding the appropriate mix of behavioral health benefits, services, and providers to meet the needs of newly eligible populations. The Toolkit was developed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The Toolkit provides guidance on key questions that states and other payers may need to answer regarding behavioral health treatment needs and service use. It also summarizes how several states have approached planning for newly eligible populations. The Toolkit provides estimates of the prevalence of behavioral health disorders and use of behavioral health services among populations who are currently uninsured and may become eligible for insurance. Finally, the Toolkit includes a section that describes how users can access and analyze other data on behavioral health needs by particular subpopulations within states, income groups, insurance status groups, and age groups.

The Toolkit was released on Monday, May 13 through a webinar hosted by State ReFor(u)m. The archive of the webinar is available at State ReForum.

Data for easy downloading: Web-based tables for easy access to the estimates included in the Tool-kit of the prevalence of behavioral health disorders and use of behavioral health services among populations who are currently uninsured and may become eligible for insurance.

NATIONAL AND STATE ESTIMATES

National and State Estimates of the Prevalence of Behavioral Health Conditions Among the Uninsured:
Estimates of the number of individuals with behavioral health conditions eligible for the Medicaid Expansion and Health Insurance Exchanges under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), based on data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS).

BHBUSINESS: MASTERING ESSENTIAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

BHbusiness: A new initiative to provide targeted training and other supports to ensure that behavioral healthcare providers are ready to meet the demand for services in this new health reform environment.

PARITY

Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act:
Information and resources on mental health and substance abuse services parity for consumers, insurance purchasers and States

ENROLLMENT

Health Insurance Enrollment
Find out what insurance coverage you may be eligible for or explore information and resources on health insurance enrollment for individuals, providers and states.

Enrollment under the Medicaid Expansion and Health Insurance Exchanges
http://www.samhsa.gov/healthreform/enrollment.aspx

HEALTH HOMES

Health Home Information and Opportunities
Information about health homes including screening tools, models, outcomes, and research
PREVENTION

**Prevention Information and Opportunities**
Information about prevention initiatives in health reform and changes in prevention health insurance benefits

MEDICARE

**Medicare Information and Opportunities**
Information on Medicare, Accountable Care Organizations and Dual Eligibles

BLOCK GRANTS

**SAMHSA Block Grants**: Information about SAMHSA’s Mental Health and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grants.

To explore Health reform issues on the site in your own way and at your own pace please visit: [http://www.samhsa.gov/healthreform/](http://www.samhsa.gov/healthreform/)

**Department of Defense (DOD) At A Glance: How US Government Global Health Presence is Being Expanded Through the DOD**

Department of Defense is increasingly involved in improving the health of people in other countries through medical research, capacity building and other activities. While the Department is not a health or development agency, its work in global health has become a key part of the U.S. government’s broader engagement on addressing health issues and influences how US Government health interventions are perceived.

The Kaiser Family Foundation held a May 16th policy briefing to examine Defense’s role in global health and how it intersects with the global health efforts of the U.S. government and other organizations. The briefing featured framing remarks by **Kathleen Hicks**, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, as well as an overview of the Department’s efforts by the Foundation’s Associate Director for Global Health Policy Joshua Michaud, who co-authored a recent report on the subject.

The briefing included an expert panel discussion with **Kate Almquist**, Visiting Fellow, Center for Global Development; **David J. Smith**, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Health Protection & Readiness; **Rabih Torbay**, Vice President of International Operations at International Medical Corps; and **Colonel Peter J. Weina**, Deputy Commander, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. **Jen Kates**, Vice President and Director of Global Health and HIV Policy at the Foundation, moderated.


