**COLUMBIA COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE CONSORTIUM. INC.**

**MEETING NOTES**

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| **Committee: Budget and Finance** | **Date: March 21, 2017** |
| **Board Members Attending: Robin Andrews, Ken Stall, Jim Campion, Chelly Hegan (by phone)****Board Members Absent: PJ Keeler, Lisa Evans**  | **Guests: None** |
| **Staff Members Attending: Claire Parde and John Ray** |
| **TOPIC**  | **SUMMARY OF TOPIC DISCUSSED** |
| Update on Medicaid Transportation | Claire reported that on Friday, February 24th, we learned that all our “standing orders” for group rides—the transportation we have been providing on a daily basis, for over three years, to Medicaid enrollees with serious mental illness living in group homes and traveling to and from PROS (the day habilitation program offered by the Mental Health Association in Hudson, NY)—had been reassigned to Adirondack Cab Co. from Ticonderoga, NY in Essex County, effective Monday, February 27th.

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|   | Unique Medicaid Clients | % of MA | % of total | Trips | % of MA | % of total | Revenue | % of MA | % of total |
| MA, PROS | 34 | 35% | 9% | 6,723 | 82% | 47% | $146,175 | 75% | 41% |
| MA, non-PROS | 64 | 65% | 16% | 1,469 | 18% | 10% | $48,039 | 25% | 13% |
| Non-MA  | 299 | 0% | 75% | 6,239 | 0% | 43% | $165,782 | 0% | 46% |
| **TOTALS** | **397** | **100%** | **100%** |  **14,431**  | **100%** | **100%** | **$359,996** | **100%** | **100%** |

These group rides constituted a large part of the Consortium’s Medicaid service delivery—82% of all our Medicaid trips, 75% of Medicaid revenue, and approximately 40% of total program revenue (see table below). The loss of this business may have significant impacts on our ability to meet the transportation needs of Columbia County residents, including both Medicaid enrollees and non-enrollees. Adirondack Cab Co. “won” these group rides through a bid process initiated by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), which oversees Medicaid Transportation, and managed by Medical Answering Services, or MAS, the state’s contracted Medicaid Transportation Manager. The bid process trumps the Medicaid provision called “freedom of choice” which permits enrollees to select their preferred transportation provider.  Since this has transpired, we have done a few things:* Visited directly with our elected officials in Albany (Lopez, McLaughlin, Barrett, Marchione and Amedore) to advise them of the situation and request their assistance in advocating for policy changes at NYSDOH. Subsequent to those visits, Claire provided a one-page overview and sample letter to their offices.
* Estimated the potential financial impact to the program. At this time, we project a change in unrestricted net assets of ($33K) and a net cash flow loss of $29K, though we will undoubtedly find that we must update these numbers to reflect actual revenues and expenses in the weeks since the loss of standing orders.
* Started to explore our options, including different service models, fees, etc., in the interest of ensuring that the program not only survives the current challenge but is viable in the long term.

Some committee members expressed concern about employing any model that makes use of volunteers, for various reasons including the fear that the agency might run afoul of Department of Labor rules, a philosophical opposition to making use of volunteers instead of paid staff, and liability. Claire asked the members for their patience as she and her team explores and fully educates themselves about the options. Robin noted that the Consortium’s strong cash position and healthy fund balance will help the agency to absorb the loss of this business and associated revenue. This permits the organization to explore its options in a measured and thoughtful way.  |
| Highlights from the Financial Reports | The Committee inspected the Organization’s Financial Reports, including the Accounts Receivable Aging Summary, the Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet), Statement of Activities (Income Statement) for the agency and transportation program, respectively, and the Statement of Revenues, Supports and Expenses, all of which are current to February 28, 2017. Due to time constraints, John was unable to produce the “Fiscal Highlights” report this month. |
| Update on the Audit | Claire reported that Carol Hausamann of Marvin and Company has provided a draft of the audited financial statements. Pending receipt of a few items from third parties, the As there were no findings as to internal controls, she will not issue a management letter.  |
| Next mtng | The next meeting is May 23, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. |