**Update on Chelan/Douglas Health Care Reform Discussions**

**Invitation to October 31 Workshop**

**9AM-Noon – Wenatchee Community Center – 504 S. Chelan**

Dear Chelan/Douglas Health Care Reform Partners:

We had a useful discussion at the September 26 workshop. I am writing to update you on the results and to invite you to the next session on October 31.

Take home points from the September 26 Chelan/Douglas Workshop on Health Care Reform:

         The Health Care Authority will entertain proposals soon from two communities wishing to become “early adopter” Accountable Communities of Health. Other communities in the state will be termed “Design Communities” working toward later designation as an ACH. ACH regions will be determined for the whole state during 2015.

         Although we would not want to apply to be one of the first two “early adopter” regions, we should continue to participate in the state’s health care reform process as a “Design Community” working toward establishing a North Central Washington Accountable Community of Health (ACH).

         A lot of important details on just what an ACH is and what it would do remain to be resolved. This makes it tough to know exactly what it would mean to become an ACH. But one way or another, every county in the state is going to be part of someone’s ACH. For now it makes sense to be part of the discussion and to position ourselves to become an NCW ACH.

         We need to reach out to a broader range of community partners to get them involved – not just by inviting them to these workshops but by visiting them to explore why this matters for them and what they could contribute.

         One key to maintaining and expanding partner engagement would be to focus on a few specific initiatives.

What’s next? The focus of our October 31 workshop will be to explore key issues involved in moving toward becoming an Accountable Community of Health (ACH). Those include:

         Update on the position of other NCW counties on an NCW ACH.

         Recent developments including RSA designation (for behavioral health) and federal decision regarding funding of the state’s grant proposal.

         Options for organizing and governing an NCW ACH.

         Possible health initiatives to pursue in the coming 6-12 months while working to become an NCW ACH.

Questions? Contact Deb Miller  deb.miller@communitychoice.us , Jesus Hernandez  jesush@communitychoice.us , or Barry Kling, (509-886-6480) barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov.

Want more background material?

Download the January 2014 **State Health Care Innovation Plan (SHCIP)**, outlining the state’s plans for health care reform initiatives over the next few years:

<http://www.hca.wa.gov/shcip/Documents/SHCIP_InnovationPlan.pdf>

The SCHIP Executive Summary is attached.

Download the **State Innovations Model Grant Proposal** – the July 2014 proposal for ~$100M of federal funding to implement the State Health Care Innovation Plan:

<http://www.hca.wa.gov/shcip/Documents/SIM_Grant_App_072214_Final.pdf>