



**NC Get Covered Coalition Meeting – Allowable Activities for 501c3 Organizations and Medicaid Expansion in North Carolina**

**Friday, January 20, 2017, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Community Care of North Carolina’s Training Room,  
2300 Rexwoods Drive, Ste. 100, Raleigh**

Call-in number: 712-775-7031 Passcode: 889585330

Webinar Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3988179742692269058>

**Meeting Notes**

**Special Remarks**

*Dr. Pamela Roshell, Regional Director, HHS Region IV*

- Leaving her position at HHS; Natalie Perry will serve as the acting regional director until a new director is named.
- Thanked NC Get Covered coalition partners for all of our hard work... 563,000 cumulative plan selections through 1/9.

**Allowable Activities for 501c3 Organizations**

Bill Rowe, General Counsel and Deputy Director of Advocacy, NC Justice Center

- **See attached handouts**
- There are many ways that organizations can get involved in advocacy efforts (e.g., simply disseminate accurate information); lobbying isn’t necessary.
- Look at your organization’s mission and staffing before deciding whether or not to lobby, and make sure you know the rules... You can lobby but make sure your funders are okay with it first.
- If you’re a 501c3 organization, a substantial amount of your budget cannot be spent on lobbying (certain % according to 501-H Expenditure Test). Organizations are encouraged to speak to a lawyer for further guidance.
- Amount of time spent on grassroots lobbying, where you encourage the public to contact legislators, is also limited (25%).
- If you’re not supporting or opposing a particular piece of legislation, it’s not lobbying. Also, it’s not considered lobbying if you try to influence decisions made by the Executive Branch (Governor).
- Your organization cannot use state dollars to lobby.
- No matter what you do, 501c3 organizations can NOT be partisan, endorse a particular candidate or party, or help someone get elected.
- If you have any questions, please contact Bill Rowe at [bill@ncjustice.org](mailto:bill@ncjustice.org)

**Update on Medicaid Expansion in North Carolina**

Ciara Zachary, Policy Analyst, Health Advocacy Project, NC Justice Center

- **See attached PowerPoint**
- Medicaid Expansion Hearing tentatively scheduled for 1/27
- Not sure how long it will take to confirm HHS nominee Price, so there's still hope.
- You can find consumer stories on the NC Justice Center website – [www.ncjustice.org](http://www.ncjustice.org)
- The three-year window for Feds to cover Medicaid expansion is now over, so states will have to put up some money to support this endeavor.

**Partner Updates, Announcements and Reminders**

- ACA Messaging Webinar scheduled for 11am on Monday, January 23... Contact Jennifer Simmons or Sorien Schmidt if interested.