



Tulare County Q3 Community Advisory Committee Meeting

September 23, 2025 Minutes

ATTENDEES

California Farmworker Foundation: Jaritza Velasco - Tulare County Coordinator	12 Medi-Cal Members	2 D-SNP Members
Family HealthCare Network: Josette Romero Guzman - Community Health Supervisor		
Champions Recovery: Frank Ruiz - Executive Director		
Kaweah Health: Sonia Duran- Aguilar - Director of Population Health		
Central Valley Regional Center: Leslie Lenz		
Healthy Start Family Resource Center: Sandra Escudero - Project Manager		
Tulare County Public Health: Luis Cortez - Program Coordinator		
Tulare County Health Care Centers: Ercilia (Ercy) Montemayor - Clinic Coordinator		
The Source LGBT Center: Rudy Aguilar - PrEP Navigator		

HEALTH NET ATTENDEES

Ayleen Dimailig, Melen Vue, Pao Houa Lee, Perry Shelton Jr, Pooja Mittal, Sydney Turner, Tarjani Padmani, & Vernell Shaw III

The purpose of the Community Advisory Committees is to empower members to bring their voices to the table to ensure Health Net is actively driving interventions and solutions to build more equitable care. The CAC advocates for Health Net members by ensuring that Health Net is responsive to their diverse health care needs.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	NEXT STEPS / ACTION	OWNER
Call to order, Introductions, & Agenda Overview	• Call to order at 12:02pm. • Committee members and Health Net staff introduced themselves. • Spanish-speaking members were directed on how to access the Spanish channel.	N/A	N/A
Legislative Update	Sydney Turner (Director, Public Policy) provided an update on federal and state changes to the healthcare system, including eligibility and access requirements and coverage limitations for those who are undocumented or have an unsatisfactory immigration status. Additionally, she talked		

	about the potential impact of these changes on Medi-Cal coverage, costs, and benefits. There was a question from the committee asking what the difference between emergency and full-scope Medi-Cal. Ms. Turner and Dr. Pooja Mittal (Chief Health Equity Officer) from Health Net explained that emergency services are limited to ER and inpatient care, while full-scope includes primary care and other services. Ms. Turner concluded sharing that Health Net is working on member engagement, legislative engagement, and technology solutions to help members maintain their coverage.		
Population Needs Assessment	Tarjani Padmani (Manager, Clinical Pharmacy Services) presented the Health Net Medi-Cal membership profile for 2024, showing demographic breakdowns and health needs. The top needs identified include meals, housing, and medical needs. Tarjani shared that Health Net connects members with community resources and promotes programs to address these needs. Additionally, she discussed the disease prevalence in Tulare County and the importance of early intervention and prevention programs. Lastly, Ms. Padmani invited feedback from members about their experiences with Health Net's outreach and assistance.		
Non-Specialty Mental Health Services (NSMHS)	Melen Vu (Program Manager III, System of Care) presented the Non-Specialty Mental Health Services (NSMHS) outreach and education plan submitted to DHCS. The plan includes recommendations from community partners and strategies to increase utilization of NSMHS and reduce stigma. The outreach includes social media/email campaigns, provider trainings, and other activities focused on behavioral health topics.		
Health Literacy Overview	Pao Houa Lee (Senior Health Equity Specialist) introduced the topic of health literacy and digital literacy. Health literacy involves the ability to find, understand, and use health information, while digital literacy involves using digital tools for health		

	information. Health Net materials are required to be at a sixth grade reading level and culturally appropriate. The health equity team reviews and approves materials to ensure they meet these standards.		
CAC Follow Ups/Updates	Ayleen Dimailig (Program Manager, Community Advisory Committee) went over pending follow up items from the Q2 meeting. Ms. Dimailig shared updates on provider directory inaccuracies, missed appointments, and high-cost lenses.		
Community Sharing/Open Forum	Committee members were invited to share items for Community Sharing/Open Forum. Members requested support. Sandra Escudero from Healthy Start Family Resource Center shared information on Lindsay's Health Fair on October 18, 2025. Meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm.		

NEXT MEETING

Date: Monday, December 8, 2025

Time: 12pm – 1:30pm

Location: <https://centene.zoom.us/meeting/register/fldSIKfQrCAz3O5S31nCw>

*** If you can't join on Zoom and need a call-in number, please reach out to us at 916-935-9761 or CommunityAdvisory@centene.com ***