PARTNERSHIP HEALTHPLAN OF CALIFORNIA (PARTNERSHIP) MEETING MINUTES

PARTNERSHIP

HEALTHPLAN

of CALIFORNIA

A Public Agency

Committee: Physician Advisory Committee
Date / Time: June 11, 2025 - 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.

Voting members are required to attend in-person at one of Partnership HealthPlan's posted locations.

Members	Steven Gwiazdowski, MD (FF)	Danielle Oryn, DO	Malia Honda, MD (E)	FF Fairfield	MCC Marin Community Clinics
Present:	Angela Brennan, DO (FF)	Darrick Nelson, MD (R)	Matthew Zavod, MD (FF)	SR Santa Rosa E Eureka	OMM Office of Dr. Matheson SH Sutter Health Roseville
	Brent Pottenger, MD (FF)	Derice Seid, MD (MCC)	Michele Herman, MD (FF)	E Eureкa R Redding	SL Sutter Health Lakeside
	Candy Stockton, MD (E)	John McDermott, FNP (C)	Mills Matheson, MD (OMM)	C Chico	SE Suiter Treatm Euxestac
	Chris Myers, MD (E)	Karen Sprague, MSN, CFNP	Teresa Shinder, DO (FF)	AUAuburn	
	Christine Lasich, MD (SL)	Karina Gookin, MD (AU)			

Members Excused:

Mustaffa Ammar, MD

Chester Austin, MD

Vanessa Walker, DO

Members

Absent:

Visitor:

Dr. Brian Montenegro, NorthBay Neonatology Associates, Director of Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, NorthBay Hospital, Fairfield, CA

Partnership Staff:

Sonja Bjork, Chief Executive Officer Jennifer Lopez, Chief Financial Officer Wendi Davis, Chief Operating Officer Leigha Andrews, Regional Director Mary Kerlin, Sr. Dir., Prov. Relations (PR) Lisa O'Connell, Director of Enhanced

Health Services

Doreen Crume, RN, N. Mgr. Care Coord. Stephanie Nakatani, Supervisor, Provider

Relations Representatives Vicky Klakken, Dir., North Region

Brigid Gast, RN, Dir. of CC

Robert Moore, MD, Chief Medical Officer Katherine Barresi, RN, Chief Health Services Officer Colleen Townsend, MD, Region Medical Director Mark Netherda, MD, Medical Director for Quality Jeffrey DeVido, MD, Behavioral Health Clinical Dir. Stan Leung, Pharm.D., Director, Pharmacy Services Vacant, RN, Assoc. Dir. UM Strategies Sue Quichocho, Mgr., Quality Measurement Amy McCune, Manager of QI Programs Bradley Cox, MD, Northeast Region Medical Director

James Cotter, MD, Associate Medical Director

Jeffrey Ribordy, MD, Region Medical Director
R. Doug Matthews, MD, Region Medical Director
Marshall Kubota, MD, Region Medical Director
Teresa Frankovich, MD, Associate Medical Director
Nancy Steffen, Dir., Quality & Perf. Improvement
Heather Esget, RN, Director, Utilization Mgmt. (UM)
Kevin Jarret-Lee, RN, Assoc. Dir. of UM
Kristine Gual, Director, Quality Measurement
Isaac Brown, Director, Quality Management
Mohamed Jalloh, Pharm.D., Director, Health Equity
Megan Shelton, Project Manager, Quality Improvement
DeLorean Ruffin, DrPH, Director, Population Health
David Lavine, Assoc. Dir. of Workforce Development

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTION	DATE RESOLVED
Public Comments	PAC Chairperson asked for any public comments. None presented.	N/A	N/A
Quorum	17/20 – PAC	Committee quorum requirements met (17).	06/11/25

