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SILVER STATE HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE
BOARD MEETING
AND ADOPTION OF INSURANCE CPF RATES FOR PY 2021

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MS. KORBULIC: Jameson?

DR. JAMESON: Yes.

MS. KORBULIC: I think, we'll have our last few members joining in the next 10 minutes or so. So if we want to get started, we do, it appears we have a quorum.

DR. JAMESON: Oh, excellent. Well, then, what I'd like to do is go ahead and thank everybody for coming and go ahead and take roll call.

MS. KORBULIC: Okay. Dr. Jameson?

DR. JAMESON: Present.

MS. KORBULIC: Valerie Clark is on her way.
Lavonne Lewis?

MS. LEWIS: Present.

MS. KORBULIC: Dr. Dan Cook?

DR. COOK: Present.

MS. KORBULIC: Jonathan Johnson?

MR. JOHNSON: Present.

MS. KORBULIC: Jose Melendrez, he will be here in a minute, so I will mark him here when he arrives.

1 Quincy Branch?

2 MR. BRANCH: Present via phone.

3 MS. KORBULIC: Thank you.

4 Suzanne Bierman is on her way.

5 Commissioner Richardson?

6 COMMISSIONER RICHARDSON: Here.

7 MS. KORBULIC: And Lynnette Aaron?

8 MS. AARON: Here.

9 MS. KORBULIC: Great. Madam Chair, we do have
10 a quorum.

11 DR. JAMESON: Very good. So let me see. There
12 are no announcements. But I do want to say
13 congratulations -- and it won't be the first or the last
14 time that I'll probably repeat this, like a record,
15 broken record, throughout this afternoon -- to you and
16 your staff for the amazing job you did. There were
17 times we all sat here, and not to say we were doubting
18 Thomases or doubting folks, but the task seemed
19 insurmountable. And when we drifted temporarily out of
20 the green zone, we still didn't have any doubt you'd
21 complete this task.

22 But what you did, as we are about to hear,
23 through your report, was nothing short of a miracle.
24 And just congratulations on implementing an amazingly
25 successful state-based Exchange that the Silver State

1 could not be more proud of. Congratulations to all of
2 you for a job well-done. Excellent. Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. KORBULIC: Thank you, Madam Chair.

5 DR. JAMESON: And, now, approval. Oh, we're
6 going to go to public comment first.

7 Barry, AARP.

8 MR. BARRY GOLD: Good afternoon. For the
9 record, my name is Barry Gold. I am the Director of
10 Government Relations for AARP Nevada.

11 Before I do my formal comments, I'd like to
12 personally thank Felicia from LCB, who is doing a
13 wonderful job of doing the audio and the visual today.
14 And she's going to hate me for saying that, but that's
15 what happens. So thank you, Felicia.

16 I would like to also add my commendations to
17 Heather and the staff and the Board for guiding and
18 steering Nevada Health Link back to being a state-based
19 Exchange. I heard nothing anecdotally but good things.
20 All that I heard was people really enjoy being back on
21 the state-based Exchange, that there were people to talk
22 to, and that the platform worked very well.

23 And so Nevada Health Link, or the Silver State
24 Health Exchange, continues to be not just a viable
25 option, a very good option to provide people with

1 healthcare coverage, affordable to quality, affordable
2 healthcare, including the ever so important 50- to
3 64-year-olds, which you hear me mention before, that
4 aren't old enough for Medicare, and you pay attention to
5 them, and you recruit them as well.

6 So thank you very much for a job well-done.

7 DR. JAMESON: Thank you, Barry.

8 Any other public comment?

9 Do we have any public comment in the north?

10 MS. KORBULIC: It does not appear that we do,
11 Madam Chair.

12 DR. JAMESON: Thank you, Executive Director
13 Ms. Korbulic. Would you -- we'd like approval of the
14 minutes from September 19th, 2019. Do I hear a motion?

15 MR. MELENDREZ: Jose Melendrez, for the record.
16 Motion to approve the minutes.

17 MR. JOHNSON: Jonathan Johnson. Second.

18 DR. JAMESON: And do we hear any discussion, or
19 were there any edits, any noted omissions?

20 Not hearing anything, then I'll take a vote.
21 Everybody in favor of passing our minutes from the
22 September 19, 2019 Board meeting, say "aye."

23 (Board members said "aye.")

24 DR. JAMESON: Any opposition?

25 Thank you. Any abstaining?

1 The minutes are passed unanimously. Thank you.
2 And now it is such a pleasure to ask our
3 Executive Director, Heather Korbulic, to go ahead and
4 give her executive report.

5 MS. KORBULIC: Thank you, members of the Board
6 and Madam Chair. It is an honor to sit on this side of
7 the fence finally on the state-based Exchange. And we
8 have a lot to update you on about what's gone on over
9 the last four months. So please bear with me as I read
10 through a report that we put together for you.

