

Southwest Colorado Health Alliance Goals & Values Statement

July 2019

Goals: Based on the findings of the June 2019 [Community Needs Health Assessment](#): 1) increase health literacy in the La Plata County region, and 2) develop a cooperative, local health care solution that increases access to care while also reducing insurance premiums by 5% to 10%.

Objectives:

1. Collect regional data to better understand: 1) health care out-migration, 2) the price of care in relation to Medicare, and 3) the most effective geographic scope to address health care.
2. Based on this data, determine whether a local health alliance has the negotiating power to develop a product that offers more affordable and accessible health insurance options to La Plata region employers and residents. *Note: RAND Corporation recently reported a combined ratio of inpatient and outpatient prices compared to Medicare was 347% for Animus Surgical Hospital and 317% for Mercy Regional Medical Center in 2017, as compared to a statewide average of 269%. These preliminary findings indicate an ability to negotiate reduced prices with health care providers.*
3. Offer a local health care product in the marketplace by January 2021.

Stated Values and Principles:

1. A local health care solution will be available to all individuals, self-insured, and insured employers.
2. Multiple options for access to health care are beneficial to the community and local economy.
3. Local and independent health care providers are critical to the health of our local economy.
4. We will work to reduce economic leakage to maintain our local self-reliance and support a strong and diversified economy while providing access to health care close to home.
5. Transparency is key to collaboration and success. As such, we will strive to be straight-forward and transparent with all information collected and decisions made.
6. Conflicts of interest will be disclosed and addressed by all partners, including the engagement of the Steering Committee in leading the Southwest Health Care Alliance.
7. We are inclusive and willing to work with all entities in the manner that is most productive and effective to meet our goals and objectives.
8. We will engage with the health care consumer so they better understand their choices and how to shop for the highest quality and most reasonably priced and affordable care.
9. There is tremendous value in working with other local health care alliances in Colorado to share lessons learned as well as working with the state of Colorado to provide input as they develop solutions at the state level.
10. We are willing to negotiate to maintain the best interest of the community at large, and not special interest groups.
11. We will place an emphasis on data, evidence, and performance metrics to ensure long term success. For example, we will explore the relationship between price and quality of care.
12. A commitment to optimize solutions for its members – the employers and residents of La Plata County and the surrounding region. This could require contracting for services outside of La Plata County.
13. Health literacy, including social determinants of health, are key to the success of any health care premium offered in the marketplace.

Steering Committee Members

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Local First

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Liane Jollon

San Juan Basin Public Health

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