



Date: March 6, 2015
To: Denise Chuckovich, Co-Chair, Idaho Healthcare Coalition
From: Meg Hall, Primary Care Program Manager
Re: IMHC Workgroup Update

Discussion was held during the February Idaho Medical Home Collaborative meeting regarding the potential of offering a state run PCMH certification program. At that time Tim Heinze provided an overview of the Oregon Health Authority state run certification program. Great discussion was held by the IMHC members with opinions varying from the concern of the cost and resources to meet NCQA to the resources that would be required to operate a state run program. Generally all were in agreement, regardless of the path chosen, it is imperative to maintain the integrity of an accountable PCMH program that results in actual and sustainable transformation.

It was determined next steps would be for the Medicaid Health Home Team to research the other identified state run programs. That research is occurring now and the Medicaid Health Home Team will update the IMHC members by 3/16/15 and convene a 3/25/15 "special meeting" for the members to review the research. Following this meeting the IMHC will make a recommendation to the IHC for their April meeting. Meg will work with Teresa, Lisa & Dr. Dunn to ensure timely notice of this March IMHC meeting occurs.

The Medicaid Health Home team is also researching the qualifying criteria to be considered when selecting the first cohort of clinics to participate in the SHIP. This research includes "lessons learned" from the IMHC pilot, as well as input from the IMHC Transformation Workgroup. We are finding this to be a very "sensitive balance" in ensuring the qualifying criteria selects organizations that are "ready and able," while not being too stringent. Frankly, recruiting for the Health Home program has been very difficult with clinics either not interested or unable to invest the time or resources to undergo the transformation process. This information will be provided to the IMHC by 3/16/15 for their review and recommendation to the IHC.

Work continues to move forward on the IMHC Pilot Evaluation being completed by TransforMED. Regence reported during the February IMHC meeting they are working directly with TransforMED to supply a claims extract and Blue Cross has also been communicating with the contractor. The Pilot evaluation is expected to be completed by late spring and will serve as critical information for the IHC, workgroups, SHIP project staff and RHC's. Not only is it intended to evaluate if the pilot resulted in improved health outcomes and reduced costs, it will also identify the unique characteristics of each payer and clinic that were most effective. The next deliverable due very soon from TransforMED is a completed evaluation plan and activities occurring.