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS For information only, no formal action required.				
I.A. Chief	Partnership's Chief Health Services Officer provided the following Partnership activities on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).				
Executive	Tarthership's officer freath services officer provided the following rarthership activities on behalf of the officer (ODO).				
Officer Report	Health Equity Progress				
1	Partnership to submit National Coalition for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Health Equity Accreditation (HEA) application on June 17, 2025 and will be				
	formally notified of results in September.				
	• Partnership working with Rival to offer Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) training to all providers in Partnership's network in compliance with				
	Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) All Plan Letter (APL).				
	• Communicare+Ole has agreed to be a pilot site for training 78 of their clinicians and providing feedback.				
	A phased approach will be used for new providers joining Partnership's network in the future.				
	State Budget				
	Governor Newsom released the <u>May budget revise</u> showing a 12B dollar deficit.				
	Despite that gap, Medi-Cal Medicaid program has increased spending of about \$15 billion year-over-year to a total budgeted package of a 195B				
	dollars.				
	• Discussions are being had regarding Proposition 35 dollars, pharmacy benefits, and potential elimination of acupuncture benefits.				
	• The largest impact will be on those who have unsatisfactory immigration status (UIS) proposing a freeze on new enrollments and implementation of a \$100 copay for those currently enrolled no sooner than 1 January 2027.				
	 Anticipating a 25% disenrollment rate to MediCal as a result. 				
	 State budget will be finalized in July 2025 				
	Federal Budget				
	Monitoring H.R.1 One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBB) for impacts.				
	Potential Impacts				
	Freeze on provider taxes				
	• Work requirements all eligible beneficiaries to demonstrate that they are actively seeking work or actively employed beginning 1 January 2029.				
	Financial penalties for states providing Medicaid benefits to UIS members.				
	Legislative Advocacy				
	• Several California associations such as Local Health Plans of California (LHPC) and California Primary Care Association (CPCA) have met to discuss				
	state and federal landscape and send letters to California legislature regarding the budget.				
	• Partnership executives have attended meetings in Washington D.C. to share members' stories so others understand the potential impacts to real people.				
	Dual Special Needs Program (D-SNP)				
	Partnership Advantage to be delayed to 1 January 2027 due to allow adequate testing and implementation of Health Rules Player (HRP) systems				
	integration at Partnership HealthPlan.				
	Questions				
	In regard to H.R.10BB, is there a line item around gender-affirming care? Can we continue to provide for patients? Will their hormones be covered?				
	California legislators will have to make decisions regarding covering benefits that may be excluded from federal approval based on several factors. Guidance has not yet been provided so it is too soon to know how gender-affirming care will be affected in the future.				

AGENDA	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS			
ITEM	For information only, no formal action required.			
I.B. Chief Medical Officer				
Health Services Report	 Legislative Update Governor Newsom proposed changes to Medicaid for undocumented workers in efforts to save an estimated \$5 billion. Beginning January 2026, new enrollees aged 19 years or older would no longer be accepted if they lack permanent legal status Those already enrolled will not lose Medi-Cal coverage, and children are still eligible, but adults may face a \$100 per month premium starting in 2027. Partnership Activities 2024 Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) final results to be submitted in May. Results will be reported in August. Primary Care Provider Quality Incentive Payments (PCPQIP) checks are in the process of being approved and mailed. PCP QIP Results 390 sites participating, up from 252 in 2023, largely due to geographical expansion and addition of 10 new counties in 2024 Average adjusted score dropped from 68% to 59% due to a couple of factors: 			
	 Threshold targets were increased to pre-pandemic thresholds, making them harder to achieve. Legacy counties reaching 75th percentile received partial credit. Legacy counties reaching 90th percentile received full credit. Expansion counties reaching 50th percentile in the first year received full credit. Approximately \$52 million was earned by all the sites for all the different factors, including about \$1M for unit of service incentives. Many sites with at least 50 members assigned scored above 90th percentile in addition to two private practices. Private Practice West Marin Medical Center (100%) Shasta Family Care (91%) 			
	• Medical Groups • Sutter Medical (Yolo) (95%) • NorthBay Center for Primary Care, Hilborn Clinic (93%) • Queen of the Valley Medical Associates, Trancas (92%) • Marin Community Clinics • Larkspur (98%) • Greenbrae (97%) • San Rafael Campus Clinic (94%) • San Rafael Clinic (92%) • Navato (92%) • South Navato (92%)			
	 Communicare+Ole St. Helena (98%) Calistoga (98%) Napa (90%) Santa Rosa Community Health, Lombardi (93%) Petaluma Health Center Petaluma (93%) Point Reyes (92%) Mendocino Coast Clinics Pediatric Group (92%) Open Door Community Health Center Ferndale (90%) 			

