

Local Planning and Resource Development for Health Care Reform

Establish a regional *New Directions Task Force* to assess issues and trends in health care delivery in Central New York; address macro organizational and system relationship issues; develop scenarios for alternative futures based on these assessments; and identify and promote “best practices” to move the community and its service providers into the future.

The Task Force will serve as a **neutral, regional “think tank”** for exploratory discussions, studies, and in-depth assessments of community needs. It would chart directions for the future delivery of health care, promote system transparency, and provide opportunities for community participation in health care decision-making. The task force would include representatives from business organizations, local government, provider entities, consumer organizations, payors, and academic partners. To keep the process both manageable and representative, membership on the task force would be limited to 10-16 members.

The task force will also **promote collaboration** among a variety of local bodies involved in health care assessment, planning, development, quality assurance, and cost containment. These entities include county departments of health, rural health networks, hospital and long-term care councils, and the Health Advancement Collaborative of Central NY (HAC-CNY). There currently is no regional mechanism in place to identify common strengths and synergies of these groups which, if pursued, would have a more profound impact on local health care delivery than that of individual entities on their own.

Additional **topics which might be addressed** by the Task Force include:

- the role of innovation in health service delivery
- workforce needs prompted by increased demand by newly insured residents
- evolution of physician/hospital relationships
- citizen input on proposed health care reform provisions (e.g., health benefit exchanges and accountable care organizations-ACOs).
- experienced-based recommendations regarding the role and structure of community health planning in an era of reform

Organizational Resources and Cost

Staff support will be provided by CNYHSA, a non-profit, regional health planning agency with over 30 years experience in system and program planning, policy development, data and financial analysis, and utilization research. Its primary mission is to improve health, contain costs, and promote access to care in Central New York. The agency has long been visible at the state and national level and recognized for its policy innovations and development of planning methods. CNYHSA is governed by a Board of Directors of consumers, providers, employers, and government representatives.

Budget
Summary:

Budget category	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Personnel (w/Fringe)	102,000	95,000	197,000
Equipment & Software	2,000	1,000	3,000
Consultants	8,000	8,000	16,000
OTPS	12,000	12,000	24,000
	124,000	116,000	240,000