



SC Telehealth Alliance Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, June 28, 2018
Time: 1:00PM – 3:00PM
Location: Department of Mental Health | 2414 Bull St, Columbia, SC 29201
Present: Amelia Bischoff (Palmetto Health), Robert Bank (SCDMH), Stewart Cooner (SCDMH), Katie Cristaldi (MUSC), Don Godish (SCETV), Sam Head (SCDHHS), Adrian Grimes (MUSC), Ryan Kruis (SCTA), John Magill (SCDMH), Jimmy McElligott (MUSC), Meera Narasimhan (USC), Kathy Rhoad (RMC), Kathy Schwarting (PCC), Ashley Springs (McLeod)
Facilitated by: Jimmy McElligott
Recorded by: Ryan Kruis
Next meeting: Interim Call: Thursday, August 16, 2018 from 1-2PM
Conference line: 843-876-8703 | Passcode: 728282

1. Welcome and Introductions

- The council formally introduced its newest council member, Kathy Rhoad, Interim Associate Vice President of Strategic Planning and Marketing at RMC Orangeburg. Kathy Rhoad will be filling the *community hospital* seat on the advisory council.

2. SCETV Video Highlight

- SCETV showcased their most recent video highlighting PCC's Annual Telehealth Summit, which will be used for future advertisement of the Summit. The group agreed that the video showcased the consistently strong work of the SCETV team.

3. SCTA Procedural and Operational Items

a. Contracts/Equipment Requests/Awarded Grants:

- Contracts:
 - *USC School of Medicine:* The contract to support Dr. Narasimhan's efforts on outcomes and evaluation (Strategy 7) has been executed. Dr. Narasimhan noted interest in using funds to bring on a statistician and health economist for this work.
 - *SC AHEC:* SC AHEC is working with the SCTA on drafting its contract for the upcoming fiscal year to lead the SCTA efforts on telehealth education (Strategy 5). The amount allocated will be in line with what has been annually budgeted for telehealth education.
 - *Children's Telehealth Collaborative (part of the Children's Hospital Collaborative):* At the request of the state legislature, the SCTA will be providing funding to support the efforts of the Children's Telehealth

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Collaborative. This funding will be distributed from the existing SCTA funds, and the details of the contract are still being discussed.

- Service/Equipment Requests:
 - *CareSouth Carolina:*
 - CareSouth requested funding to equip all 13 of their sites.
 - The SCTA is taking a phased approach in equipping these sites, working closely with CareSouth to ensure success as they build their telehealth program.
 - CareSouth has one of the largest pools of MAT (medically assisted treatment for opioids) providers, and one goal of their telehealth program is to extend MAT access.
 - *Aiken Regional Medical Center:*
 - The SCTA approved funding for 2 tele-neurology carts. ARMC receives tele-stroke and neurology from Augusta University Medical Center in GA.
 - The group discussed the use of SCTA funds to support private health systems vs. not-for-profit health systems, noting this may be something for the SCTA to incorporate into its funding decisions in the future.
 - *Palmetto Health – School-based Telehealth:* The SCTA approved the funding of 5 carts to be used in the PH school-based telehealth program.
 - 4 carts will be deployed in Lexington County School District 1, a new school-based telehealth district
 - 1 cart will be deployed in Richland County School District 1, which is expanding its existing program to include Southeast Middle.

4. Payer Coverage Priorities

- Based on feedback from council members and hubs, Adrian Grimes updated the draft of the payer coverage priorities.
- The group voiced appreciation for the efforts and final product.
- After adding physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech language pathologists, the document will be finalized, posted to the SCTA website, and ready for partners to use in conversation with payers.

5. Telehealth Stakeholder Meeting:

- The date for the SCTA/PCC Telehealth Stakeholder meeting has been set for Tuesday, July 31, from 10AM-12PM, and the meeting will take place at the SC Hospital Association in Columbia.

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- This purpose of this meeting is to provide an opportunity for more organizations to learn about, participate in, and shape the various telehealth initiatives taking place around the state. It is especially geared toward those organizations not already participating in the SCTA at the Advisory Council level.

6. FQHC Assessment

- In alignment with MUSC's Center of Excellence initiatives, MUSC reached out to consultant Liz Hynden at Cardovia Health to look into how to better work with and support FQHCs on telehealth programs. Liz will be conducting interviews with key FQHC stakeholders as well as doing secondary research.
- The findings from this FQHC assessment can inform future SCTA strategies.

7. Strategic Plan Updates and Other Wins

- Billing Bootcamp: On June 11, the SCTA hosted a "Telehealth Billing Bootcamp" that included 25 billing and telehealth professionals from different health systems across the state. Participants spoke highly of the event, and the Education Workgroup is planning to make a module from the content presented.
- Credentialing: The centralized database will be finished by July 25th, with the go-live taking place in August.
- DMH Telepsych Services: DMH continues to grow and expand its ED and Community Telepsychiatry program, averaging ~2,500 services/month. They will soon hit the milestone of 100,000 services rendered since the program's start.
- APRN Legislation Webinar: PCC hosted a webinar with Darra Coleman from the SC LLR outlining the new APRN legislation. The webinar is available on-demand on the PCC website.
- PSPN/FCC: PCC has submitted over 20 million dollars for USAC funding requests, and, if all requests are funded, the subsidies would result in ~13 million dollars in savings for healthcare providers in SC. Also, the FCC raised the cap on the Healthcare Connect fund, allowing these subsidies to continue and the same level rather than being limited.

8. Next SCTA Interim Call:

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