

National Advisory Council on the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Meeting

From Council Recommendation to Policy: The Process

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Overview

1. Overview of NHSC Committee Charge
2. Drafting Recommendations
3. Turning Recommendations into Policy





NHSC National Advisory Council Charge

The Council shall:

- ***Consult with, advise, and make recommendations to, the Secretary*** with respect to their responsibilities in carrying out this subpart (other than section 338G).
- Review and comment upon regulations promulgated by the Secretary under this subpart.





Committee Recommendations

The Committee is strongest when considering areas where HHS and the Secretary have the authority to make a change in either program or allocated resources.

Things to consider:

- Is this a legislative or policy recommendation?
- Does HHS have authority to make the change?
- Whom is the appropriate audience (i.e., Secretary, Congress, public)?
- What is the appropriate vehicle to share recommendations?

Types of Committee Documents

Letters to the Secretary:

- <http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/mchbadvisory/InfantMortality/4thstrategyrecommendedactions.pdf>

White Papers or Policy Briefs:

- <http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/rural/publications/homelessnessruralamerica.pdf>

Annual Reports:

- <http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/bhpradvisory/actpcmd/Reports/twelfthreport.pdf>





Writing Strong and Precise Recommendations

Strong recommendations are those that have a precise action that can be directly tied to a specific change that the Secretary can make.

Precise action items

VS

General considerations

Examples of Strong Recommendations

- **Legislative:** The Committee recommends that the Secretary work with Congress to pursue a temporary compliance waiver for grantees in good standing who meet a specified definition for rural and are located in a dental or mental health HPSA when their communities lose access to a sole dental health or mental health provider.¹
- **Policy:** The Committee recommends that HRSA's Title VII, Part C, Section 747 and 748 funding opportunity announcements include the development of culturally competent interprofessional clinical education and training sites that address social determinants of health and the complex medical, psychosocial, and health literacy needs of vulnerable populations.²

1. National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services, *Challenges to Head Start and Early Childhood Development Programs in Rural Communities*, <http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/rural/publications/headstartearlychildhood2012.pdf>, December 2012.
2. Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry, *Health Literacy and Patient Engagement*, <http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/bhpradvisory/actpcmd/Reports/twelfthreport.pdf>, September 2015.





Other Recommendation Examples

- The Committee recommends the Secretary explore and develop new models of interprofessional clinical practice to achieve the key health care goals of better care, improved health outcomes, and lower cost.³
 - The Committee recommends that reimbursement models be reformed to include payment incentives for interprofessional education and collaborative care that address the holistic, complex care needs of patients, families, and caregivers, rather than focusing on reimbursement for a single disease.⁴
 - The Committee recommends licensing bodies include questions in their examinations that measure entering health professionals' understanding of population health and their ability to integrate population health strategies into practice.⁵
3. National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice, Incorporating Interprofessional Education and Practice into Nursing, <http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/bhpradvisory/nacnep/Reports/thirteenthreport.pdf>, 2015.
 4. 4 Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary, Community-Based Linkages, Rethinking Complex Care: Preparing the Healthcare Workforce to Foster Person-Centered Care, <http://www.hrsa.gov/advisorycommittees/bhpradvisory/acicbl/Reports/fourteenthreport.pdf>, June 2105.
 5. Ibid.



Turning Recommendations into Action

Legislative

- Letters to Congress
- A-19 process

(https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a019/)



Turning Recommendations into Action

Policy

- Regulatory
- Programmatic
- Funding Priorities

FY 2016 National Health Service Corps Application and Program Guidance Clearance Schedule

Program	2015												2016												2017											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
NHSC LRP*																																				
NHSC SP																																				
NHSC S2S																																				
NC LRP*																																				
NHSC FRN																																				
NHSC PGB																																				
NHSC SRG																																				

Planning Phase 
Clearance 
Published 

* New and Continuation APGs



Questions

