

## Western Massachusetts

# Health Access Network notes



**COMMUNITY PARTNERS, INC.**

January 4, 2008  
Jones Library – Amherst, MA  
Meeting Notes

### Attendance:

Magda	Ahmed	Department of Public Health	(413) 586-7525, x1141	magda.ahmed@state.ma.us
Shirley	Allen	Caring Health Center	(413) 739-1100, x1018	sallen@caringhealth.org
Laura	Anderson	Community Partners Inc.	(413) 253-4283	landerson@comparters.org
John	Bergeron	Hilltown Community Health Center	(413) 667-2203	jbergeron@hchcweb.org
Molly	Butler	Department of Public Health	(413) 586-7525, x1148	Molly.Butler@state.ma.us
Martina	Carroll	Stavros - Center for Independent Living Inc.	(413) 256-0473, x213	mcarroll@stavros.org
Jennifer	Chow	Health Care For All	(617) 275-2813	chow@hcfama.org
Michael	DeChiara	Community Partners Inc.	(413) 253-4283, x12	mdechiara@comparters.org
Jennifer	Dube	North Quabbin Community Coalition	(978) 249-3703, x302	jennifer@nqcc.org
Paul	Dunphy	Office of Representative Stephen Kulik	(413) 665-7200	paul@stevekulik.org
Jessica	DuPont	SHINE	(413) 750-2893	jdupont@springfieldcityhall.com
Brian	Eno	Community Action	(978) 249-5634	beno@communityaction.us
Carolyn	Ford	Human Service Forum	(413) 693-0203	cford@humanserviceforum.org
Allison	Graczykowski	BMC HealthNet Plan	(413) 730-4842	allison.graczykowski@bmchp.org
Carolyn	Heiden	Franklin Medical Center	(413) 773-2725	carolyn.heiden@bhs.org
Octavio	Hernandez	Community Health Programs	(413) 644-0104, x15	ohernandez@chpberkshires.org

Michelle	Hill	Accent on Health-HCAP	(413) 447-2397	mhill@bhs1.org
Lisa Renee	Holderby	Massachusetts Community Health Worker (MACHW)	(617) 524-6696, x102	holderbylr@aol.com
Jan	Klausner-Wise	Office of Representative Ellen Story	(413) 253-3690	jklausw@comcast.net
Meg	Kroepelin	Community Partners Inc.	(413) 253-4283	mkroepelin@comparters.org
Vanessa	Martinez	Community Health Connections	(978) 847-0110	vmartinez@chcfhc.org
Ada	Masiero	Community Health Center of the Berkshires	(413) 528-8580, x5468	chcbada@yahoo.com
Nicholas	Mazanec	Western Massachusetts Legal Services	(413) 584-4034	NMazanec@wmls.org
Moryn	Mendoza	Tapestry Health	(413) 734-3133, x458	mmendoza@tapestryhealth.org
Dan	Moraski	Social Security Administration	(413) 785-5891, x3064	daniel.moraski@ssa.gov
Simon	Muil	Insurance Partnership/Employee Benefits	(413) 896-0080	smuil@4ip.org
Kristen	Peterson	Community Action	(413) 376-1173	KPeterson@communityaction.us
Nikki	Riel	Franklin County Home Care	(413) 773-5555, x254	nriel@fchcc.org
Taj Kamav	Robinson	Caring Health Center	(413) 693-1029	trobenson@caringhealth.org
Anne	Rosen	Community Partners Inc.	(413) 253-4283, x19	arosen@comparters.org
Aria	Sampson	Franklin Medical Center	(413) 773-2514	aria.sampson@bhs.org
Kim	Scammon	Tapestry Health	(413) 548-9992	kgscammon@yahoo.com
Suzanne	Smith	Tapestry Health	(413) 586-2016, x127	ssmith@tapestryhealth.org
David	Spencer	Volunteers in Medicine	(413) 655-8602	cdavidspencer@ix.netcom.com
Jessica	Tierney	Tapestry Health	(413) 582-0192	jtierney@tapestryhealth.org
Aurora	Vicente	Holyoke Community Health Center	(413) 420-2183	aurora.vicente@hhcinc.org
Heather	Warner	Casa Latina	(413) 586-1569	hwarner@schoolph.umass.edu
Kevin	Weir	Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership	(413) 322-1801	kevin.weir@valueoptions.com
James	Wolejko	Stavros - Center for Independent Living Inc.	(413) 256-0473, x216	jwolejko@stavros.org
Thomas	Wolff	Tom Wolff & Associates	(413) 253-2646	tom@tomwolff.com

# Western Massachusetts Health Access Network

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COMMUNITY PARTNERS, INC.

Friday, January 4, 2008

Jones Library, Downstairs Meeting Room  
Amherst, Massachusetts

Next month's meeting,  
Friday, February 1:

Special guests will discuss the  
problem of "churn" in health  
plans and ways to avoid it.

## AGENDA

9:50 AM Refreshments and settle in

10:00 Welcome, introductions; review agenda and materials

10:15 Community updates

10:55 State program and policy developments:  
Health Care For All

11:20 Health Care Reform: It's 2008 – Where are we now?  
What happens next?

*Nancy Turnbull*, Harvard School of Public Health and Health  
Connector Board member

12:00 Adjourn

## Group Mission and Agreements

The Western Massachusetts Health Access Network (HAN) meeting is designed to bring together individuals, organizations, and systems around health care access issues in Massachusetts. Though participants may embrace different perspectives on how best to expand health care services, all are committed to improving access to care for low and moderate-income members of their communities.

HAN meeting participants generally fall within three different groups. The first group consists of the community-based organizations that provide frontline services to individuals in need of health benefits. The second group is the state agencies that run the state's publicly funded health care programs. And the third is a group of advocates that track public policy and promote community engagement in health access issues on a legislative level.

Community Partner's role in HAN is to facilitate the meetings and to create a safe space in which people are comfortable engaging with one another on issues related to health care access. Community Partners also provides administrative support for these meetings.

The meetings serve 4 objectives:

1. to exchange information among meeting participants
2. to build relationships and support one another in our collective work
3. to share experiences and best practices, and
4. to advocate for increases in the number of people who receive the health care services they need

## Group Agreements

1. Listen respectfully. Talk one at a time
2. Everyone will be heard
3. Act as a reliable resource for others – bring printed information to share
4. Welcome new people – this is not a closed group
5. Appreciate our successes
6. Give constructive criticism
7. Respect that there is a limited amount of time for everyone to speak
8. Have a clear agenda
9. Start and end on time
10. Provide meeting-to-meeting follow-up
11. Explain acronyms