

## Western Massachusetts

# Health Access Network notes



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS, INC.

December 7, 2007

Jones Library – Amherst, MA

Meeting Notes

### Attendance:

Shirley	Allen	Caring Health Center	(413) 739-1100, x1018	sallen@caringhealth.org
Laura	Anderson	Community Partners Inc.	(413) 253-4283	landerson@comparters.org
Barbara	Anthony	Health Law Advocates	(617) 338-5241	banthony@hla-inc.org
John	Bergeron	Hilltown Community Health Center	(413) 667-2203	jbergeron@hchcweb.org
Sonia	Bouvier	Cooley Dickinson Hospital	(413) 582-2848, x5	Sonia_Bouvier@Cooley-Dickinson.org
Molly	Butler	Department of Public Health	(413) 586-7525, x1148	Molly.Butler@state.ma.us
Martina	Carroll	Stavros - Center for Independent Living Inc.	(413) 256-0473, x213	mcarroll@stavros.org
Jennifer	Chow	Health Care For All	(617) 275-2813	chow@hcfama.org
Heather	D'Angelo	Hampshire Health Connect	(413) 582-2236, x2	heather_dangelo@cooley-dickinson.org
Michael	DeChiara	Community Partners Inc.	(413) 253-4283, x12	mdechiara@comparters.org
Jennifer	Dube	North Quabbin Community Coalition	(978) 249-3703, x302	jennifer@nqcc.org
Brian	Eno	Community Action	(978) 249-5634	beno@communityaction.us
Carolyn	Heiden	Franklin Medical Center	(413) 773-2725	carolyn.heiden@bhs.org
Octavio	Hernandez	Community Health Programs	(413) 644-0104, x15	ohernandez@chpberkshires.org
Charles	Joffe-Halpern	Ecu-Health Care Inc.	(413) 663-8711	cjoffehalpern@nbhealth.org

Reuben	Kantor	Connector	(617) 933-3097	reuben.kantor@state.ma.us
Meg	Kroeplin	Community Partners Inc.	(413) 253-4283	mkroeplin@comparters.org
Georgia	Maheras	Health Law Advocates	(617) 275-2981	gmaheras@hla-inc.org
Ana	Martinez	Baystate Health System	(413) 794-3336	ana.martinez@bhs.org
Vanessa	Martinez	Community Health Connections	(978) 847-0110	vmartinez@chcfhc.org
Ada	Masiero	Community Health Center of the Berkshires	(413) 528-8580, x5468	chcbada@yahoo.com
Nicholas	Mazanec	Western Massachusetts Legal Services	(413) 584-4034	NMazanec@wmls.org
Dan	Moraski	Social Security Administration	(413) 785-5891, x3064	daniel.moraski@ssa.gov
Simon	Muil	Insurance Partnership/Employee Benefits	(413) 896-0080	smuil@4ip.org
Sonia	Negroni	Caring Health Center	(417) 779-1100, x2130	snegroni@caringhealthct.org
Tammy	O'Connell	Cooley Dickinson Hospital	(413) 582-2846	tammy_oconnell@cooley-dickinson.org
Maritza	Reyes	Baystate Health System	(413) 794-0618	maritza.reyes@bhs.org
Nikki	Riel	Department of Public Health	(413) 773-5555, x254	nriel@fchcc.org
Anne	Rosen	Community Partners Inc.	(413) 253-4283, x19	arosen@comparters.org
Aria	Sampson	Franklin Medical Center	(413) 773-2514	aria.sampson@bhs.org
Kim	Scammon	Tapestry Health	(413) 548-9992	kgscammon@yahoo.com
Jessica	Tierney	Tapestry Health	(413) 582-0192	jtierney@tapestryhealth.org
James	Wolejko	Stavros - Center for Independent Living Inc.	(413) 256-0473, x216	jwolejko@stavros.org

# Western Massachusetts Health Access Network

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COMMUNITY PARTNERS, INC.

Friday, December 7, 2007  
Jones Library, Downstairs Meeting Room  
Amherst, Massachusetts

Next Month's Meeting,  
Friday, January 4:

*Nancy Turnbull* of the Connector Board  
and Harvard School of Public Health  
will discuss health care reform:  
Where are we now? What happens next?

## AGENDA

- 9:50 AM Refreshments and settle in
- 10:00 Welcome, introductions; review agenda and materials
- 10:15 Community updates
- 10:55 State program and policy developments:  
*Jennifer Chow*, Health Care For All
- 11:20 How to help clients having problems with health care reform:  
*Barbara Anthony*, Executive Director and *Georgia Maheras*,  
Staff Attorney, Health Law Advocates
- 12:00 Adjourn

## Group Mission and Agreements

The Western Massachusetts Health Access Network (HAN) meeting is designed to bring together individuals, organizations, and systems around health care access issues in Massachusetts. Though participants may embrace different perspectives on how best to expand health care services, all are committed to improving access to care for low and moderate-income members of their communities.

HAN meeting participants generally fall within three different groups. The first group consists of the community-based organizations that provide frontline services to individuals in need of health benefits. The second group is the state agencies that run the state's publicly funded health care programs. And the third is a group of advocates that track public policy and promote community engagement in health access issues on a legislative level.

Community Partner's role in HAN is to facilitate the meetings and to create a safe space in which people are comfortable engaging with one another on issues related to health care access. Community Partners also provides administrative support for these meetings.

The meetings serve 4 objectives:

1. to exchange information among meeting participants
2. to build relationships and support one another in our collective work
3. to share experiences and best practices, and
4. to advocate for increases in the number of people who receive the health care services they need

## Group Agreements

1. Listen respectfully. Talk one at a time
2. Everyone will be heard
3. Act as a reliable resource for others – bring printed information to share
4. Welcome new people – this is not a closed group
5. Appreciate our successes
6. Give constructive criticism
7. Respect that there is a limited amount of time for everyone to speak
8. Have a clear agenda
9. Start and end on time
10. Provide meeting-to-meeting follow-up
11. Explain acronyms