

**Louisiana Health Care Commission (LHCC)
Affordable Care Act (ACA) Working Group
Poydras Building Hearing Room
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
September 19, 2014**

Members present: Eric Baumgartner, Brian Burton, Linda Hawkins, Bridgette Jamison, Sandra Slifer and Alma Stewart

Staff present: Crystal Marchand Campbell, Kristen Kieren and Vanessa Vince

The meeting began at 9:31 a.m. and everyone introduced themselves.

Ms. Tai Istre, Office of Technology Services, State Census Data Center, Division of Administration discussed various organizations and programs that collect health insurance information that may be beneficial to the Working Group. She advised the members that although she is not familiar with interpreting the health data, she can assist in ways of finding the information that is available. She suggested that when reviewing a report or document to try to determine the source of the data to ensure that it is reliable information.

Ms. Istre stated that the U.S. Census Bureau Census Data is a good source of information and provided examples of four comparisons of data sources:

- The Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS ASEC)
- The American Community Survey (ACS)
- The Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) Program
- The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)

She stated that the CPS ASEC provides data for the nation, states, region and divisions. She also stated that it provides labor force data. Ms. Istre advised that the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes an unemployment rate every month and it stems from the current population survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. She stated that the ACS is an ongoing survey that was implemented in 2005 and samples approximately 3.5 million addresses per year. She advised that the ACS collects data on a wide range of demographics and did not begin collecting health insurance information until 2008. She further explained that the ACS provides one year, three year and five year estimates on data. Ms. Istre advised that one year estimates are for areas with a population of 65,000 people or more, three year estimates are for areas with populations of 20,000 or more and five year estimates are for all entities. She stated that one year estimates are the most current data and in Louisiana, only 17 parishes meet that population threshold. She stated that the ACS does not count the population, but measures the characteristics of the population. Ms. Istre stated that all estimates are released every year; the one year estimate is released in September, three year estimate is released in October and five year estimate is released in December. Ms. Istre also advised that data is published in American Fact Finder: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/>

The ACA Working Group members discussed the Metrics Dashboard which contains statistics on uninsured data and includes the source of the information. The members discussed amending the document with additional metrics as needed or as information becomes available.

Mr. Brian Burton briefed the members on a recent public meeting held by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and shared information regarding the ACA. He stated that there will be three navigator entities this year, which is a reduction from four navigators last year. Mr. Burton advised that the National Healthy Start program is a new navigator entity and will be in several different regions in Louisiana. He further advised that additional information on upcoming changes for the federal poverty level, how it will affect the subsidies, new and renewal enrollments, government resources and contact information were also discussed at the CMS meeting.

Ms. Linda Hawkins advised that a request was made to invite a CMS representative to the next LHCC meeting and suggested inviting Ms. Gaye Humphrey from Dallas, Texas. Mr. Burton also suggested contacting Ms. Veronica Moore, a local CMS representative for Region 6.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.