

**Regional Health Alliance
Access to Care
Tuesday, March 24, 2015
Grace Health**

Present: Shelly Cizio, Summit Pointe; Melinda Hautau, Community Action; Raymond Higbea, Grand Valley State University; Cheryl Hinds, Grace Health; Justin Logsdon, Department of Human Services; Diane Marquess, Family & Children Services; Linnea Mobley, Community HealthCare Connections; Angela Myers, Regional Health Alliance; Sherry Postula, Grace Health; Jessica Rapelje, Battle Creek Community Foundation/RHA; Ron Slagell, LifeCare Ambulance; Kaci Sparks, Western Michigan University Nursing Student; Alyssa Stewart, United Way; Barb Travis, Community HealthCare Connections; Terris Todd, Michigan House of Representatives; Jennifer VanValkenburg, Regional Health Alliance; and Nidia Wolf, Albion Health Care Alliance.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	Barb Travis called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. All members were introduced.	
2. Approval of minutes	<p>There were no additions or corrections to the minutes from the February 24, 2015 meeting.</p> <p>I make a motion to accept the February 24, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion by: Melinda Hautau Support by: Cheryl Hinds Motion passed unanimously</p>	
3. Discussion w/Terris Todd	<p>Terris Todd, Director of District Relations for Representative Dr. John Bizon, shared Representative Bizon's responses to questions asked by Access to Care in preparation for today's meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is continuing the Medicaid expansion something Dr. Bizon could support? Dr. Bizon is in favor of Medicaid expansion. One concern is funding. He is open to receiving a proposal on how to make Medicaid expansion affordable. • What legislation will Dr. Bizon be focusing on related to access in the upcoming year? Dr. Bizon is currently working on drug aversion – use of illegal drugs. A lot of teens are resorting to prescription drugs. He has been meeting with care providers, pharmacists, etc. and has been reviewing legislation that addresses these concerns. • What is Dr. Bizon's position on proposed budget cuts to the 2016 Executive Budget that would specifically eliminate support of Graduate Medical Education and small rural hospital funding pools? Dr. Bizon is in favor of Graduate Medical Education funding. Terris asked for clarification on where rural hospitals are. Most hospitals in our area are considered rural. Dr. Bizon is in support of rural hospitals and funding for them. • Is there information from the group Dr. Bizon would like on an ongoing basis that he would find helpful in the future? Provide data on a regular basis to prove the case for Medicaid expansion. Share a proposal on how to make Medicaid expansion affordable. <p>Raymond Higbea stated there are two models (one in Arkansas and one in Indiana) that should be reviewed regarding Medicaid.</p>	

3. Discussion w/Terris Todd (cont.)	<p>Diane Marquess asked if Dr. Bizon has concerns with the Mental Health Wellness Report.</p> <p>Terris invited Access to Care members to the following events with Dr. Bizon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday, March 28 – Coffee Hour with Dr. Bizon at Ritze in Urbandale, 8:00 – 9:00 am • Saturday, March 28 – Women’s History Brunch, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm. Free for women in the area. 	Terris Todd will share Diane’s question with Dr. Bizon and get back to her with a response.
4. Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ron Slagell stated LifeCare Ambulance is seeing a significant drop in those who do not have insurance. However, there have been some issues with people who have insurance and are not familiar with how to use it. LifeCare is seeing an increase in volume. Although December volume was high, January was the highest they have had. The increase was due to a combination of cold weather, flu and other associated items. Ron stated although February volumes were down from the previous month, the volume for February and March was higher than February and March last year. Question: With the increase, were they true emergencies? Ron stated the increase was due to some very sick people. However, there are still some people who do not know when to go to ER. Currently, LifeCare is paid by fee for service and only get paid when someone is taken to the ER. Ron stated they are looking at how quality will be measured in the future and how the model will look/fit. • Sherry Postula shared information provided through Enroll Calhoun that is given to people when signing up for coverage. The documents contain information on when to use insurance, how to read an EOB, how to read an insurance card, when to go to ER. Sherry stated she is willing to give a presentation to organizations regarding the information. A Michigan Health Savings Account will be coming out. Once more information is available, Sherry will give an update. • Work Site Wellness Award applications are due April 17. Please send information to Angela Myers or Jessica Rapelje. 	
5. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.	Next meeting: Tuesday, April 28, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Grace Health

Submitted by Diane Craig, March 25, 2015