



## Consumer Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### ATTENDEES

#### Members

Name	Organization	Virtual
Chris Peterson (Chair)	Health Policy Alternatives; former HSCRC	X
Gavin Taylor	US Naval Academy; Data Scientist; Research	X
VACANT	Patient / Advocate	
Dan Martin, JD	MHA MD	
Robyn Elliott	Public Policy Partners	X
Walter Saba	Maryland Latinos Unidos	RESIGNED
Sephora Morrison, MD	Pediatric ED Clinician/CRISP User; former CNMC	
Linda Fischetti	Mitre; Consumer Advocate; former CHIO and Peds nurse	X

#### Staff/Guests

**Via Teleconference:** Nichole Sweeney, Megan Priolo, Peggy Oehlmann, Sherol Wiltshire, Kelley Gallagher

### Agenda

#### Welcome

Chair Chris Peterson welcomed Consumer Advisory Council (“CAC”) members and staff to the meeting. Before delving into agenda, Kelley Gallagher informed members that Walter Saba recently resigned from the Council for personal reasons, and all participants expressed gratitude for Mr. Saba’s contributions and further extended best future wishes for Ms. Gallagher to relay. CAC members then discussed membership and related considerations, with specific points noted below.

- Six members are required by statute, which is the current membership following Mr. Saba’s resignation. CAC members briefly discussed the process and timing for initiating a second open call for new members.

Mr. Peterson then provided an overview of the agenda which included both administrative topics and a broad discussion regarding Public Health and Research initiatives at CRISP for benefit of all participants, among other topics. Actions, takeaways, and key discussion points are noted below.

#### Administrative

- **Prior Meeting Minutes.** Prior Minutes were distributed to the Council as part of the meeting materials. Quorum was acknowledged later in the meeting, and at that time, Members



unanimously approved Minutes from the July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting pending minor edits to remove individual names from a sentence. Minutes will be posted to the CAC website.

### **MHCC Proposed Regulations Discussion**

Next, Nichole Sweeney led a discussion on draft HIE regulations proposed by MHCC and downstream impacts to the CAC and HIE activities, details of which were provided in the meeting materials. Key takeaways and discussion points are noted below.

#### Open Meetings Act

- It is unclear what concerns might have been raised regarding CRISP and CAC work that would support the Open Meetings Act (“OMA”) recommendation.
- Members expressed concern regarding the precedent OMA requirements could set for CRISP and other private organizations if enacted, particularly the negative impact on sensitive discussions and participant privacy. The CAC’s need for closed discussions for some (if not most) topics would result executive sessions that would defeat the purpose of open meetings. Members further discussed that OMA requirements would undermine the original legislative intent of the CAC.
- As potential next steps, members discussed meeting with MHCC leadership to voice concerns and work towards a mutually agreeable resolution. Additionally, members considered preparing a letter which could be published, if needed.

#### Consent Management Application

- Deliberate and meaningful patient education is needed. Members like the idea of including a QR code on posters or other patient facing materials that links to a short video explaining what CRISP/HIE is and how health data is used.

#### Noncontrolled Prescription Drugs Dispenser Reporting

- CRISP receiving all medication data would ‘democratize’ data throughout the state, making information accessible and available to smaller providers.

#### Electronic Health Network Transaction Submission

- Having more timely and complete data could better support patient care in multiple settings. Megan Priolo and team will be reviewing usefulness of incorporating clearing house data once a pilot has been completed.

#### December 16<sup>th</sup> Milestone (Parsing our sensitive data codes)

- CRISP is working diligently to advance consent-related requirements. CRISP was the only HIE in Maryland who met the regulatory requirement of parsing codes by end of CY2024.

#### Federal Law / Regulations: HIPAA & Information Blocking



- Certain HIPAA and Information Blocking provisions might be pulled back once the new Administration begins. Healthcare organizations are urged not to spend resources to meet these requirements until more information becomes available.
- Members discussed existing and emerging technologies and the importance of protecting sensitive data throughout the healthcare ecosystem, and CRISP's work in this arena.
- Members expressed interest in learning more about CRISP's technology, data privacy, and information security programs as an agenda topic for an upcoming meeting.

### **2025 CAC Priorities Discussion**

Next, Dr. Priolo provided an overview of CRISP's 2025 priorities for general knowledge and to support the CAC priorities discussion, the details of which were provided in the meeting materials. Key takeaways and discussion points are noted below.

- Members expressed interest in learning more about the Maryland AHEAD Model and the CRISP Shared Services ("CSS") product roadmap as discussion topics during future meetings.
- Members strongly recommended developing a consumer communication strategy which could include testimonials of how HIE has improved patient care. These could be produced as short videos or documents posted to the CRISP website.
- As a key takeaway, staff will review prior topics and discussions in conjunction with CRISP annual objectives and prepare a list of potential CAC priorities for members to discuss during the next meeting. Members and staff further reaffirmed the following priorities and next steps:
  - Develop a Consumer education strategy;
  - Produce a QR code and testimonials; and
  - Coordinate a meeting with MHCC regarding OMA requirement concerns and potential resolutions.

### **Closing**

Having concluded the formal agenda, all expressed appreciation for CRISP's efforts to meaningfully address issues that are questionable or potentially harmful to patients and consumers, and the opportunity to support this important work as Council members. With no further discussion or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 10:59am.