

Paraeducator Health Care Working Group Organizational Meeting Notes

September 20, 2023

Members Present: Susan Rich-Bye (Access Health CT); Leslie Greer (Office of Health Strategy); Madi Csejka (State Comptroller's Office); Daniel Livingston (2 Paraeducators Unions)

Other: Kathleen Tallarita (Access Health CT)

- Purpose and Tasks for the Working Group were reviewed.
- Survey from the Comptroller's Office on current paraeducator health care coverage was discussed. There are approximately 12,000 paraeducators working enough hours per week to be eligible for health care benefits. Approximately 11,000 eligible for employer health care coverage, and about 1,100 not eligible. This smaller group could potentially be eligible for Covered CT. Covered CT program and eligibility was summarized.
- \$15,000 is available from the Budget through the Comptroller's Office to engage an external consultant to conduct the study.
- The Group agreed to leverage AHCT's actuarial consultant, Wakely Consulting, to determine if they may be willing to perform the study. AHCT will speak with Wakely to discuss the study and the budget.
- A request was made to determine the cost of including the paraeducators in the State of CT Partnership Plan to compare the cost to the subsidized options. The Comptroller's Office will look into it.
- Short 30-minute meeting with Working Group and Wakley was suggested before work actually begins to provide additional input. Meeting cadence of the Group will be discussed further.