

From: NASHP News <Newsletter@nashp.org>  
To: Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov  
Date: 12/8/2015 11:12:55 AM  
Subject: NASHP News: New brief on CHWs, update on SBM enrollment and more

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## Newsletter

December 8, 2015

### **New Brief:** [Community Health Workers in the Wake of Health Care Reform: Considerations for State and Federal Policymakers](#)

As states and the nation transform their health systems, many policymakers are turning to community health workers (CHWs). Our new [brief](#) looks at how CHWs are tackling some of the most challenging aspects of health improvement such as facilitating care coordination, enhancing access to community-based services, mitigating the impacts of the social determinants of health, reducing health disparities, and containing costs. In light of the many emerging CHW models nationwide, state and federal policymakers need information and evidence to guide their decisions on CHW engagement, recruitment and retention, training, credentialing, and financing. Read the full [brief](#).

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### [An Update on Open Enrollment in the State-Based Marketplaces](#)

The winter holiday season is in full swing and as many people are counting down to their celebrations, the marketplaces are counting down to the December 15 deadline to receive coverage by January 1 (December 23 for Massachusetts and Rhode Island). To date, the marketplaces have reported steady progress on enrollment. [See enrollment updates](#) from the SBMs as they wrap-up the first month of open enrollment.

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## Policy Levers Key for Primary Health Care Organizations to Support Primary Care Practices in Meeting Medical Home Expectations

*Comparing Leading States to the Australian Experience*

A new [study](#) looks at how leading states stack up to Australia on organizing primary care. Colorado, North Carolina, and Oregon have implemented regionally based Medicaid-funded primary health care organizations (PHCOs) as vehicles to strengthen their primary care foundations and improve the capacity of practices. Several countries with highly ranked delivery systems have implemented similar models. This study's purpose was to determine if and how these kinds of organizations were working with primary care practices to improve their ability to provide comprehensive, coordinated, and accessible patient-centered care that met quality, safety, and efficiency outcomes—all core attributes of a medical home. The [study](#) found that the models implemented by the three states and the Commonwealth of Australia were all engaging practices to meet a number of medical home expectations, but the state models were more uniform in efforts to work with practices and focused on arranging services to meet the needs of complex patients. Read the full study [here](#).

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### Webinar: [HCCI Emerging Issues of Claims Data Webinar](#) Part II

December 9, 2015

4:00pm ET

The [second](#) of a two-part webinar series will focus on how external policies effect state health care markets, including findings looking at how provider consolidation, reference-based pricing initiatives, and the Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Act may impact states. NASHP Executive Director **Trish Riley** will moderate, with speakers including **Scott Leitz**, HCCI's Vice President of Stakeholder Engagement, University of Chicago Professor **Dr. Rena Conti**, UC Berkeley Research Economist **Dr. Christopher Whaley**, and University of Colorado at Denver Professor **Dr. Benjamin Miller**.

[Register Now](#)

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### Save-the-Date

NASHP's 29th Annual State Health Policy  
Conference

October 17-19, 2016

Wyndham Grand

Pittsburgh, PA

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### Grand Prize Winner Announced

Thank you to everyone who attended the [28th Annual State Health Policy Conference](#), and to those who completed the post-conference survey. Your input and feedback helps continue to improve our annual conference. Congratulations to **Debra Sisco**, Supervisor, Rates & Cost ContainmentNevada SIM Director, Design Grant State of Nevada Division of Health Care Financing

& Policy Rates & Cost Containment Unit, winner of our evaluation grand prize - a trip to the 29th Annual State Health Policy Conference in Pittsburgh, PA.

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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](http://www.nashp.org).*

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