SUBJECT: The Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary, Community-Based Linkages (ACICBL) met via webinar and teleconference on two dates in March, to accommodate the schedules of the eleven current Committee members. The meeting on March 15, 2018, included five members, and the meeting on March 27, 2018, included the remaining six members. These meetings were the first for ACICBL in over a year, and all members are new to the Committee. During the meetings, the members received their orientation and discussed possible topics for the Committee’s 17th Report to Congress.

BACKGROUND: ACICBL currently consists of eleven members appointed by the Secretary. These members provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary on a broad range of issues concerning programs and activities authorized under Title VII, Part D, of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act. Members are appointed based on their competence, interest, and knowledge of the mission of the profession involved, and serve for a term of three years.

PURPOSE: In both meetings, the ACICBL members received an orientation that covered:
- An overview of the programs and priorities of HHS, HRSA, and BHW,
- The Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and advisory committee expectations,
- The roles of the Committee chair and the Committee members,
- The roles of HRSA support staff, including the designated federal official, the Advisory Council Operations staff, and the technical writer,
- A review of ethics guidelines, including an update on the federal Hatch Act,
- The charter, operations, and recent reports of ACICBL, and
- HRSA programs authorized under Title VII, Part D.

After this orientation, the Committee held general discussions on potential topics of focus for its upcoming 17th Report. Suggested topics included:
- Use of social media in health communications/education projects,
- Expansion of data collection on program outcomes and cost-effectiveness,
- Potential collaborations within the Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) and the AHEC Scholars programs,
- Integration of behavioral health into all areas of health care,
- Interprofessional team care in sustainable, age-friendly health care systems, and
- Improvements to the electronic health record (EHR) to promote patient care and streamline clinical workflow.

The topic the Committee decided to focus its Fiscal Year 2018 work on is Preparing the current and future health care workforce for interprofessional practice in sustainable, age-friendly health care systems including addressing the quadruple aim.

NEXT STEPS: The next meeting of the ACICBL will be in-person on June 6 – 7, 2018 in Rockville, Maryland.

CONTACT PERSON: Joan Weiss, Designated Federal Official for ACICBL, 301-443-0430