

Staff Health Care Committee

10 a.m., Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Present

Monique Musick, Statewide

Linda Hall, Statewide

Melodee Monson, UAA

Louise Kempker (for Tamah Haynes), UAA

Sarah Arntson, UAS

Debbie Coxon, UAF

The group discussed times for regular meetings and agreed to a schedule of meeting on the 3rd Tuesday* at 10 a.m. beginning October 15.

At the official October meeting we will ask for an overview of the current benefits and vendors to orient new members; an update on RFPs; an update on the wellness vendor litigation process; the projected rates for the coming year and data on the last year's plan usage (over- or under-recovery to be applied to this year); plans to implement wellness incentives and biometric screenings; and our charge to think of out-of-the-box solutions to rising health plan costs.

Melodee Monson described the history of the SHCC and its relationship to the Joint Health Care Committee (JHCC). The membership of the JHCC comprises union representatives, administration and two staff representatives. The unions have three representatives each. The JHCC is part of the collective bargaining agreements of unions at UA. However non-represented staff are the largest group on the plan. The SHCC serves as the voice of this large group to the administration. It is an advisory board for the administration and an advocacy group for staff.

To prepare for the Oct. 15 meeting Monique Musick suggested that the group review documents prepared for the last JHCC meeting found on the benefits website, <http://www.alaska.edu/benefits/joint-health-care-committ/9-19-2013/>, and to review past *Statewide Voice* articles that describe changes to the health plan this past year, and how under- or over-recovery affects how new plan rates are determined. It was a multi-part series beginning July 2012: http://www.alaska.edu/voice/2012/July_2012/News/health-plans/.

Linda Hall noted that SHCC has been asked to look at other group plans, university wellness systems, etc. to find out-of-the-box solutions to keep costs down. The group has not met to discuss any research or make any proposals yet.

***POST MEETING NOTE:**

Gwenna Richardson let me know that UAS Staff Council meets on the third Tuesday. This month's meeting will proceed as planned, but we need to find another day to meet so that our Southeast partners can join us.