



CEO Report Notes from August 31, 2022 Board Meeting Ara Chakrabarti, CEO

The following is an outline of comments from the CEO at the recent Redwood Coast Medical Services (RCMS) Board Meeting.

Community Communication

- We had a town hall meeting at the Del Mar center in the Sea Ranch on Aug 21. Discussions ranged from RCMS status updates, difficulties we are facing with staffing shortages, community members' inputs regarding types of healthcare services that are most needed in the community. A number of our staff members participated in the Q&A part of the meeting. It was attended by about 45 community members.
- We also participated in Coastal Fire and Safety Fair held on Aug 13 at the white barn on the Sea Ranch. Besides providing various healthcare-related information, we also provided blood pressure checkups and associated guidance for clinic visits.

Organizational/Operational update

- After a significant shortfall in provider time in our Primary Care unit due to COVID related illness, we have recovered somewhat this month. We are still one provider short in our primary care and getting a quick appointment is still a challenge. We are working hard in our recruiting efforts – but it is proving to be a significant challenge.
- MPOX – we do have a small number of vaccines in our possession now. Following CA department of health care services and local public health department guidelines, we are putting together a plan for administering these vaccines as we speak. Our supply is very limited – most likely about 16 to 20 vaccine shots from the vials we have now. Current directive to us is to give them to the highest risk category – which is men who are having sex with multiple unknown men. Mendocino County, as of last week had zero positive case, and Sonoma County reported cases in the mid-twenties.
- We are also putting together a more robust approach to reaching out and treat patients, particularly MediCal members who are assigned to RCMS in the areas of hypertension and high blood sugar levels.
- We did get a Kaiser Permanente grant of \$200K. It is related to Population Health management initiative. This is the 2nd grant from them.
- We had mentioned to some of you in the past that we contacted Stanford Medical School to be part of their Medical incubator for a specific project at RCMS. We decided to back out of that initiative at this time because our staffing shortage.
- There are lot of discussions taking place in the healthcare industry regarding the payment mechanisms that are in place. The term that is being used is called APM or alternative payment management. The state of California is starting to implement this approach of payment starting in 2023/24. This will be similar to what States of Oregon and Washington have started. RCMS is considering signing up during the first wave of this major statewide initiative.
- Finally, a very good news. HRSA awarded RCMS three badges for Community Health Quality Recognition for making notable achievements in the areas of access, quality, health equity, health information technology, social risk factors screening, and COVID-19 public health emergency response.

We were awarded badges in the areas of

Access Enhancer
Health Disparities Reducer
COVID-19 Public Health Champion

We were informed of this last night. This is a great achievement by our RCMS team.

COVID-19 test and Vaccine

- We are doing another COVID-19 vaccination clinic today. It is taking place right now – 4 to 5:30 pm at the South Coast Fire Station. Moderna only – 1st, 2nd, booster – all of them.

Facilities

Phase 2 initial conversation started. Phase 1 is complete.