

**DRAFT**  
**Safety Net Advisory Council**  
**Highlights from February 11, 2009**

**Safety Net Advisory Council's Charge:** *The Safety Net Advisory Council (SNAC) provides the Governor, the Director of DHS, the OHPR Administrator, the Oregon Health Fund Board, the Oregon Health Policy Commission (OHPC) and the Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) with specific policy recommendations for the provision of safety net services for vulnerable populations who experience barriers to accessing care.*

**Meeting Goal:** Discuss Elevator Speech, Legislative Priorities

**SNAC Members Present** – Craig Hostetler, Tracy Gratto, Abby Sears, Beryl Fletcher, Scott Ekblad and Jackie Rose

**Staff** - Marian Blankenship, Joel Young, Nicole Merrithew

**January Highlights** were reviewed and accepted.

**Elevator Speech Discussion**

The group agreed that there has been inconsistent use of safety net definitions and that this has caused confusion, as a result. All members agreed that to talk about the "core" as a subset has only served to further confuse. The Council discussed the broader policy lens that the state expects SNAC to be able to weigh in on. The group felt that this was achievable by keeping broader issues framed within a "population" context. The group agreed that the SNAC, practically speaking would most often weigh in on issues that pertain to (what has formerly been known as) the CORE. The group made additional revisions to simplify and reduce confusion. **Marian will incorporate the revisions and send out to the Council for final approval. The council will vote on the Safety Net Elevator speech at the March meeting.**

**Legislative Priorities:**

The Council reviewed their existing recommendations and reviewed several areas where SNAC focus might have the greatest impact.

## SNAC Recommendations

1. **Safety Net Stability Fund**
  2. **Investment in critical infrastructure tools**
  3. **Workforce strategies**
  4. **Equitable inclusion on Accountable Health Plan Panels**
- **Medical, Dental, Behavioral Health Integration.** All council members present supported coordinating with the work that is underway.
  - **Aligning state policy around contracting with safety net providers.** Tom provided a legislative concept that the Council reviewed. There was general agreement among the group present that this could be a promising strategy to pursue at this time.
  - **Expanded Coverage.** Council members agreed that it is important to take the position that Something **MUST** be accomplished in the 2009 session. Explicit support for the Healthy Kids Plan (HB 2117)
  - **Workforce.** Access to better data will be an essential next step to being able to develop meaningful workforce strategies
  - **Health Information Technology.** Need to interface with HIACC and Ree Sailors.

Council members agreed that an Ad-hoc Legislative committee to help solidify next steps/strategies is the next step. **Jackie, Abby, Beryl and Craig volunteered. Marian will schedule a phone conference asap.**

### Next Steps:

- **Marian will incorporate revisions to Elevator speech and send out to Council**
- **Marian will convene a Legislative Ad-hoc committee**
- **Ad-hoc committee will meet to develop strategy prior to the March meeting**

**Meeting adjourned:**

**SNAC Meetings:**

**See 2009 Calendar**

**800 NE Oregon Street, Portland  
Portland**