11 As you're aware, in September 2019, the Silver
12 State Health Insurance Exchange officially transitioned
13 to our technology and our call center functionality off
14 of HealthCare.gov. And we are now fully an autonomous
15 state-based Exchange. This was in time for our open
16 enrollment for plan year 2020 and ongoing.

17 Our first open enrollment, of course, began on
18 November 1st and ended on December 15th. We had an
19 extension to December 20th for any Nevadan who began
20 their application by December 15th.

21 At the end of open enrollment, we had a total
22 of 77,410 consumers who enrolled for plan year 2020,
23 which included 20,111 new consumers and 25,587 returning
24 consumers who took active action and shopped on
25 NevadaHealthLink.com.

1 For the very first time in our history, we have
2 access to real-time data. And this information provides
3 details about plan selections along with the demographic
4 makeup of our consumers. Plan year 2020 is our new
5 baseline from which we will work to continue to increase
6 the number of insured Nevadans.

7 This transition project, as you are all aware,
8 was multifaceted and in credibly complex. It required
9 coordination with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
10 Services, the IRS, GetInsured, and both their technology
11 and their call center team. The Division of Welfare and
12 Supportive Services has been an extremely important
13 partner. Nevada Division of Insurance has also been an
14 extremely important partner. The Exchange and our
15 insurance carriers, the Nevada licensed brokers,
16 navigators, community partners, and consumers have all
17 played a role in helping to ensure a successful
18 transition.

19 We were able to not only successfully
20 transition away from HealthCare.gov, we were also able
21 to produce an on-time, under-budget technology project,
22 which is no small feat for a state agency.

23 As the Exchange moves into our operation,
24 maintenance and operations phase of this project, the
25 focus is going to be on establishing best practice for

1 contract monitoring, both for our technology and our
2 call center vendor, with a focus on defect resolution
3 while also seeking opportunities to improve and enhance
4 the Exchange's configuration for efficiencies and
5 effectiveness. The Exchange is also going to continue
6 to build and refine policy that's in line with federal
7 and state laws and in sync with national best practices.
8 All along the way, we will continue to ensure the
9 security and privacy standards in order to remain in
10 compliance with both CMS and the IRS. We will also be
11 continuing to coordinate with our insurance carriers to
12 align reconciliation efforts while we monitor specific
13 data to ensure effective outreach and marketing tactics.

14 While the Exchange's project can be counted as
15 a success, there are also a lot of opportunities for
16 improvement. And we are working right now actively to
17 survey and engage all of our stakeholders in an effort
18 to identify and prioritize opportunities for advancement
19 both in our SEP, or our special enrollment period, and
20 for open enrollment for plan year '21.

21 Let me give you a little bit of information
22 about our enrollment for 2020. As a part of our
23 state-based Exchange transition, we migrated data from
24 HealthCare.gov to our own state-based Exchange on
25 GetInsured's platform. The migration was approximately

1 65,563 Nevadans who were actively enrolled at the end of
2 October who we migrated from HealthCare.gov.

3 As a result of the successful transition away
4 from that federal platform, the Exchange established a
5 new and accurate baseline. And we will highlight on
6 some of these, some of the numbers related to our
7 enrollment.

8 So the total enrollment, as I said earlier, was
9 77,410. The average net premium for consumers on the
10 Exchange, on Nevada Health Link this year is \$281. The
11 consumers who were eligible for APTC of that 77,000-plus
12 was 61,920, or approximately 80 percent of our
13 enrollees. We had 20,111 new enrollees. 25,587 were
14 actively -- took action to reenroll. And then we had a
15 total of 45,698 who were a combined total of new and
16 active reenrollees.

17 So that's the number of people who were
18 actively engaged on Nevada Health Link during open
19 enrollment.

20 By metal tier, we can break it down into
21 approximately 1,600 folks who enrolled in gold plans,
22 26,064 who are in silver plans, 1,150 who are on bronze
23 plans. Our expanded bronze has a pretty significant
24 population with 16,533. And the catastrophic plans were
25 about 301.

1 This is another exciting thing for us this
2 year. We're able to track the number of enrollees who
3 were enrolled with a broker. And we know that this
4 number is up by a significant margin from previous
5 years. So this year, 26,110 enrollees were enrolled
6 through a broker or one of the partners that were
7 certified and licensed with us. And then we saw 19,590
8 people did self-service.

9 Let's talk a little bit briefly, because Janel
10 and Patty will talk more about our marketing and
11 outreach efforts. But I wanted to make sure that the
12 Board knows that we developed a comprehensive strategy
13 for marketing, outreach and communication for plan year
14 2020. The multiphased plan included our most diverse
15 approach in our history and was developed nearly and
16 maybe even more than a year in advance of our launch.

17 We had intense communication with stakeholders
18 that began early in 2019 and focused on developing
19 buy-in by engaging all of our stakeholder groups in the
20 project's progress through transparent and regular
21 communication.

