



CEO Report Notes from March 30, 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. A complete recording of the board meeting is available at: <https://www.rcms-healthcare.org/board-of-directors.html> (scroll down on the web page to Meetings – Recording and Documents)

Community Communication

- Earlier this month, we were invited to talk to our community members in a Zoom forum organized by Redwood Coast Democrats to discuss various RCMS related topics. We covered current financial status, our staffing challenges, ongoing COVID-19 efforts, facilities and medical equipment update, future plans, coordination with County Public Health and other Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) in our area.
- We are planning to have a town hall meeting in the coming quarter before end of the current fiscal year. Date and associated logistics will be announced once finalized.
- Our annual report was mailed this month and we have received mostly positive feedback. This effort was led by Hall Kelly and other community volunteers from the communication sub-committee along with support from our staff.

Organizational/Operational Update

- One of our biggest challenges this coming quarter we have is to replace two of our primary care providers. Dr. Mark Kal and PA Jesse Ewing will be retiring. We are working hard to backfill these positions. We are interviewing potential providers, visiting provider recruiting events, as well as working with outside recruiting agencies. We will keep the community apprised regarding the progress on these initiatives.
- The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) 3 yearly operational site visit and audit is scheduled for July 6-8, 2022. Because of the pandemic, this visit will be on-line with specific audit focus on our Clinical, Financial, and Administrative/Governance functions.
- We need to set up a special Board Meeting to discuss HRSA visit related topics such as board training, sliding fee schedule, strategic planning. I am requesting Dawn to coordinate with the Board Chair to set this up.
- Our annual Uniform Data System (UDS) report was completed this month. HRSA requires us to provide this annually. It is a standardized reporting system that provides consistent

information about FQHC and other health centers like RCMS that receive federal grants. This is a very involved and labor-intensive process. Dawn McQuarrie led this effort.

- We are reviewing our visiting nurse program so that we can have a sustainable, billable visiting nurse program.

COVID-19 Testing and Vaccines

- The FDA has authorized a second booster dose for people over the age of 50. Following the FDA, the CDC will need to approve it, followed by CDPH and then the County Public Health Officer. We are waiting for specific directives to reach us. We booster vaccination as soon as the details are formally received by us.
- While we are seeing less interest in testing and vaccination – we are still doing testing and vaccinations at the clinic. Testing, vaccines/boosters, and taking appropriate precautions such as when necessary, wearing masks -- are still the best defenses against the pandemic.

Facilities

- Our remodeling activity for the main building first floor is continuing. We are still hoping to have most of the work to be completed by end of April. Once completed, it will reorganize office spaces, add an employee conference room, redo the employee lunchroom and restroom, put in a secured entry door, add additional fire escape door, address some structural issue, as well as redo some of the outdated heating and ventilation related infrastructure.