healthywomen

Health Is Infrastructure, Too: The Impact on Women’s Health Care

Webinar | June 10, 2021 | 12:00-1:30 PM EST
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CEO, HealthyWomen
Catherine Oakar
Special Assistant to the President for Community Public Health and Disparities, The White House
Arika Pierce, JD
Founder, The Millennial Boardroom
(Moderator)
The American Jobs Plan

**Purpose:** Reimagine and rebuild a new economy through investing in job creation and rebuilding the country’s infrastructure

- **$400 billion**
  - Expand home and community-based services for older adults and people with disabilities
  - Increase in wages and benefits for the home care workforce

- **$100 billion**
  - Provide universal access to high-speed broadband and lower costs for this service to Americans in rural and urban areas
The American Families Plan

Purpose: Investment in our children and our families, grow the middle class and expand the benefits of economic growth to all Americans

- Mentions lowering the Medicare eligibility age to 60, expanding Medicaid for states that have yet to do so, and creating a public option
- **$200 billion**
  - Permanently expand ACA premium tax credits to ensure no individual spends more than 8.5% of their income on health insurance
- **$225 billion**
  - Address the childcare needs of families and providers including supply, education and wages for this workforce
  - Ensures no family spends more than 7% of their income on childcare
- **Comprehensive Paid Family & Medical Leave Program**
  - Guarantees 12 weeks of paid parental, family and personal illness/safe leave
  - All workers receive 3 days of bereavement leave per year
Megan Herber, MPH
Director, Faegre Drinker
Telehealth & Infrastructure

• The pandemic has accelerated the adoption of virtual care
  • Telehealth will be a part of health care infrastructure
  • Broadband infrastructure investment is key

• However, policy does not automatically keep up
  • Congress, HHS, and states granted many flexibilities during the public health emergency (PHE)
  • Congress must act to remove Medicare geographic and originating site restrictions before PHE expiration
Congressional Telehealth Policy

- **Over 500 bills** with the word “telehealth” in 117th Congress
  - CONNECT for Health Act
  - Telehealth Modernization Act
  - Protecting Access to Post-COVID Telehealth Act
  - Legislation on other topics – audio only, licensing, telemental, etc
  - Broadband funding

- Committee hearings

- MedPAC recommends extension of flexibilities

- Telehealth “cliff” when PHE expires if no action
Susan Zook
CEO, Mason Street Consulting
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Healthcare Platform

- Making health insurance more affordable, ensuring access to coverage options and safety net programs.
- Expand telehealth services and flexibilities.
- Support private sector innovation and access to new technologies for patients regardless of the source of their insurance.
- Support federal health care program’s ability to be more responsive to innovation, so that patients and providers are equipped with the resources necessary to receive the highest level of care.
- Protect long-term solvency of our health care programs.
Q&A
Dorianne Mason, JD
Director of Health Equity, National Women’s Law Center
Q&A
Sue Peschin, MHS
President & CEO, Alliance for Aging Research
Q&A
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