22 The Exchange's marketing vendor, Penna Powers,
23 developed creative advertisements and used consumer data
24 to refine outreach and marketing to target audiences
25 within specific geographic regions.

1 We will also provide a little bit more of those
2 details in a later report.

3 So, as I mentioned earlier, we had a
4 significant chunk of our enrollment done through our
5 brokers that we partnered with this last year. And this
6 has been an exciting part of being a state-based
7 Exchange. During the last six months of 2019, we
8 embarked on a new process for training and certifying
9 brokers to sell QHPs and dental plans on the Exchange.

10 The first part in this process was to create
11 our own Nevada Health Link online training and
12 certification program. The Exchange, through our
13 Project Management Office, designed a course,
14 curriculum, and online instructional program using a
15 training platform called Mindflash. The interactive
16 training program based on the CMS training offered
17 returning brokers an abbreviated training and new
18 brokers a longer more robust training. Whether a broker
19 took the abbreviated training or the longer training,
20 each course taught brokers ACA basics, privacy security
21 and fraud prevention standards, and marketplace assister
22 essentials.

23 In addition to providing instructions, each
24 course offered frequent knowledge checks to ensure that
25 content was being absorbed as well as a final exam.

1 Additionally, incorporated into this training
2 and certification process were attestations ensuring
3 compliance with our privacy policy on Nevada Health Link
4 and acceptable use policy along with our code of conduct
5 and our marketplace privacy and security agreements.

6 As of January 2020, the Exchange has 779
7 resident and non-resident brokers trained and certified
8 on our platform. Of this number, 271 have opted into
9 availability in the telephonic Broker Connect referral
10 system, which is an automated telephony system that will
11 search the phone number of a broker within a specified
12 mile radius of a caller's location and zip code. And it
13 will call multiple agents until a connection is made or
14 a message is left on the desired broker's phone. This
15 is how consumers were connecting to brokers throughout
16 open enrollment to get enrolled.

17 Our broker liaison continues to travel to
18 various areas of the state, and meets with licensed
19 brokers and agencies individually to promote the
20 benefits of selling plans on the Exchange, to talk about
21 new features regarding the enrollment and eligibilities
22 on our GI system, and to talk about the features of the
23 broker portal and the broker book of business features.

24 Furthermore, our broker liaison is continually
25 discussing with the broker community how changes to

1 short-term limited plans and association health plans
2 will impact the individual market, and it takes time to
3 educate and review important ACA requirements. A
4 substantial amount of time this open enrollment was
5 spent by the broker liaison and our broker Exchange
6 enrollment facilitator, quality assurance specialist.
7 All of us were fielding broker enrollment and
8 eligibility questions, system questions, and policy
9 questions. These two Exchange staff members, in our QA
10 and our broker liaison, coordinated broker questions
11 with the GI call center to ensure a consistent policy
12 application and brokers and consumers were getting the
13 consistent messaging.

14 Because the Exchange is now able to provide a
15 dedicated broker support line, the Exchange was able to
16 increase call center coverage hours for our brokers and
17 EES, our Exchange enrollment facilitators, throughout
18 open enrollment.

19 Our broker liaison is steadfast in actively
20 engaging and promoting marketplace participation in both
21 northern and southern Nevada to broker groups such as
22 Northern Nevada Association of Health Underwriters,
23 Clark County Association of Health Underwriters, and at
24 Chamber of Commerce events.

25 Following up on a successful request for

1 applications back in May of 2018, which solicited
2 applications for a maximum of six broker/agent
3 storefront programs for plan year 2019, we awarded five
4 grants for plan year 2020. The Exchange released our
5 RFA back in May, and five grants with \$10,000 each were
6 awarded on July 1st. This funding helped to assist with
7 marketing, outreach and operational costs related to
8 enrolling consumers in QHPs. The goal of this RFA is to
9 increase the number of enrollees in qualified health
10 plans by brokers and servicing Nevadans in in-person or
11 storefront locations.

12 The questions and concerns -- or the Exchange
13 recognizes the value of brokers having a public-facing
14 physical location to service consumers and to answer
15 questions and concerns and to comparatively shop plans,
16 as well as directly assisting with the enrollment
17 process during the enrollment period.

18 Due to the Exchange's success with this
19 program, we're enthusiastically planning to continue
20 this program for plan year '20, and we're looking for
21 geographical diversity across the state as it relates to
22 our grantees.

23 Based off of the end of open enrollment data,
24 we can see that 33 percent of active applications were
25 assisted by brokers, which is a 9 percent increase from

1 plan year 2019 on HealthCare.gov. The grants have
2 helped to directly provide and have an impact in
3 assisting over 2,500 consumers with convenient locations
4 throughout southern Nevada.

5 We'll move on to the navigators and in-person
6 assisters section.

7 To be compliant with the federal regulations,
8 we have to have a consumer assistant resource and
9 function, including a navigator program. And we must
10 refer consumers to appropriate state resources when
11 available. We have allocated a \$1.5 million budget for
12 the year-round work performed by navigators and
13 in-person assisters, and we continue to operate with two
14 awarded entities to serve as statewide navigators with
15 six IPA, or in-person assister, entities.

