

OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

In This Issue

NCIOM 2017 Annual Meeting

Annual Report

Website Updates

NCMJ Current Issue

Staff Update

New Projects

Legislative Update



NCIOM 2017 Annual Meeting Accountable Care Communities for a Healthier North Carolina

On September 25, 2017, more than 300 stakeholders from across the state gathered to discuss how community organizations, health systems, insurers, and others can share responsibility for the health of our communities through collaborative and integrated strategies to promote health, prevent disease, and ensure access to quality services.

Meeting participants heard from communities in North Carolina that are forming strategic partnerships and exploring cross-sector opportunities to invest in health. The keynote speaker, Jennifer DeCubellis, the Deputy County Administrator of Hennepin County, Minnesota, shared Hennepin's experience aligning health and human services to achieve better health outcomes and significant cost reductions. We look forward to continuing these important discussions, and anticipate convening the proposed Task Force on Accountable Care Communities in the winter.

During the meeting, the NCIOM presented Ben Money, CEO of the NC Community Health Center Association, with the third annual Award for Excellence in Health

Staff Update

Maggie Bailey joined the NCIOM as a temporary research assistant in June. She supports the work of the NCIOM's task forces and other ongoing projects, assisting with meetings and writing reports.

[More on Maggie ...](#)

Yasmin Bendaas joined our staff as the Interim Managing Editor of the NCMJ in August. We are thrilled to have her join the team, bringing her

experience in medical journalism and strategic communications.

[More on Yasmin ...](#)

Chip Haltermann

previously worked with the NCIOM in the summer as the 2017 Silberman Health Policy Scholar, and returned to the staff as a temporary research assistant in September.

[More on Chip ...](#)

Policy Leadership. The award recognized Money's public health contributions, including increasing the number of North Carolina's community health centers and expanding school-based health centers and integrated behavioral health services across the state.

The presentations from the Annual Meeting can be on our [website](#).



New Project

The NCIOM is launching the [Legislative Health Policy Fellows Program](#) to provide participating state legislators with the data and resources needed to make effective decisions about the health of our state. Over the course of three full-day sessions, fellows will learn about the health issues facing North Carolina, the state's priorities for health care delivery, and challenges and opportunities for improving the health of all North Carolinians, with a focus on evidence-based solutions. This project is supported by funding from Blue Cross Blue Shield NC Foundation.

NCIOM Annual Report

Our Annual Report highlights current and upcoming projects, our recent Task Forces, and other work, including timely issue briefs on health-related issues impacting North Carolina. Check out the [full report](#) and learn more about ways to become involved in and support our work.

Updated Website and New Resources

Our [website](#) has a new look! In addition, we will be adding new North Carolina health resources to our updated website over the course of the autumn. Among these new resources will be a county health data map, a health data directory, and briefs that break down health policy basics. Follow us on Twitter (@nciom) to stay updated as we release this new content.

Legislative Update

Examples of 2017 Legislation related to past Task Force recommendations

Task Force on Alzheimer's and Related Dementia:
[S.L. 2017-57: Appropriations Act of 2017 - Alzheimer's](#)

September/October Issue of the NCMJ: Musculoskeletal Health in North Carolina

Musculoskeletal health conditions, from arthritis to neck and back pain, affect the quality of life of millions in the


Registry was funded through the 2017-2018 budget. This registry of healthy individuals and individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's or related dementia will help researchers identify participants for clinical trials, as well as create a forum for sharing news and research findings.

Task Force on Mental Health and Substance Use: S.L. 2017-57:

Appropriations Act of 2017 - DHHS shall design a plan for adding Medicaid coverage for ambulance transports of Medicaid recipients in behavioral health crisis to behavioral health clinics or other alternative appropriate care locations.

United States. Consequences of these conditions include disability, low workforce participation, negative impacts on mental health, and chronic pain-a significant factor in today's opioid crisis. This issue of the NCMJ examines a range of musculoskeletal health issues, strategies for improving management of such conditions, and gaps in care.

Browse current and past issues of the journal on the [NCMJ website](#).

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