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I.B. Chief Medical Officer Health Services Report, Continued	 PCP QIP Results, Continued Notable Achievements in Quality Lake County Tribal Health, Round Valley Tribal Health and K'ima:w Medical Center scored 75% or higher. Ampla Health, eight sites scored above weighted average, highest - Yuba City Pediatrics Northern Valley Indian Health, two sites scored above average, highest - Willows clinic. 			
I.C.1. Status Update, Regional Medical	 Partnership's Regional Medical Director for Napa, Solano, and Yolo Counties presented a brief update on activities. Monica Morales has been appointed Director of Yolo County Health and Human Services. Mike Wood has been appointed as an Administrator. Partnership's Pharmacy department has continued efforts with Academic Detailing to improve chronic disease management in area clinics. Kindergarten Roundup vaccination drives are being held in Solano County. UC Davis in Yolo County saw eight cases of pertussis (whooping cough) and has focused on increasing Tdap vaccination rates. Several practices are transitioning to the use of Epic for electronic medical records and experiencing reduction in availability due to need to train staff and ensure smooth integration. Self-swab for cervical cancer screening has been approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA). Partnership has contracted with LabCorp Quest for delivery of those units. Training for use of self-swab kits are available for health care providers upon request. 			
I.C.2. Status Update, Regional Medical	 Partnership's Regional Medical Director for Marin and Sonoma Counties presented a brief update on activities. Continuing to build relationships through meetings with CEO of Sonoma Valley Community Health, Ms. Sarah Brewer, and CEO of Marin Community Clinics, Ms. Brenda Shipp. Area regional clinics are meeting with Partnership to cultivate ideas for access grants. Engaging with Marin Community Health and Wellness in ongoing Quality Improvement efforts. Alliance Medical Center has expanded Behavioral Health access at its Windsor location. 			
I.C.3. Status Update, Regional Medical	 Partnership's Regional Medical Director for Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties presented a brief update on activities. Round Valley Indian Health has appointed Dr. Maria Danilychev as Chief Medical Officer. Mendocino Community Health Centers is acquiring a new site to expand offerings. Sutter Lakeside broke ground on a new building in Hidden Valley Lake. United Indian Health Service in Humboldt County had a grand opening for its Valley East building. Nitrous Oxide abuse continues to be an increasing problem with significant side effects. Partnership's Clinical Director for Behavioral Health recently held a webinar on the issue recommended to review for providers and is available at Partnership's Office of the Chief Medical Officer site. 			
I.C.4. Status Update, Regional Medical	 Partnership's Regional Director for Glenn, Butte, Sutter, and Colusa Counties presented a brief update on activities. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) removed Glenn Medical Center's critical access hospital designation due to distance from competing hospitals. CMS requires a distance of 35 miles or more, and two area hospitals are 33.5 miles and 34 miles away. Glenn Medical Center has filed an appeal. The reimbursement status for the removal of the designation may have long-reaching effects impacting inpatient care beginning in 2026. Several camps of unhoused individuals have seen increased law enforcement activity, and Partnership is working with Yuba Sutter Public Health to ensure members remain able to access care. Efforts to create a street medicine program through the Family Practice Residency in Chico are ongoing. Feather River Tribal Health is expanding in Yuba County. North Valley Medical Society and Butte Glenn Medical Society has a new Executive director: Bridget McBride. 			

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I.C.5. Status Update, Regional Medical	Partnership's Regional Director for Siskiyou, Modoc, Shasta, Lassen, Trinity, and Tehama Counties presented a brief update on activities. • Mobile mammography clinics are being held throughout the region. • Banner Lassen's CEO, Ms. Sandy Dugger, is leaving the area. Mr. Thomas Prescott will serve as interim CEO effective 23 June 2025. • Dr. Eric Skoblar has been appointed Chief Medical Officer at Karuk Tribe Health. • Efforts to improve specialty care access are ongoing throughout region with site visits.			
I.C.6. Status Update, Regional Medical	 te, nonal Rocklin Dermatology, led by Dr. Anna Chacon, has joined Partnership's network Eastern Plumas Healthcare hired a full-time physician with the aid of Partnership's recruitment bonus. 			
II.A Office Practice Update				
AGENDA ITEM	MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL	RECOMMENDATIONS / ACTION	DATE RESOLVED	
III.A.	May 2025 PAC minutes were presented for approval.	MOTION: Dr. Brennan moved to approve Agenda III.A as presented, seconded by, seconded by Dr. Herman. ACTION SUMMARY: [17] yes, [0] no, [0] abstentions.	06/11/25 Motion carried.	
III.B. III.E III.E III.E	Report with Attachments – May 2025 • Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines for Action Policy Summary May 2025 • Credentials Committee Meeting Minutes and Credentialed List, April 9, 2025	MOTION: Dr. Zavod moved to approve Agenda III.B.1, III.B.2, III.B.5 and III.B.7, as presented, seconded by Dr. Herman. ACTION SUMMARY: [17] yes, [0] no, [0] abstentions.	06/11/25 Motion carried.	
III.C III.C	Physician Advisory Committee (PAC) Membership Chair Resignation – Dr. Gwiazdowski	MOTION: Dr. Pottenger moved to approve Agenda III.C.1, as presented, seconded by Ms. Sprague. ACTION SUMMARY: [17] yes, [0] no, [0] abstentions.	06/11/25 Motion carried.	
III.C	2 Chair Nomination – Dr. Angela Brennan	MOTION: Dr. Herman moved to approve Agenda III.C.2, as presented, seconded by Ms. Sprague . ACTION SUMMARY: [17] yes, [0] no, [0] abstentions.	06/11/25 Motion carried.	