16 Navigator and IPA organizations are responsible
17 for outreach, education and enrollment, and specifically
18 with our uninsured and underinsured population.

19 We also work with certified application
20 counselors. And these are comprised of private entities
21 that are licensed by the Division of Insurance and have
22 been trained by Nevada Health Link, and they work
23 closely with the Exchange to both educate consumers on
24 the resources available in the health marketplace and to
25 enroll as appropriate.

1 Exchange navigators and IPAs attended over 580
2 events between July and December of 2019 and remain the
3 primary event staff when attending statewide community
4 outreach events, which continue to be a vital part of
5 Nevada Health Link's marketing and outreach initiatives.
6 Navigators and IPAs attend community outreach events to
7 promote upcoming open enrollment while providing
8 consumers with education of the health insurance
9 marketplace. They also dedicate and educate consumers
10 to special enrollment periods for anyone who might be
11 experiencing a qualifying life event.

12 I'm going to pause for a second and breathe.
13 And then we'll move on to our discussion about our
14 contract management with the GetInsured company and our
15 vendor.

16 As you know, our transition project is nearing
17 completion. So the design, development, and
18 implementation phase is almost over. We are still
19 working on some of our special reenrollment period
20 launch. And as we're doing that, we're entering into
21 the maintenance and operation phase of our contract.

22 GetInsured will work to continue to resolve
23 legacy defects that were related to the DD&I phase while
24 we move into our M&O. The Exchange has developed a
25 scope of work designed to augment our contractual

1 obligations. This scope of work outlines tasks,
2 schedules, and expected outcomes for maintenance and
3 operations.

4 The GI contract for the design, development,
5 and implementation phase outlined milestones and
6 deliverables and correlated payments accordingly. As is
7 expected with a contract of this size and complexity,
8 many milestones and deliverables were adjusted through
9 formal change requests and were signed by all parties.
10 The Exchange required and continues to require
11 satisfactory delivery of all associated deliverables
12 prior to payment.

13 The Exchange has outlined our expectations for
14 maintenance and operations in this statement of work,
15 and it covers both the technology and the call center
16 functions. The Exchange's Chief Operations Officer and
17 the Executive Director are going to continue to oversee
18 our efforts to monitor GetInsured for compliance with
19 the contractual obligations and our statement of work.
20 If any deficiencies are found, we will communicate the
21 deficiency, the expectation for correction, and the
22 timeline for compliance in writing to our Account
23 Manager with GetInsured and to their CEO for
24 rectification.

25 One of the most bright-shining parts of our

1 transition to a state-based Exchange was the call
2 center. I'm very proud of the work that we did in our
3 call center. So I'm excited to give you guys an update
4 on that.

5 We began operations in our call center for
6 consumers on September 4th. And it was just in time to
7 align with the invitation that went out to all of our
8 migrated consumers from HealthCare.gov. We called this
9 our soft launch. And it offered stakeholders and
10 consumers this opportunity to work with Nevada Health
11 Link, and it really set the tone for open enrollment.

12 The call center supported two phone numbers
13 dedicated to two specific audiences. One line is
14 dedicated to consumers, and the other is dedicated to
15 enrollment professionals. While the call center is open
16 during typical office hours during the off-season, so
17 right now and during the special reenrollment period,
18 that's 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the Exchange was able to
19 work with our vendors to extend call centers throughout
20 the day during open enrollment from 7:30 a.m. to
21 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. And then we also
22 provided extended hours on Saturdays and Sundays.

23 The service provided during these hours was
24 available in both English and Spanish and, when needed,
25 in other languages through this Language Line Solutions

1 phone interpretation services. The overall strategy was
2 for GetInsured consumer representatives to provide
3 technical support, to answer basic questions, and to
4 direct consumers to brokers and other enrollment
5 professionals if they wanted assistance with enrollment.

6 Furthermore, our call center representatives
7 reviewed and processed data matching issues. They also
8 worked on SET verification issues and documentation.
9 And to achieve this strategy, GetInsured established a
10 permanent and seasonal peak staffing plan to hire
11 level 1 CSRs, level 2 escalation CSRs, and broker
12 support CSRs, supervisors, quality insurance personnel,
13 a manager, a director, a trainer, IT support personnel.

14 The hiring for GetInsured began in June of
15 2019, with a staffing peak at 55 employees during open
16 enrollment.

17 The CSRs were provided foundational training on
18 ACA and health insurance basics, exceptional
19 circumstances, privacy, security, HIPAA, positive
20 customer services, level 1 service, level 2 service, how
21 to use the consumer assistance portal, support for our
22 brokers, and their key roles and responsibilities. We
23 also established performance indicators, and the call
24 center representatives were trained on those.

