

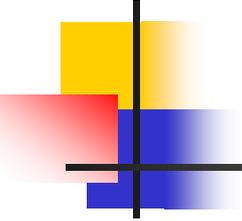
The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and Minority Health

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Senate and House Committee
on
Insurance and Commerce
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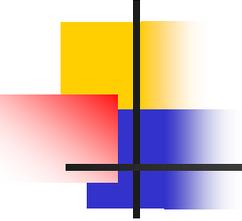
The Affordable Care Act

- The ACA represents unprecedented opportunity to improve the health of all Arkansans
- It has many provisions to health address health disparities
- We have yet to see impact on those most in need



Minority Health in Arkansas

- Health ranking of 47th in the US
 - 29% of 18-64 population uninsured
- Minority Arkansans bear a disproportionate portion of that burden with higher rates of uninsured people and higher death rates from everything from infant mortality to cancer, diabetes, heart disease, stroke and HIV
- Sen. Crumbly- Sub-Committee on Minority Health
 - Stories that illustrate the statistics
 - Life and death stories and unmet need in the community for everything from acute care, medications, preventive care and mental health services



Provisions to Address Health Disparities

- Specific:
 - Data Collection and Quality Improvement
 - Workforce Distribution and Diversity
 - Cultural Competency Education
 - Research on Health Disparities
- General:
 - Expanding Access to Health Insurance



Expanding Access

- Health Benefits Exchange
 - On-line Market Place for Insurance
 - Small Business and Individuals
 - State/Federal Partnership Exchange- 3 states
 - **Consumer Assistance Advisory Committee**
 - **How we design and implement the system matters**
 - **Navigation/In-Person Assistors**
- Medicaid Expansion
 - 138% Federal Poverty Level
 - Individuals and families of 4 making \$15,145 or \$31,809 per year, respectively
 - 250,000 people
 - **Experience in other States**



In Conclusion

- We want to ensure that everyone has a opportunity to attain his or her full health potential
- We know that insurance coverage is a necessary component in that process
- While we recognize the economic challenges, the ACA is an investment in the future of Arkansas and its people