



A HEALTHY MICHIGAN AT AN AFFORDABLE COST

# Affirmant Health Partners Newsletter

September 2016

## Message from the CEO

August was an exciting month as we prepare to introduce our initial product offerings into the Michigan market on January 1, 2017.

One exciting development has been our choice of a new name for our Super Clinically Integrated Network—**Affirmant Health Partners**. Our working name, Federation Care Network, has served us well in getting to where we are today and now it is time to adopt a name that really speaks to our customers about the value of the work we are doing. Thank you to the Communications and Education Committee for their expertise and guidance through this process.

Fundamental to our efforts to create value for patients and payers is our clinical integration strategy. With our evidence-based focus on chronic disease management, pharmacy and post-acute care, the Clinical Transformation Committee is organizing a structure and process for engaging our Local Chapter Clinically Integrated Networks (LCINs) in setting performance improvement targets and actions for the coming year.

Meanwhile, our member health systems have been actively engaged in assuring we have LCIN capabilities that are Federal Trade Commission compliant and preparing to implement our clinical integration programs. We are working on LCIN and Provider Participation Agreements as a basis for our relationships. All our members report they are on track to meet this deadline and hit the ground running on January 1, 2017.

The Contracting Committee is continuing our efforts to build health plan partnerships to

support our Clinical Integration program and reward improvements in the value of care we deliver. We have been engaged in highly productive discussions to develop contracts with our initial health plan partners—Health Alliance Plan (HAP), Physicians Health Plan (PHP) and Priority Health—for an effective date of January 1, 2017. We are also supporting our primary care physician practices in applying to participate in a new Medicare initiative, Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+). Given the requirement that practices apply individually on a very tight deadline—September 15—Affirmant Health Partners is doing all we can to help our practices qualify for \$15-\$28 Per Member Per Month in up-front care management payments available through the program.

Vital to the success of these initiatives will be our ability to bring actionable data to our LCINs and front-line care teams. Our Information Technology and Business Intelligence (IT/BI) Committee is actively pursuing near-term opportunities to deliver these data through existing capabilities of Affirmant Health Partners members and through collaboration with external partners. We will have much more to report later this fall.

Being part of a partnership that spans the state, I spend a lot of my time visiting our different chapters; it is one of the things I enjoy the most. A highlight from this month was visiting Lakeland Health in St. Joseph, Michigan, to see their Innovation Center and talk with their IT and E.H.R. staff about their

work and the work of Affirmant Health Partners. One thing I appreciate the most about this position is the opportunity to meet people from across the state that share the same desire to create “a healthy Michigan at an affordable cost.” When Vicki Lerke (pictured below) heard I was coming, she dressed in her Star Trek uniform to honor the Federation. It is people like Vicki that make our work together such an inspiring and enjoyable experience.

Thank you for your extraordinary ongoing efforts. I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish thus far as a team and am excited to see what we can do in September.

Warm Regards,

Dr. Bill Mayer  
President and CEO



Dr. Mayer pictured with Vicki Lerke from Lakeland Health

# Affirmant Health Partners

Our network has a new name: Affirmant Health Partners (formally The Federation Care Network). The Communications and Education Committee, under the leadership of Larry Daly (Covenant Health), chair, and Megan Yore (Lakeland Health), vice chair, have been on a journey with a nationally recognized marketing firm and the Board of Managers to identify the best name for our network.

Over 300 potential names were generated during the discovery phase. We compared these names to our foundational ideas of what this name should say: a network of

best; enabling custom teams; data-driven continuous improvement; collaborative; focused; and relentless. Our consumers used these words to describe this Affirmant: professional; positive; stands out; trustworthy; powerful; confident; and always there for you.

After comparison to our selection criteria, trademark prescreens, consumer research of 700 residents in our network and a detailed trademark search, the committee brought three names to the Board of Managers for a final vote.



The Communications and Education Committee will be working over the next few months to implement the Affirmant Health Partners brand into all areas of operation. This includes typography, logos and applications.

## Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+)

The screenshot shows the CMS.gov website. The main content area is titled 'Comprehensive Primary Care Plus'. It includes a 'Model Summary' section with the following details:

- Stage:** Announced
- Number of Participants:** N/A
- Category:** Primary Care Transformation
- Authority:** Section 3021 of the Affordable Care Act

The 'Milestones & Updates' section lists the following dates and events:

- Aug 01, 2016:** Announced: Application period begins for practices in 14 selected regions.
- Jul 18, 2016:** Updated: 17 frequently Asked Questions posted.
- May 27, 2016:** Updated: Frequently Asked Questions include new questions about dual participation in CPC+ and MSSP.
- May 13, 2016:** Announced: Pressed about posted.

### What is CPC+?

The new Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+) model is the largest-ever multi-payer initiative to improve primary care and is modeled after the Comprehensive Primary Care initiative launched in 2012. This CMS program is designed to support practices along the continuum of their transformation to deliver better health and smarter spending.

### 5 key functions

CPC+ provides financial support to primary care practices to improve five functions of care:

- Access & Continuity
- Patient & Caregiver Engagement
- Care Management
- Planned Care & Population Health
- Comprehensiveness & Coordination

### Support from Affirmant Health Partners and Navigant

Affirmant Health Partners and Navigant supported CPC+ applications for over 140 practice sites across six local chapters. They developed and provided educational materials, an application timeline, application resources (including guidance on specific questions and template letters of support) and led five webinars to review the materials, answered questions and provided 'help desk' services as practices worked to complete the application process.

Do you have a story to share?  
Contact [Katy Velten](#), Manager of Communications

# August 25 Board Meeting

The Federation Board of Managers met on August 25 in Lansing for their monthly board meeting.

Highlights include:

- Approval of *Affirmant Health Partners* name
- Consideration of deal terms in our relations with HAP, PHP and Priority Health
- Building upon our relationship with Munson and Spectrum
- Discussion of potential relationship with the University of Michigan
- Approval of policy to monitor and promote referrals within local CINs to enable better care management
- Transition plan for Navigant through 2016
- Presentation from Dr. Bruce Muma on the progress of Henry Ford Health System's local clinically integrated network and lessons learned

## BOARD OF MANAGERS

**Dennis Swan**, Chair – Sparrow Health  
**Loren Hamel, MD**, Vice Chair – Lakeland Health  
**Diane Postler-Slattery**, Secretary, - MidMichigan Health  
**Bill Mayer, MD**, President and CEO – Affirmant Health Partners  
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## ACO Update

In late July, we submitted our Accountable Care Organization (ACO) application with The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). As expected, CMS has requested some additional information from all of our member chapters. Navigant, Affirmant Health Partners and the LCINs worked closely to respond by the September 6, 2016 deadline for those additional requests. There will be two more opportunities for CMS to request information before they make their final decision. As their requests come in, Navigant and Affirmant Health Partners will work directly with the LCIN teams.

An ACO is a group of doctors, hospitals and other healthcare providers, who come together voluntarily to give coordinated high-quality care to their Medicare Fee-for-Service patients. Over 400 primary care physicians and 800 sub-specialists physicians from Bronson, Covenant, Henry Ford Allegiance Health, Lakeland Health and Sparrow Health will join our ACO. MidMichigan Health already participates in the Physician Organization of Michigan (POM) ACO and Henry Ford Health System has its own NextGeneration ACO. Our ACO will be a separate but supplemental strategy to building CINs.

### LCIN vs. Affirmant Health Partners ACO

#### Local Chapter CIN (LCIN)

Providers participating in their LCIN, and by extension FCN, will:

1. Create a Clinical Integration (CI) Program designed to increase the value of care delivered to patients
2. Develop a common infrastructure to improve care at the point of delivery and enhance IT, analytics, care management, etc.
3. Jointly contract w/ private healthcare purchasers (e.g. employers & health plans) to support the CI Program

#### Federation ACO

Providers participating in the ACO will:

1. Enter into the Medicare Shared Savings Program
2. Utilize the CI Program and Infrastructure of the LCIN and FCN as the engine for their population health efforts
3. Pursue other discrete initiatives applicable to only Medicare FFS beneficiaries