25 Supporting the call center locally for the

1 Exchange was a team of one supervisor and three program
2 officers comprising of the quality assurance team. This
3 was another shining star in our transition as a
4 state-based Exchange. This team is awesome.

5 So the quality assurance, this four-person team
6 reports to our COO and is a level 3 support team, and
7 they address the most complex issues that require
8 in-depth research. For reference, our preliminary
9 workload statistics of the QA team included
10 approximately 800 emails responded to and closed, and
11 the closure of 600 CAP tickets, which is our consumer
12 assistant portal tickets.

13 The quality assurance unit's partnership with
14 the GetInsured call center included support of escalated
15 issues resulting from some 42,700 calls since the call
16 center's operational start. And the consumer support
17 line on -- or excuse me.

18 Coordination of workload has been managed by
19 daily check-in calls with our call center during open
20 enrollment. And we have now gone to twice weekly
21 check-ins during SEP. Since their opening day, the call
22 center has maintained a 90 percent or greater consumer
23 satisfaction rate.

24 And then I wanted to provide you with some
25 information about our new employees and kind of our

1 growth as a state-based Exchange as it relates to our
2 operations.

3 So our biannual budget that was approved this
4 last legislative session included an additional nine
5 classified full-time employees to assist with our
6 state-based Exchange functionality. Between the months
7 of August and December, we coordinated with the Division
8 of Human Resource Management to recruit, interview and
9 hire all nine employees, which by itself is a giant feat
10 of state bureaucracy. We are very proud of that work.

11 So the hiring process was an enormous task, and
12 it took place in the middle of what was an incredibly
13 complicated technology transition project. We
14 immediately employed all of these new team staff members
15 to develop, to help us develop new processes and
16 policies and workflows to align with their respective
17 positions. We understood what the functionality would
18 be and what functionality would be necessary to
19 operationalize the state-based Exchange, but the flow is
20 still something that we are working to completely
21 understand. I think, it'll take about a year of
22 operations for us to totally understand all of this.

23 So the quality assurance and consumer
24 assistance unit, which I talked about earlier, was
25 started back in September of '19. And we built this

1 unit with those three QA analysts that we mentioned
2 earlier. They report to our QA Manager, who reports to
3 our COO. Each of these positions are cross-trained to
4 ensure daily coverage and to assist each other with
5 increased workloads.

6 The QA for Carrier Support Specialist is a
7 subject matter expert who works directly with our health
8 and dental insurers who offer products through the
9 Exchange. Under the direction of the QA Officer, this
10 position is the single point of contact for our carriers
11 for on-Exchange policies, practice and systems, because,
12 or from starting this position, since she started this
13 position, she's been responsible for researching and
14 confirming some of the most complex payment transaction
15 processes, enrollment and eligibility verifications with
16 our carriers, and, of course, identifying system
17 interactions among our consumers and our carriers. This
18 person is primarily responsible for identifying trends
19 and defects and then, of course, reporting them as
20 appropriate.

21 One of our other QA analysts is primarily
22 responsible for partner supports and is a liaison and
23 subject matter expert for navigators, enrollment
24 counselors, CACs, and our licensed agents and brokers.
25 She is responsible for program development and

1 implementation to support all of those folks. She
2 supports case management, policy research and analysis.
3 I could go on, but you could read that. So we -- she
4 also has been in direct and daily and constant contact
5 with our broker liaison who works out of our Henderson
6 office.

7 The next person is a consumer support
8 specialist, and she is a subject matter expert who is
9 working daily and directly with consumers. So she's
10 performing all sorts of support and research of any kind
11 of consumer complaint that reaches a Tier 3 level.
12 Often, these are coming to us through phone calls or
13 emails or through delegates or the Governor's Office.
14 She is charged with providing coordination with the GI
15 call center and ensuring that all of the consumers that
16 call get timely and satisfactory resolution to their
17 issues.

18 And then, just to give you -- I already gave
19 you that information. Wow. I repeated things. Sorry
20 about that.

21 So the last, or one other unit that I wanted to
22 provide you with some information on is our policy and
23 compliance unit. This was brand-new to us. And I am
24 thrilled about this, because as of -- those of you Board
25 members who know, over the last several years, policy

1 and compliance has also been my third full-time job. So
2 I'm excited to have some support in this. And we are
3 really lucky to have the team that we have.

4 We have a Management Analyst III, who is our
5 compliance manager, and then a Management Analyst I, who
6 does our policy and compliance coordination. And these
7 are content experts, subject matter experts in reviewing
8 guidance and developing policy manuals for our internal
9 staff, our external stakeholders, and for the public.
10 The policy unit also oversees librarianship of all
11 documents that ensure that they are being updated
12 appropriately and that the scheduled reviews of those
13 documents are happening as appropriate.

14 The Manager is in charge of ensuring that our
15 vendor system is in compliance with all NRS, NAC, and
16 federal law, and any rule exchanges that come, which
17 we'll talk about some of those later. The position
18 serves as a manager over the policy and appeals team.
19 She engages with compliance -- or works on our user
20 acceptance testing to any changes that the vendor
21 deploys to the system to ensure that defects are being
22 managed appropriately and within compliance of all
23 required standards.

