DUAL ELIGIBLES IN MASSACHUSETTS: A PROFILE OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND SPENDING FOR NON-ELDERLY ADULTS ENROLLED IN BOTH MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

Monday, September 26, 2011 SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Robin Callahan MassHealth

Robin Callahan is the Deputy Medicaid Director for Policy and Programs. She oversees the Office of Policy & Planning and the new of Office of Integrated Care Delivery. Her unit is responsible for MassHealth managed care and fee-for-service programs in primary, acute, behavioral health, and long-term services and supports with a focus on developing integrated programs, services, and payment modalities that address the unique needs of our core populations. Robin has been a part of the Medicaid Team since 1994 and has served the agency and its members in a number of key roles. She leads the state's Children's Health Insurance Program and home- and community-based waivers, the Money Follows the Person grant to expand community-based services for elders and people with disabilities, and the Duals Integrated Care Initiative. Robin has also been responsible for the realignment of MassHealth's program structure to plan and implement federal health care reform and coordinated the agency's relationships with a range of key external stakeholders. In her time at MassHealth, Robin has also served as Director of Waiver and CHIP Administration and Director of Eligibility Operations. Robin is a graduate of Princeton University.

Ellen Breslin Davidson BD Group

Ellen Breslin Davidson is a health-care consultant with BD Group and provides a range of consulting services to agencies, including state Medicaid programs, foundations, and managed health care organizations. Ellen's recent clients include the Massachusetts Medicaid Policy Institute at the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation, the National Center on Family Homelessness, and Autism Speaks. Before consulting, Ellen worked for nearly two decades for the state and federal governments. Ellen was the first director of the Managed Care Reimbursement and Analysis Unit for Massachusetts Medicaid. In that position, she developed and negotiated the key financial provisions for all managed-care programs, including capitation rates and risk adjustment. Prior to that, she was a principal analyst for the U.S. Congressional Budget Office, where she worked on national health care reform and wrote analytic reports and testimony for the Congress. Ellen holds a master's degree in public policy from Duke University.

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Tony Dreyfus BD Group

Tony Dreyfus is a health-care consultant with BD Group and provides a range of consulting services to state Medicaid programs, non-profit foundations, and managed-health care organizations. Tony's recent clients include the Massachusetts Medicaid Policy Institute at the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation, the National Center on Family Homelessness, and Autism Speaks. Tony's career includes working as an analyst and writer in health care economics, finance and statistics. He began in the field at Medicaid Working Group (MWG), a project at the B.U. School of Public Health to help states create model managed care and financing for people with disability; and as a consultant to Community Medical Alliance, Boston, a health plan for people with AIDS or serious physical disability. Working under Richard Kronick, Dreyfus worked to develop large multiple regression models that use diagnoses to predict health care expenditures and adjust payments for Medicaid and Medicare beneficiaries. The Chronic Illness and Disability Payment System has been adopted by more than a dozen state Medicaid programs.

Deborah Ekstrom Community Healthlink

Deborah Ekstrom is the President and CEO of Community Healthlink, a nonprofit provider of comprehensive mental health, addiction and homeless services that serves central Massachusetts and is a part of UMass Memorial Health Care. Deborah has worked in public sector behavioral healthcare for 30 years—in public sector managed behavioral healthcare in several states, including service on the original management team of the Massachusetts Medicaid behavioral health carveout; consulting engagements with both purchasers and providers; and senior management positions in four different nonprofit providers in Massachusetts. She is the immediate past Chair of the Association for Behavioral Healthcare (ABH), which represents more than 80 providers of community-based behavioral health services. She holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Whittier College and a Masters in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She lives in the city of Worcester.

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Dennis G. Heaphy Disability Policy Consortium

Dennis G. Heaphy is a healthcare analyst with the Disability Policy Consortium (DPC), a Massachusetts-based disabilities rights organization. Dennis is co-chair of Disability Advocates Advancing our Healthcare Rights (DAAHR), a coalition of disability and other healthcare advocates working on the Dual Eligibles Initiative and broader healthcare reform. Prior to working at DPC, Dennis' experience includes serving as Americans with Disabilities Act Project Coordinator for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and consultant to the North Carolina and Massachusetts Departments of Public Health. He has been a presenter at APHA and has been a primary or secondary author of articles in professional publications on topics related to health and disability. He is particularly interested in cultural competency and health inequities impacting persons with disabilities in ethnic and minority populations. Dennis holds an MDiv, MEd and MPH.

Robert J. Master, MD Commonwealth Care Alliance

Bob Master is a practicing physician, board-certified in internal medicine with over 30 years of experience in the clinical management of patients with advanced chronic illness and disability. In 2003, Bob was awarded a Soros/Open Society Institute two-year fellowship and concurrently became the President and CEO of Commonwealth Care Alliance. Prior to his role at Commonwealth Care Alliance, Bob served as CEO at Community Medical Alliance, an experimental HMO caring for individuals with severe disabilities and AIDS under a pre-paid financing arrangement with Massachusetts Medicaid. He was also Chief Medical Officer at Neighborhood Health Plan, a non-profit, community health center based health plan serving 130,000 low income, mostly Medicaid eligible individuals in Massachusetts.

From 1988-1995, Bob was the Chair of the Health Services Department of the Boston University School of Public Health and remains on the faculty as an Associate Professor of Public Health teaching courses in managed care and special population programs.

Bob also served as the medical director of the Massachusetts Medicaid program in the Dukakis administration and was the first physician and Medical Director at the Upham's Corner Health Center. In addition, he was founder of the Urban Medical Group in Boston where new approaches to nursing home and home medical care using nurse practitioners were defined.