



State Health Access Reform Evaluation (SHARE) June 27, 2008

Periodically, SHARE will send an e-newsletter outlining upcoming events, grantee activities and other items of interest. If you have news items that you want us to highlight please send them to Elizabeth Lukanen at elukanen@umn.edu.

NEWS FROM GRANTEES

SHARE Grantee, Mark Hall, Presents Testimony to Senate Finance Committee – June 10, 2008

Mark Hall, Professor at Wake Forest University Health Sciences testified before the Senate Finance Committee last week. He talked about the structure and functioning of private health insurance markets as it relates to recent health reforms. Mark's SHARE project focuses on three different states' approaches of using section 125 plans to reduce the costs of health insurance (Indiana, Massachusetts, and Missouri).

<http://www.senate.gov/~finance/hearings/testimony/2008test/061008MHTest.pdf>

SHARE Grantee, Sharon Long, To Present at the National Center for Health Statistics Data Users Conference – August 13, 2008

Sharon Long, Principal Research Associate at The Urban Institute will present a talk entitled, "Using the NHIS to Evaluate State Health Care Coverage Policies" at the National Center for Health Statistics Data Users meeting in Washington, DC. Sharon's SHARE study will examine the effects of reform efforts in Illinois, Massachusetts and New York. In particular, it will assess impacts on coverage, access to and use of care and out-of-pocket (OOP) health costs using National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) data.

http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/events/duc2008/duc_announce.htm

GRANTEE ACTION ITEMS

SHARE Grantee Connections

As a first step in connecting SHARE grantees, we wanted to provide a link between research teams working in similar states or on similar issues. We have identified some natural connections, such as teams evaluating Massachusetts and teams studying public program enrollment. If you have identified a topic or specific SHARE grantee that you want to connect with, let us know and we would be happy to facilitate this. A list of the SHARE projects is posted on our website:

<http://www.statereformevaluation.org/uploads/SHAREReportwebsite.pdf>

Send Us Your News

As we discussed on our kick-off calls, we are excited to create a research community around state reform evaluation. Please let us know if plan to disseminate findings or make presentations on topics related to SHARE. We are happy to help with your communications strategy and we would like to highlight these items in this e-newsletter. Please send information about dissemination or other items of interest to Elizabeth Lukanen at elukanen@umn.edu.



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SHARE ACTIVITIES

State Health Research & Policy Interest Group Meeting – June 7, 2008

SHARE Director, Lynn Blewett, moderated a session on Evaluation of State Health Reforms at the State Health Research and Policy Interest Group Meeting. Her remarks included information about SHARE and the importance of reform evaluation.

<http://www.statereformevaluation.org/uploads/AcademyHealth2008.pdf>

SHARE Deputy Director, Elizabeth Lukanen presented a poster session at the State Health Research and Policy Interest Group Meeting that highlighted the use of data and methods in state reform evaluation.

<http://www.statereformevaluation.org/uploads/SHAREAcademyHealthPoster.pdf>

SHARE Breakfast at AcademyHealth – June 9, 2008

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the SHARE breakfast at AcademyHealth. A special thanks Brian Quinn and David Colby from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation who attended and provided opening remarks. Thirty people attended the breakfast and we had representatives from almost all of the grantee teams. It was wonderful to meet everyone in attendance. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to discuss your projects with one another.

OTHER NEWS

RWJF Launches New Program to Maximize Enrollment in Medicaid and SCHIP – June 24, 2008 (Registration Deadline)

Maximizing Enrollment for Kids: Making Medicaid and SCHIP Work is a new \$15 million initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). The program will provide grant support to help states improve their systems, policies and procedures by providing them with an in-depth assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of their current Medicaid and SCHIP enrollment and retention systems, and assisting them with implementation strategies to cover more eligible but unenrolled children and to measure their progress. The program is being directed by the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP). <http://www.maxenroll.org/>



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A national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation® with direction by the State Health Access Data Assistance Center at the University of Minnesota School of Public Health.