



Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange
SHOP Advisory Committee
Special Meeting

Remote Meeting

Tuesday, March 4, 2025
Draft Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Grant Ritter (Chair); Shelly Sweatt; Matthew Katz; Pamela Russek; Paul Lombardo
(Subject Matter Expert – Connecticut Insurance Department)

Other Participants:

Access Health CT (AHCT) Staff: James Michel; John Carbone; Susan Rich-Bye;
Marcin Olechowski

Kunnal Khanna, New Fields Technologies

The Meeting of the SHOP Advisory Committee was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Grant Ritter called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Chair Ritter expressed his words of appreciation to Ellen Skinner for serving on the Committee for many years. Roll call for attendance was taken.

II. Public Comment

No public comment was submitted.

III. Review and Approval of Minutes

Chair Grant Ritter requested a motion to approve the August 13, 2024 SHOP Advisory Committee Special Meeting Minutes. Motion was made by Pamela Russek and was seconded by Matthew Katz. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.**

IV. Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangements Update

John Carbone, Director of Small Business, Product Development and Broker Support, provided the Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangement (ICHRA) update.

Mr. Carbone noted that over the past several months, AHCT has been actively working on evaluating and refining the online ICHRA platform to meet the diverse needs of Connecticut residents. The platform is called BusinessPlus; it will house small group products which would allow employers to shop for the Stand-Alone Dental (SADP) insurance products as well.

During this time, AHCT has been focused on ensuring usability for a seamless experience while maintaining compliance and achieving scalability to adapt to the needs of the evolving marketplace. AHCT has been building this platform in-house with its vendor, New Fields Technology.

Mr. Carbone briefly mentioned the federal rules governing the use of ICHRA's; these rules will be strictly followed on the platform. The platform is also broker, employee and employer friendly.

Advertising and outreach of the ICHRA program was briefly discussed. Currently, the project is in its beta stage where it is being tested by brokers.

Mr. Carbone encouraged feedback from the members of the Committee following a demonstration of the platform; a full presentation will be conducted at one of the Committee's future meetings.

Brief discussion ensued on marketing efforts and the platform and reaching out to nonprofits and associations to promote the product.

V. Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangements Demo

Kunal Khanna from New Fields Technologies provided the ICHRA platform demonstration. Mr. Carbone noted that the platform is still in the beta stage and some of the features and language used may change as it becomes finalized.

Discussion followed on working on eventually integrating connections to other exchanges on the platform. The broker support system was also briefly discussed.

Discussion followed about marketing materials shared during the meeting, and members offered suggestions on how to make it more appealing.

Matthew Katz praised Ellen Skinner for her work on the Committee since its inception. James Michel, CEO, answering Mr. Katz's inquiry, noted that retiring Committee members are sent thank you letters and commemorative plaques.

VI. Adjournment

Chair Grant Ritter requested a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Pamela Russek and was seconded by Matthew Katz. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.