



Northern Virginia Regional Commission

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 13-18

PATRON: G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director
DATE: May 23, 2013

AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A REGIONAL EFFORT TO COORDINATE HEALTH INSURANCE NAVIGATOR SERVICES IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

WHEREAS, the U.S. HHS, Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) has issued a funding announcement for health insurance navigators in states like Virginia which will be using the federal-state partnership health insurance exchange model (the exchange); and

WHEREAS, small businesses and uninsured individuals will begin to have the opportunity to purchase health insurance through the exchange starting in October 2013; and

WHEREAS, it is a requirement of the exchange that trained individuals called navigators be available to assist insurance purchasers (1) understand their eligibility, (2) determine plan costs and coverages, and (3) select an insurance plan which best meets their needs; and

WHEREAS, in response to the funding announcement a broad consortium of Northern Virginia organizations representing the low-income, the uninsured, those with low health literacy, those with mental illness or developmental delays, and language minority individuals has agreed to participate in a regional application being spearheaded by Northern Virginia Family Service; and

WHEREAS, a number of local agencies, e.g., family services, social services, mental health, aging, and nonprofits, have expressed support for this regional approach; and

WHEREAS, these agencies already operate programs that provide ready access to groups of individuals likely eligible for health insurance in the new system who will need navigator assistance in order to understand their options and apply; and

WHEREAS, the existence of this consortium will also help to identify those individuals eligible for enhanced Virginia Medicaid should that system expand in the future;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that NVRRC commends this collaborative regional approach and directs the Executive Director (1) to prepare a letter of support for inclusion with the application to CMS and (2) to offer ongoing NVRRC participation and staff support to this effort.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission on May 23, 2013.

G. Mark Gibb, Certifying Officer