February 23, 2022

**Dear All,**

1. Still waiting issues
2. **HHS $400,000 appropriation**
3. **$250,000 money allocated from the Federal COVID funds**

 I will let you know the minute I hear anything on these issues. If anyone has more information, please contact me and I will send it out to all of the clinics.

1. **The waiver allowing paper prescriptions is LAW!** 

I sent an email on 2/23/22 to all of the clinics with the exact legal language and the announcement of when the change went into effect (2/22/22).

This was our first non appropriation legislative action and we succeeded in making a significant change in the law that benefits our paper chart clinics. Christine Rainey was our key person in this work and 10 dozen red roses does not thank her enough. If you have any questions, please contact Christine at crainey@ferncare.orgcrainey@ferncare.org

1. **Gentle Reminders**

 **FCOM Membership Renewal**

I have attached the application to this update. *Renewal or first time joining is due by March 31.*

The **Clinic Data Survey** was sent out by Jeff Compagner late last week. It is in a Constant Contact survey form format and *due March 15*. IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THAT EMAIL CONTACT JEFF AT JCOMPAGNER@HFHCLINIC.ORG. He will get it to you promptly.

1. **Quality Standards Webinar and discussion and date for the next QS walk through**

On Feb. 17, I held the first Quality Standards discussion and walk-through.

The consensus from the first meeting is that this is not difficult but first time through will probably take an hour to complete because you are noting where you have the documents and if it would be easier to compile the information in a different way to make retrieving the information easier. They did agree that next year it will be not as time consuming…all that will be needed is updating changes/additions.

The next QS webinar and walk through is scheduled for **March 10, Thursday, 10 – 11 am**.

1. **Governor’s General Omnibus 2023 – 2034 Budget Proposal**

I sent out a list of some other appropriations from the proposal that I saw as free and charitable clinic interest. Thank you for the feedback! I will definitely keep an eye on the dental reimbursement changes/ pre-natal care/medication and pharmacy issues. As I said in the email, if I need information for the legislators, I may get in touch with you.

I hope you saw the 2/24/22 Det Free Press – Whitmer Signs Bills on Prescription Regulations. Hopefully all of us will see a welcome change in the cost of prescriptions.

1. **Region Surveys**

Last month we sent out a region survey to the North, Southeast, Southwest and Mideast regions asking for evaluation of everything from the time and dates of the meetings to content. We have received a few back. We are definitely still going to provide a monthly meeting time for clinics to get together to discuss and network. Looking at other states, the majority have a regularly scheduled monthly meeting with any person or clinic submitting agenda topics. In other words, these are not driven by the ED or Board President. This will be a discussion at the Board meeting on the 9th with a note and possible quick survey to everyone following that.

1. **GuideStar Gold Level**

FCOM was awarded the GuideStar Gold Level seal. It will be on our stationery and website shortly. GuideStar is one of the resources funders have to review non-profit organizations for board and financial transparency. Just a note, any clinic can apply for a GuideStar standard….simply go to their website. The application is not arduous.

A general question for the month: In the last year, how did you show appreciation to your volunteers?

Stay safe, stay well.



Board President

313-520-2657 - cell

 **Assistance for all clinics within FCOM ….simply call or email.**

 Barb Saul Quality Standards assistance to any clinic **blsaul2@aol.com**

 Carolyn Barr FTCA submission paperwork **cbarr240@comcast.net**

 Christine Rainey Pharmacy/dispensary or medications **crainey@ferncare.org**

 Ann Heler Clinic operation difficulties/issues/questions **admin@fcomi.org**