



BI-STATE PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

2011 New Hampshire Public Policy Principles, Priorities & Strategies

Public Policy Principles

Bi-State has a steadfast commitment to improving the health status of Granite Staters and to ensuring that all individuals have access to appropriate, high-quality primary and preventive medical, behavioral and dental health care, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.

Efforts to achieve the best value for our investments are essential. We support investments that promote quality in public health and in primary and preventive care to reduce the need for higher-cost interventions, as well as investments in strategies to lower prescription drug prices and to create efficiencies in the health care system.

Public Policy Priorities

Bi-State supports:

- Expanding access and coverage for the uninsured.
- Sustaining and strengthening New Hampshire Medicaid in extending health care services through coverage of New Hampshire residents.
- Maintaining and increasing funding for primary and preventive health care.
- Expanding access to oral health services for uninsured and Medicaid populations including integration in primary care settings.
- Integrating mental health and substance abuse services in primary care.
- Strengthening and expanding the medical home model, including the integration of oral health, mental health and substance abuse services in the primary care setting.
- Aligning state, consumer, and health care stakeholders' efforts to bring about systemic enhancement of quality of care through improved utilization of health information technology, case management, disease management and evidence-based best practices of care.
- Sustaining and expanding initiatives to support work force development in underserved communities.
- Optimal state resources to address the increasing needs of NH residents by providing sustainable support for safety net providers.

Public Policy Strategies

- Participate in partnerships with the State, health care, and business stakeholders to improve access, coverage and quality of care.
- Provide leadership in the planning, development, implementation and funding of a rational health care delivery system that includes: high-quality, accessible, comprehensive primary care; early intervention; wellness; health education; effective patient case management; self-directed chronic disease management; comprehensive preventive and restorative dental care; mental health and substance abuse services integrated with primary care; expanded access to lower-cost pharmaceuticals; and access to specialty care.
- Work with state legislative leadership, coalitions, health care providers and Bi-State members to explore viable revenue options for sustaining New Hampshire's Medicaid program and funding cost-effective primary care for the uninsured in our member health centers.
- Inform policymakers and stakeholders in the non-profit and business community of the value and return on investment of our members' community-based primary and preventive care for vulnerable, underserved and uninsured populations.