24 The MA-I is focused on researching
25 policy-related matters that impact our operations. He

1 works collaboratively with the policy and compliance
2 team to identify any kind of changes that may impact our
3 business and our operations. He's also required to
4 assist with the creation and revision of guidance and
5 our forward-facing policy manual for both internal and
6 external use, and has been instrumental in helping to
7 establish -- I will just wing it here, but policy
8 manuals and any changes in interpretation of those
9 policy manuals that have come up over the course of the
10 last several months.

11 Finally, the last set of the two, of the nine
12 employees that we hired were the two reconciliation
13 specialists. And they have a critically important role
14 that we're just starting to dig into now. We hired them
15 last because, basically, reconciliation couldn't start
16 until after the end of open enrollment. And
17 reconciliation is a critical part of interacting with
18 our carriers to ensure that their system matches the
19 GetInsured system. So they've been busy over the last
20 several months establishing some policies and processes,
21 working to develop relationships with our reconciliation
22 teams on our carriers, and have been building an
23 external system that we will be using to manage
24 reconciliation.

25 I promise I'm getting near the end here.

1 I wanted to provide the Board, because it is
2 important that we continue to pay very close attention
3 to what is happening in Washington, D.C. And it is not
4 boring at all.

5 So we are tracking several different items.
6 One of them is the public charge, which we've discussed
7 at length in our Board meetings, previous Board
8 meetings.

9 And this year, I wanted to provide you with a
10 quick update that on January 8th the federal appeals
11 court blocked an executive order from October 2019,
12 which was to prohibit lawful entry into the United
13 States for individuals who could not supply -- oh, wait.
14 That's not even the -- woops, that's not even the public
15 charge. That was a different -- I need to make some
16 corrections to the record. This is an entirely
17 different immigration-related health insurance
18 regulation. So I will make changes to that, apologies,
19 and provide everybody with an update on that, for the
20 record. Tiffany, sorry about that.

21 Let's talk about the program integrity rule.
22 This is a big one that is creating quite a bit of stir
23 in our offices. So CMS enhanced, or enhanced and
24 published a final rule related to state-based Exchange
25 program integrity. And this rule requires state-based

1 exchanges to conduct a biannual periodic data matching
2 for plan year '20-21.

3 So what that would do is allow the Exchange to
4 identify compliance with the correct eligibility and
5 enrollment for any consumer who's on the Exchange.
6 This, basically, means that we would have to do a second
7 round of checking on all of our existing enrollees to
8 ensure that they are still accurately eligible for
9 qualified health plans and any subsidies that they may
10 be receiving.

11 This creates some technical tricks, or
12 trickiness for the Exchange, because this is not
13 something that was in previous rules, and it's not
14 something that the Exchange has budgeted for. So we are
15 working with CMS to really kind of understand the
16 timeline and better understand, and other states that
17 use the GetInsured platform, what their plans are for
18 deployment, to see if there are any opportunities for
19 cross -- for building technology across all of the
20 platform.

21 The program integrity also requires -- this is
22 something that gets a lot of national attention, and I
23 think it's important to bring it up here. It requires
24 that Nevada insurance carriers or any insurance carriers
25 separately bill consumers for non-Hyde abortion

1 services. Carriers are required to bill a minimum of \$1
2 per enrollee per month even if that enrollee premium is
3 less than \$1 a month due to allocation of premium tax
4 credits.

5 So there are no current Nevada insurance
6 carriers that offer non-Hyde abortion services. But
7 should a carrier choose to do that, they will experience
8 quite the administrative burden to do so.

9 We are currently waiting for the annual notice
10 of benefit and payment parameters. There's a lot of
11 things that will be more relative to Nevada Health Link
12 as a state-based Exchange that could be included in this
13 year's NBPP. And we are hoping to see that before
14 February and to understand what might be included in
15 that.

16 If you remember, in previous Board meetings, we
17 talked about how there was some suggestion that that
18 NBPP would prevent auto-renewals, and it would prevent
19 silver-loading. But a spending bill, that I'll talk
20 about a little later actually, that was passed and
21 signed by the President prevents CMS from telling states
22 or telling carriers that they can no longer silver-load.
23 So that should not be a problem for us, at least in the
24 next couple of years.

25 We are also looking at health reimbursement

1 accounts, an HRA rule that we've also previously
2 discussed in other Board meetings. And the reason that
3 this is something that we're concerned about is that it
4 is -- there's two different kinds. There's a group HRA,
5 and there is an individual HRA. Both require that we
6 put different technology or coding and questions and
7 logic into our application. CMS does not have a
8 timeline for deployment for state-based exchanges. And
9 by their own admissions, it does not appear that they
10 may be ready with their own application for plan year
11 2021. But it is something that we're working with other
12 states who use the GetInsured platform to better
13 understand how to deploy this logic.