AGENDA	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS			
ITEM IV. A	For information only, no formal action required. None			
Old Business AGENDA	None			
ITEM	DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS			
V.A Strategies for Engaging Employees in Quality Improvement Dr. Darrick Nelson, Chief Medical Officer, Shasta	This <u>presentation</u> was given at the CPCA Quality and Technology conference in February 2025 in San Ramon, CA. Dr. Nelson recognized the efforts of Mr. Garrett Olin, Chief Information Officer, and Ms. Rae Sanchez, Shasta Community Health Center Director of Quality Improvement, who helped prepare co present in San Ramon, but were not able to be present for the Physician Advisory Committee meeting. Objectives: Identify and implement strategies to align employee incentives with organizational quality goals. Develop tools to communicate the importance of quality improvement to employees in all roles, fostering a culture of engagement and collaboration. Shasta Community Health Center (SCHC)			
Community Health Center	Who We Are	Overview		
	Mission: To provide high-quality health care to our community with compassion and understanding. Vision: Removing barriers to healthcare and promoting wellness for our entire community. Values: Compassion: Caring with kindness. Adaptability: Finding new ways to meet patients' needs. Respect: Welcoming all with dignity. Education: Creating a learning environment. Service: Dedicated to whole-person care with honesty and integrity. Shasta Community Health Center a california health Center	 Established in 1988 as an FQHC. 8 Locations: Redding, Anderson, and Shasta Lake City In 2024, served 36,400 patients with over 159,559 clinical encounters Services include: Primary care, pediatrics, dental, vision, mental health, urgent care, HIV care, and more. Special focus on homeless care, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse treatment. Team: approximately 500 staff and 100 healthcare providers. 		

AGENDA ITEM				
V.A Strategies for Engaging Employees in Quality Improvement, Continued	At SCHC, we embrace this mindset: Every employee, no matter their role, plays a vital part in our mission to provide high-quality care to our patients. Our Approach: • Aligning incentives and goals. • Empowering all staff to see their impact on quality in healthcare. • Fostering a culture of collaboration and shared accountability			
	Strategies for Engaging Employees in Quality Improvement			
	Staff Education and Engagement Quality Cares Introduced case studies sent to all staff to engage. A quiz is given at the end of the case study for a chance to win a prize. Employee feedback has been positive. Awareness Month Decoration Contests Engaging departments and increasing participation and awareness. Incentives Linked To Quality Performance Each quarter we'll choose a different measure of focus. At the end of the quarter, the department or the clinic that had the most improvement on the particular challenge received a department pizza party, a nice certificate, and a traveling trophy that goes quarterly from department to department. Annual Incentive for non-Primary Care Staff All staff are eligible for a bonus based on performance around organizational quality goals. "Your efforts, our success." We wanted to incentivize them more frequently, and so we devise the system. In our primary care departments, we used cervical cancer screening and depression screening in 2023 and gave them weekly updates on how they're performing by clinic or by department. Each clinic has individual targets. Tools To Enhance Employee Satisfaction Supporting our employees leads to better care for our patients. By improving workflows and removing barriers, we create an environment where both staff and patients feel valued and supported. Investing in tools that support employees ultimately enhances the quality of care for patients. Introduced electronic patient registration where patients can fill out all their paperwork and documents electronically and it goes right into the chart, reducing administrative burden on the staff. Found a new translation company for interpreter services to quickly connect with translator in under five minutes whereas previous company required hold times of 20 minutes or more. Collaboration and Transparency Ongoing engagement Department Updates This is the weekly update that tells where they are by department so they can start to calculate numbers needed to treat or numbers needed to do a s			

AGENDA ITEM		DISCUSSION / CONCLUSIONS			
V.A Strategies for Engaging	Actionable Takeaw	ays			
Employees in Quality Improvement, Continued					
	Design Incentive Systems Create reward structures tied to quality performance. Ensure inclusivity so all employees feel motivated. Shasta Community Health Center a california hall center	Communicate Effectively • Hold regular department meetings to share updates. • Use newsletters or other formats to highlight key projects and outcomes.	Foster Engagement and Collaboration Involve staff at all levels in QI initiatives. Encourage cross- departmental transparency and teamwork.		
VI. Adjournment					
PAC adjourned at 9:03 a.m.		Next PAC on Wednesday	, August 13, 2025 at 7:30 a	ı.m.	
For Signature On The foregoing min	nly nutes were APPROVED AS PRESEN	TED on	Angela Brennan,	D.O., Committee Chairperson	
The foregoing min	nutes were APPROVED WITH MOD	IFICATION on	Angela Brennan,	D.O., Committee Chairperson	