

Meeting Summary

June 11, 2024
11:30 a.m. EST

Purpose

To provide quarterly updates to the North Carolina Attorney General's Office regarding Affiliated Monitor's tasks related to the compliance activities of HCA under the Asset Purchase Agreement for Mission Health System.

Attendees

Dogwood Health Trust (DHT)	Affiliated Monitors, Inc (AMI)	NCDOJ
Susan Mims Rachel Ryan Elizabeth Becker Fred Jones Board Member Carol Burton, Board Member	Jerry Coyne Denise Moran Jeff Brickman	Sarah Boyce Llogan Walters Jasmine McGhee South Moore

Meeting Summary Items Specific to IM Monitoring Activities

Affiliated Monitors, Inc., serving as the independent monitor (IM), provided information related to the following topics: status of the IM's website development, activities related to monitoring (i.e., hospital site visits, community meetings, individual meetings with local leaders and EMS personnel), and analysis process utilized for monitoring the Asset Purchase Agreement (APA).

Initial Monitoring Phase

Mr. Coyne explained that the monitoring process was underway, and the AMI team was engaged in the review of documents and the interview phases. Although AMI had only been appointed as the IM in April, the team wanted to host six community meetings, which had been set in June in the following locations: McDowell County (Marion), Yancey-Mitchell Counties (Spruce Pine), Buncombe County (Asheville), Transylvania County (Brevard), Macon-Jackson Counties (Highlands), and Macon County (Franklin).

Website Development

The IM website was functional, as of May 31, 2024, and a contact email address for AMI had been posted. The website continues to be developed and, when completed, will provide a web-based reporting form and a hotline feature in English and Spanish. The website will also afford those who speak other languages access to an interpreter.

There were no complaints from patients received to date via the email address provided on the IM website.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: TBD

Meeting Summary

September 19, 2024
11:00 a.m. EST

Purpose

To provide quarterly updates to the North Carolina Attorney General's Office regarding Affiliated Monitor's tasks related to the compliance activities of HCA under the Asset Purchase Agreement for Mission Health System.

Attendees

Dogwood Health Trust (DHT)	Affiliated Monitors, Inc (AMI)	NCDOJ
Susan Mims Rachel Ryan Elizabeth Becker Fred Jones Board Member Carol Burton, Board Member	Jerry Coyne Jeff Brickman	Sarah Boyce Llogan Walters Jasmine McGhee South Moore

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DHT, through Rachel Ryan, advised regarding deadlines set by the APA for correspondence from DHT to HCA regarding Potential Non-Compliance.

Affiliated Monitors, Inc., serving as the independent monitor (IM), provided information related to the following topics: status of the IM's website development, status of reports received by the IM Website portal, and the status of ongoing community engagement.

Website Development

The IM website became functional on May 31, 2024. Within the past week, the website's "Submit a Complaint" feature became operational. The feature was demonstrated to those in attendance. Mr. Coyne also explained that the telephonic hotline is expected to be operational within one week, and that after-hour calls will be returned by AMI personnel.

Consumer Complaints

Mr. Coyne explained that due to the short period of time the website complaint function has been operational, only one complaint has been received. During the same period at least 19 complaints were received by the NCDOJ.

Community Engagement Activities

The monitoring team anticipated returning to Western North Carolina from November 12-15, 2024.¹ Mr. Coyne explained that no large public meetings are currently being planned during this visit, with the goal instead of reaching people and groups who did not participate in the community meeting process. At the present time, AMI anticipates focusing upon patients, providers and other stakeholders served by Mission Hospital in Asheville, as well as in Transylvania and Macon counties, with future visits focusing upon different regions.

Substance Use Disorder (“SUD”) Investments

Dr. Mims reflected on DHT’s SUD investments, noting that DHT invested more than \$25 million to address SUD in Western North Carolina (“WNC”) over the last 5 years because this issue is a top priority in our region. DHT funded work in harm reduction, access to treatment services and prevention efforts. Grants were made in nearly every county DHT serves to support planning for opioid settlement dollars. Dr. Mims also highlighted that while adverse outcome of SUD worsened during the pandemic, WNC fared better in part because of DHT’s investments.

Transition

Representatives from NCDOJ assured DHT and AMI that they would assist in transitioning this work to any new staff members who joined NCDOJ after the upcoming election for Attorney General.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: TBD

¹ Due to Hurricane Helene, AMI’s November visit has been delayed until 2025.

Meeting Summary

December 17, 2024
 4:00 p.m. EST

Purpose

To provide quarterly updates to the North Carolina Attorney General's Office regarding Affiliated Monitor's tasks related to the compliance activities of HCA under the Asset Purchase Agreement for Mission Health System.

Attendees

Dogwood Health Trust (DHT)	Affiliated Monitors, Inc (AMI)	NCDOJ
Susan Mims Rachel Ryan Elizabeth Becker Fred Jones	Jerry Coyne Denise Moran Jeff Brickman	Llogan Walters South Moore Daniel Mosteller

Meeting Summary

NCDOJ Transition Process

The Office of the NCDOJ is under a transition process due to the outcome of the 2024 gubernatorial election. Llogan Walters will become the primary liaison with the NCDOJ's Office along with support from colleague Daniel Mosteller, who was introduced during the meeting. Sarah Boyce, Jasmine McGhee, and South Moore are departing the NCDOJ and relocating to positions in the Governor's Office.

Status of Reports Received to IM Website Portal & Discussion

AMI, as Independent Monitor, reported having received three complaints to date for 2024. General subject areas were limitations on visitation in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Helene, services related to the Emergency Department, and quality of care and request for assistance with legal counsel. AMI continues to process these complaints. AMI reported having been copied on a number of reports from external sources for purposes of information sharing.

According to the NCDOJ, their Office received 122 complaints for year-to-date and acknowledged a slow-down in complaint activity during the previous two months. The NCDOJ intends to forward pertinent complaints to the IM for information and review.

Reflections on the Impact of Hurricane Helene

Resources, including water and food supply chains, in Western North Carolina (WNC) were disrupted by the force and flooding brought to the region by Hurricane Helene in September 2024. Homes and businesses were destroyed and/or severely damaged in various locations throughout the region. DHT relayed how Mission Health System provided enhanced security, food, and gasoline to employees and used vast resources to keep the hospital in Buncombe County operational during the aftermath of the hurricane. While the hospital has been working with pressurized water supplied from a recently dug well, water services have recently been restored.

Community Engagement Activities by IM for 2024 and 2025

November 2024 – The IM had scheduled an onsite visit for November 2024. However, due to the impact of Hurricane Helene on WNC and feedback from various stakeholders, the IM decided to reschedule their onsite visit for community engagement until January 2025 to be sensitive to the needs of the communities.

January 2025 – The IM renewed their outreach efforts and scheduled an onsite visit to WNC the week of January 27 – 31, 2025. During the visit, the IM team will be meeting with individuals and small groups who have scheduled time with the team. Team members will be asking for reflections for the previous year and information which may be of importance to the monitoring of the Asset Purchase Agreement (APA).

May 2025 – The IM will return in May 2025 for an onsite visit. The team intends to meet with the community and will provide dates and opportunities for meetings as they finalize plans.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: TBD