14 In August of last year, CMS released a rule for
15 quality star rating transparency, and it requires that
16 state-based exchanges incorporate QRS, or quality star
17 ratings, into the plans that are sold on the Exchange.
18 It's supposed to be a tool to help provide consumers
19 with transparent ratings of the plans that they're
20 looking at.

21 Due to the time frame in which that rule was
22 released and with permission from CMS, Nevada did not
23 have the necessary time to publish those ratings within
24 the GetInsured platform for plan year 2020. However, we
25 are working with GetInsured to incorporate that feature

1 into the plan, platform with hopes that we can do that
2 in time for plan year 2021.

3 As you may be aware, and this has changed since
4 we published this report, but on December 18th, the
5 Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision about
6 the ACA individual mandate case and said that the
7 individual mandate associated with the ACA is
8 unconstitutional. Oh, I'm sorry. They issued a
9 decision that that case needed to be pushed back to the
10 lower courts. There was request from the states'
11 attorney generals to have that looked at and expedited
12 at the Supreme Court level. However, yesterday, the
13 Supreme Court decided that they would not expedite that
14 case until the lower courts made their final ruling.

15 And then, finally, President Trump signed a
16 \$1.4 trillion spending bill in December, and that bill
17 has provisions that allow for the continuation of
18 silver-loading for Exchange plans. And the
19 silver-loading, as you guys remember probably, was
20 introduced in the fall of 2017 when the Trump
21 Administration chose to stop paying insurance carriers
22 for cost-sharing reductions.

23 This silver-loading allows insurance carriers
24 to load the cost of unpaid CSRs into the premium of
25 silver plans, which allows insurance carriers to receive

1 a higher tax credit from the government. It also has a
2 positive impact for consumers by loading the silver plan
3 premium to allow for a higher tax credit to be granted
4 to consumers who qualify for subsidies.

5 The other good part of the spending bill
6 includes provisions to continue to allow annual
7 auto-renewals. Auto-renewals, as we know, occur on an
8 annual basis where a consumer can elect to allow the
9 Exchange to auto-renew them into the same plan if it was
10 available.

11 And so we're happy to know that at least for
12 the next couple of years, silver-loading and
13 auto-renewal should be okay.

14 I wanted to provide just a little bit of more
15 information that's not in my report, just to give you an
16 overview. At the next Board meeting, I hope to provide
17 the Board with a visual demonstration of our platform
18 and so we can show you the various different user
19 experiences. But at a high level, I wanted to let you
20 know that our Exchange carriers, our consumers, our
21 broker, our agents, our navigators, and our staff are,
22 of course, all getting used to an entirely different
23 system. And our carriers were introduced to our
24 platform through -- in this last late summer through the
25 plan certification process.

1 So carriers have two main points of entry. One
2 is to view the plan preview portal. And that allows
3 them to ensure that the details of their plans are being
4 correctly displayed when a consumer is shopping on the
5 forward-facing shopping tools.

6 The second point of entry is through the issuer
7 portal where our carriers have access to view all of
8 their enrollments, meaning the enrollments for their
9 specific company, and to view the details of each
10 enrollee.

11 So carriers are beginning to get familiar with
12 that tool and are using it to conduct our reconciliation
13 activities.

14 Consumers were welcomed onto our portal in
15 October, when they began to look at the consumer
16 shopping tools and look at plan year '20 plans, prices
17 and subsidies. These tools allow consumers to do
18 side-by-side comparisons and find plans that are right
19 for their needs.

20 Consumers were then able to view their portal
21 on November 1st. And the consumer portal is a place for
22 them to manage their applications and their enrollment
23 and to review notifications about the status of their
24 enrollment.

25 Our certified brokers and agents also have

1 their own portal that they were welcomed into on
2 November 1st. And they were able to view and manage
3 both their migrated book of business and then to add to
4 their book of business. So they could complete
5 applications and enrollments through their portal for
6 existing and new consumers.

7 Brokers can view all of their enrollments and
8 have the ability to easily export enrollment data for
9 the management in their own proprietary systems, too.

10 Our navigators and in-person assisters were
11 probably the happiest of all bunches above our
12 stakeholders as it relates to our technology, because
13 for the first time ever they had their own enrollment
14 platform. Previously, enrollment professionals, or
15 navigators and in-person assisters had to help a
16 consumer establish their own account and then help them
17 to apply and enroll through that account.

18 So now our navigators and grantees for
19 in-person assisters are able to do, by proxy,
20 applications and enrollments for consumers that they
21 were assisting. And this makes the management of their
22 business and the work that they were doing for consumers
23 a lot more manageable. So they're very happy with this.

24 And then, finally, our Exchange staff, we're
25 working on getting our arms around all the different

1 views that we have as in our different administrative
2 roles. But we're very excited about being able to view
3 our consumer applications and activities, to monitor our
4 reconciliation with our carriers and with the Exchange,
5 and then to keep a close eye on the activities of our
6 consumer assistance center to ensure good results and
7 outcomes for our consumers.

