

CCNC UPDATE

Community Care of North Carolina, Inc.

7/21/2015

News and Notes from Community Care

Dear Colleagues – A few items of interest I wanted to share:

Data Briefs. CCNC's data analytics team has launched a new publication called *Data Briefs* that examines data and health information for noteworthy trends and insights. The first (see box at right) looks at state spending on Medicaid. In August, the team reports on reduced hospitalization among CCNC-enrolled Medicaid recipients.

Network growth. A total of 170 medical practices have joined our statewide network for a total of 1,820 participating practices. While many states struggle with network adequacy, we have been fortunate in this regard. We're committed to continuing to support primary care practices serving our state's most vulnerable populations.

Recent Board Actions. The NCCCN, Inc. Board has appointed primary care physician and NCCCN's Chief Medical Officer **Tom Wroth**, MD, as its acting president. **Betsey Tilson**, MD, clinical director for Community Care of Wake and Johnston Counties, heads the search committee charged with nominating a permanent replacement. The NCCCN Board also elected Dr. **John Morrow**, Pitt County Health Director, as Chair.

Informatics Center ramps up data capabilities. The IC continues to refine operations, now partnering with consultant IMAT to handle data faster and more cost-effectively. Data conversion, quality control and output has been improved across 14 regional networks and 100 counties.

CCNC Recognized. CCNC is a finalist for the NCHICA Health IT Transformation Awards. Representing CCNC at the September awards luncheon will be pharmacist **Kim Roberts**, PharmD, PHARMACeHOME Product Manager and **Maher Abukaf**, Assistant Director Systems Development. Congratulations to all on fine performance!

2016 Innovation Forum. Based on positive feedback from last winter's CCNC Innovation Forum, we plan another such gathering early in 2016. Look for a Save the Date card in the near future for a mid-January event.

As always, thanks for your support. We welcome your comments.

Sincerely,



L. Allen Dobson, Jr., MD
President and CEO

Community Care of North Carolina, Inc.

NC Medicaid costs aren't exploding.

We've all read the stories in the media about cost overruns in the Medicaid program and how North Carolina is facing a cost crisis. A team at CCNC studied state budget and appropriations records closely to precisely measure the state's cost trend.

The surprising results of this review are detailed in [this new data brief](#).

While North Carolina's Medicaid program is indeed large and costly, state spending has been remarkably flat since 2010, once all the shifting federal payments have been accounting for and money moved from other agencies is considered. In fact, costs per recipient are actually *going down*.

This is important information in the state's ongoing debate on how best to reform our Medicaid system, and we're glad to provide it.



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