The podcast can be located at [Podcast](http://www.kff.org/global-health-policy/event/may-16-briefing-the-department-of-defenses-role-in-the-u-s-global-health-policy-and-programs/)


**California Exchange: June 20 Meeting Information and Getting Involved At A Glance.**

**At A Glance** would like to indicate the ease with which anyone can participate in the meeting of the California Exchange. Information on the meeting is posted the Monday prior and includes the agenda. Posted materials can be found at the following link: [http://www.healthexchange.ca.gov/BoardMeetings/Pages/Default.aspx](http://www.healthexchange.ca.gov/BoardMeetings/Pages/Default.aspx)

Any members of the public can participate and public comment is taken on each agenda item.
The only request is that when making public comment simply:

- State your name for the record
- Identify any group or organization you represent
- Each person will be limited to two minutes per agenda item

As with any call an operator will facilitate questions and introduce you prior to making comments. The phone directions are standard as well:

Press * 1: You will hear a tone indicating you are in the queue for comment.
Press #: If for any reason you change your mind and do not want to make a comment.
Press * 0: To request a Specialist for assistance during the call.

Most importantly, Any Person who wishes to request a meeting notice or other meeting materials in an alternative format, requires translation services, or needs any disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services which would enable that person to participate in the meeting, must make that request at least seven calendar days prior to the meeting date to Erica Lux at 916-323-3731 or Erica.Lux@covered.ca.gov.

Lastly, directions to the meeting are available on the Exchange website and the Board meeting can be viewed via a webcast. The webcast can be accessed at:


So that you know how easy it is to become involved in Exchange Meetings pertaining to a historic expansion of coverage in our state, At A Glance looks forward to hearing all of you raise your concerns, provide support, and work to ensure all Californians are Covered

http://www.healthexchange.ca.gov/BoardMeetings/Pages/Default.aspx

**Announcements**

**National Public Radio Series: African Americans Remain Hardest Hit by Medical Bills**

NPR is doing an ongoing series entitled, “The Views from Black America.” This particular podcast is part of that series and explores the following dynamic

*A poll by NPR, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Harvard School of Public Health found that 24 percent of African-American families say they’ve had problems paying for needed prescription drugs.*

Listen in to the stories of Mike Jackson and Ashley Liggins as they tell their own story and help to describe the circumstances individuals, families and communities face. These stories are why the stakes in ACA are so high. You can listen in at the following link or read their stories At A Glance.


**85% of California is Rural. Become Connected to State and National Issues Related to Rural and Frontier Communities Through the National Rural Health Association.**

**NRHA Hosts Free D.C. Event**

Funding for rural hospitals is currently under the greatest threat by Congress and the Administration in years. Cuts to critical access hospitals have again been proposed, and hundreds of millions of dollars to rural PPS hospitals will be lost if Congress does not act by Oct. 1. If these threats become a reality, rural hospitals will be forced to cut services and close doors. Join the National Rural Health Association **July 31 in Washington D.C.**
for a free education and advocacy event. Rural America is counting on you. This education and advocacy event is free, but registration is required.

**Administration Director to speak at next NRHA event**

The Deputy Director of Demand Reduction for the Office of National Drug Control Policy will present at this year’s Rural Quality and Clinical Conference *July 17-19 in Chicago*. David K. Mineta will share the Administration’s interest in rural substance abuse issues and utilizing technological innovations to treat substance disorders. Scholarships are still available, and attendees from nearby states receive discounted rates. Don’t delay. Advance registration and hotel discounts end soon.

**NRHA announces regional events for rural hospitals**

Preserving Community Hospitals' regional events will bring together industry experts to provide decision makers with the essential foundation, framework and options to make informed capital, affiliation and governance decisions in a time of uncertainty. Register today to save $100 on the first of a series of events geared toward keeping rural hospitals and helping them thrive.

The first of these regional events are planned for August 20-21 in Seattle and August 27-28 in Milwaukee. Register today to save.

**Present at NRHA conferences**

NRHA invites you to submit presentations for two of our fastest growing events. Submissions for this year’s Rural Multiracial and Multicultural Health Conference in San Antonio, Texas, and for the 2014 Annual Rural Health Conference in Las Vegas will be accepted through July 15.

**Save the dates; Texas awaits**

Mark your calendars now for NRHA’s Rural Health Clinic and Critical Access Hospital Conferences Oct. 1-4 in Austin, Texas

**Remaining Connected**

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| **WEBINAR**  
Bridging Criminal Justice Systems and Community Healthcare: Integration’s Role in Reentry  
Tuesday, June 18, 2:00-3:30pm EDT  
| **2013 NAMI National Convention**  
June 27 – 30, 2013  
San Antonio, TX  