From:    NASHP News <Newsletter@nashp.org>

To:    Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov

Date:    9/27/2016 11:50:50 AM

Subject:    NASHP News: NASHP to unveil new proposals to reduce prescription costs at #NASHPconf16, Minnesota Accountable Community for Health blog, and more!

## Newsletter

*September 27, 2016*

### NASHP to unveil new proposals to reduce prescription costs at #NASHPconf16

Our Tuesday morning plenary *A Call to Action on Pharmacy Prices: Findings from NASHP's Workgroup* will present preliminary findings from NASHP's workgroup of state officials seeking new approaches to address rising pharmacy prices. The work of this group will engage all state purchasers and use the levers of policy, purchasing, and regulation. Attendees will hear directly from members of the workgroup and learn more about a new initiative to help Medicaid agencies better address the cost issue

Panelists:

- Trish Riley , Executive Director NASHP
- Nathan Johnson , Chief Policy Officer, Washington State Health Care Authority
- Representative Norm Thurston , Utah House District 64

### Minnesota Accountable Community for Health Saves Money through Local Opioid Prevention Initiative

Our latest blog looks at how Minnesota's Accountable Community for Health (ACH) model is paving the way for communities to develop innovative solutions to some of the nation's toughest health issues. This blog describes how the Unity ACH in Morrison County, Minnesota saved Medicaid $2.7 million over just eight months through reduced

emergency room visits and prescription opioid claims. The innovative model, which takes a whole-person approach to prevention, may hold helpful lessons for state policymakers seeking to develop sustainable community-based prevention initiatives in their own states. Read the blog.

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## Don't forget Early Bird Pricing Ends This Friday!

**Question**: Where will all the leading state health policy leaders be October 17-19?

**Answer**: In Pittsburgh at #NASHPconf16 - don't miss out, register now !

*700 attendees from all 50 states, discussing the health policy issues most important to you.*

**Register Now!**

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## CMS Issues State Innovation Models Request for Information

In case you missed it (ICYMI): CMS released a request for information (RFI) to solicit stakeholder feedback on state-based payment and delivery system reforms to help shape future federal-state initiatives. Since 2013 through the State Innovation Model (SIM) initiative, CMS has supported states in exploring payment and delivery reforms. HHS is now seeking input on how to evolve such efforts that both leverage lessons learned and consider how to implement models under the Medicare Access and Reauthorization Act (MACRA). We encourage state officials to seize this opportunity and share feedback by the October 28, 2016 deadline.

For an update on ongoing SIM work, see the recently released Year Two Evaluation Report for Round 1 SIM Test Awards . Key findings are also highlighted in this CMS blog .

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## Upcoming CMS Webinar: Linking & Merging Data Sources

In 2014, CMS launched a collaborative between the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS) and the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) called the Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP). The goal of IAP is to improve the care and health for Medicaid beneficiaries and reduce costs by supporting states' ongoing payment and service delivery reforms through targeted technical support.

As part of their efforts to roll out what they and their partner states have learned from the first year of the Reducing Substance Use Disorders program area, CMS invites you to join their next national dissemination webinar on **Wednesday, September 28, 2016** from **3:30 - 5:00 PM** EDT. In this webinar, entitled "*Linking & Merging Data Sources* ", participants will discuss merging Substance Use Disorder (SUD) related data sources with other state databases. Specifically, the discussion will focus on how using different data sources can provide additional insight on a patient's continuum of care when services are paid for by Medicaid and other state agencies. There will be three featured state partners on the webinar panel to discuss their efforts to actively link or merge data and field your questions. On this webinar:

- Connecticut will discuss how it is using distributed data networks to answer questions about their SUD population demographics, care outcomes and costs;

- Washington will discuss how it has designed meaningful measurement concepts that enable policy analyses, program evaluations, predictive modeling and performance management; and
- Oregon will share how it developed a system to combine SUD block grant data with Medicaid claims data to analyze treatment outcomes and share information with providers.

**Register Now**

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## Open Position: Policy Analyst - Emerging Issues Team

The National Academy for State Health Policy is seeking a Policy Associate to join our Emerging Issues team. Work will focus on state health insurance and exchanges; prescription drug and other health care costs; as well as a wide array of issues that confront states. The Policy Associate is a mid- level position and applicants should have strong analytic and writing skills and ability to work closely with state officials and the NASHP team. Experience in state government, particularly working in a state based exchange, insurance department tor legislative staff, is strongly preferred. This position may be located in either Portland, ME or Washington D.C. **For more information or to see more health policy jobs**

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### National Academy for State Health Policy

*The National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) is an independent academy of state health policymakers who are dedicated to helping states achieve excellence in health policy and practice. A non-profit and non-partisan organization, NASHP provides a forum for constructive work across branches and agencies of state government on critical health policy issues. For more information visit www.nashp.org.*

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