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Notes for Leadership Group from Shiloh Schauer

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To: Deb Miller <deb.miller@communitychoice.us>

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Deb, would you please forward this message to our Leadership Group?

Dear Leadership Group:

I just had a long discussion with Shiloh Schauer, Exec Director at Wen Valley Chamber of Commerce and formerly legislative aide to Senator Parlette. I sent her a summary of our Chelan-Douglas CHI meeting on 4/10, and she responded with some feedback regarding our ACH Governance Proposal. Here are my notes:

The Triple Aim was new to her in spite of its ubiquity in health care reform circles, and she pointed out it will probably be unfamiliar to others in the business community as well. Regarding the idea of reducing per capita health care costs, she wonders what they are now locally. I mentioned that improved data from the All Payer Database should make it possible to get better and local figures on that.

She had no concerns about the Guiding Principles. Most of her comments related to the Governing Board and its relation to the Advisory Council. She compared this proposal to the RSN experience, in which the Advisory Board was powerless and had no formal role in RSN board decisions. If the Advisory Council is to work, it will need to have some bylaws (or be addressed in the overall ACH bylaws) and be a formal part of GB decision making process. She mentioned as an example the way city councils must receive and consider input from certain boards before making related decisions. Shiloh explained she didn't want us to have too onerous a decision-making process, but feels very strongly that the Advisory Council won't have a meaningful role without some sort of formal obligation for the GB to include the Advisory Council in GB decisions.

Shiloh feels very strongly that it is "a critical error" not to have a business representative on the GB. She cited the various places where the business community is listed as one of the sectors to be included, and said that all the other major sectors are accounted for one way or another on the GB – but business is not. I mentioned the tradeoff between manageable board size and broad representation, and she said one more seat won't make the GB unmanageable. She was very emphatic on this – though she did allow that a really functional Advisory Council with business representation could help make up for absence of a business seat on the GB.

She also had some questions about the purpose of the CHIs, and about the reason for different initial terms on GB, but said the explanations made sense.

Shiloh commented that it was hard to see how the GB could assure representation for all counties while having relatively few members, each of which has to be from a particular constituency, especially as membership changes over the years.

Shiloh thought the list of standing committees was a rather odd assortment, though she realizes that will be shaped by the GB in the future.

Regarding the Group Norms, she suggests some need more elaboration, especially the one regarding attendance. She believes attendance ought to be required and that members who miss too many meetings should lose their seats. But she realizes this sort of thing will probably be addressed in bylaws adopted by the GB once it exists.

Shiloh also told me about a very interesting and dynamic group of local business/economic development leaders that has been meeting as an "informal economic development roundtable" in the Wenatchee area for about a year. It includes leaders from the ports, cities, college, chamber, community foundation, and several others. It meets informally but is moving toward getting better organized. They have looked at models like Priorities Spokane and the Coeur d'Alene 2030 Visioning project. She's going to include me in an upcoming meeting, because we agreed this would be a great group to engage in future ACH discussions. Also, when we get back to scheduling "convenings" by Craig Nolte, this might be a good group for him to meet with.

Clearly, Shiloh wants to stay engaged in our ACH work.

Barry Kling, MSPH

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