8 And now I am done, and I am more than happy to
9 take any questions.

10 DR. JAMESON: Thank you. Incredible report
11 just reflecting an incredible job again. I said it
12 before, insurmountable, between the technology you were
13 working with, the new employee hires. It probably
14 wasn't as easy as just going to a dot com. And just the
15 complexity, so many layers. Again, we just all have to
16 say well-done, phenomenal.

17 And it is, as you started off with, wonderful
18 to be sitting on this side, with the mission
19 accomplished, and not just accomplished, but done
20 beautifully, success beyond all measure. And I could
21 just say congratulations once again. Incredible.

22 I'd like to now ask everyone for comments and
23 questions. And who would like to start?

24 MS. LEWIS: Madam Chairman, Lavonne Lewis, for
25 the record.

1 And I would just like to say that I am
2 probably, I am the only person who has been through this
3 once before. Because I was here at the start of this
4 whole process. And I must say and must extend my
5 congratulations to our Executive Director and the staff
6 for a job well-done. Really this report is incredible.
7 And we are so grateful to you for all of your hard work.
8 Thank you very much.

9 DR. JAMESON: So I'd like to welcome any
10 questions.

11 Please, go ahead.

12 MS. CLARK: Madam Chair, Valerie Clark, for the
13 record.

14 I'm just so excited to -- congratulations
15 again, you guys. I wasn't on this Board when the first
16 go-around happened, but I watched it on TV, and it
17 was -- you guys have done fantastic. And for all the
18 people that I know that were asking me, well, you know,
19 when they heard this was going to happen, they were a
20 little freaked out, and I'm like, "You know what, this
21 team has it." And you guys, you guys just did such a
22 great job. So congratulations to you and the whole
23 team, Heather.

24 My interests and questions are more about, now
25 that you've had access to so much more information, will

1 you be targeting, will you be evaluating that
2 information to target, well, to see the areas that
3 you're serving well, to target areas that may not be
4 aware of what's going on with the Exchange, I mean are
5 you -- do you have a plan in place to start to really do
6 outreach and target those populations that you may find
7 need more assistance?

8 MS. KORBULIC: Yes. Thank you. Yeah,
9 absolutely. And one of the things that I kind of
10 neglected in this report was to talk about some of the
11 interactions that we now have with our Medicaid sister
12 agencies.

13 So, first, to answer your question, the access
14 to information and data is like drinking from a fire
15 hose. We don't know what we don't know quite yet about
16 it, but we are working through all of it. Every day, we
17 get a different request for information that we think,
18 "Ah, we know that now. How do we get to it?"

19 So we're learning. And I would say that we are
20 absolutely targeting populations. One of the benefits
21 of having our own state-based Exchange is that we can
22 now send survey questions to anyone who cancels or turns
23 or does it for nonpayment or in the middle of the year,
24 and ask them where exactly they went and try to get an
25 understanding of what that flow looks like for people

1 who are coming on and off the Exchange.

2 The other thing that has been really
3 enlightening and interesting and a little bit stunning,
4 if I may, is the interactions that we've had with our
5 sister agency, with the Division of Welfare and
6 Supportive Services.

7 So to give the Board a little bit of
8 information on the kind of interactions that we have
9 with the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services,
10 when someone enrolls on Nevada Health Link and it looks
11 like they are Medicaid-eligible, we will basically tell
12 them, "Looks like you're likely eligible for Medicaid.
13 You can continue to shop at full price if you want to,
14 but we're going to send your account and your
15 application to our partners at DWSS for assessment."

16 So then we conduct an account transfer where
17 that application goes over to DWSS. And they do their
18 thing. And they'll tell us one way or another whether
19 that consumer, yes, is eligible or, no, isn't. If the
20 answer is no, then that consumer can come over and shop
21 for a qualified health plan with subsidies.

22 For consumers who start at DWSS, Division of
23 Welfare and Supportive Services, those individuals who
24 are denied Medicaid because they are over assets, those
25 folks are then transferred to Nevada Health Link.

1 So during open enrollment, we saw very big
2 numbers. So the number of applications that we received
3 during open enrollment is somewhere between 18 and
4 22 thousand applications. And the good news about those
5 consumers is that we give them 60 days from the date of
6 denial. So the date that Medicaid says, "You are not
7 eligible for Medicaid," we then give them 60 days to
8 enroll on Nevada Health Link with a subsidy.

9 So we're still chasing a lot of those people
10 and really kind of figuring out how best to interact
11 with them. One limitation that we have identified that
12 was unexpected -- but that's to be expected, the
13 unexpected -- is that the Division of Welfare and
14 Supportive Services does not prioritize the collection
15 of email addresses. So we have found that the bulk of
16 those people, we have their mailing addresses, but not
17 their email addresses. So with GetInsured and with
18 Nevada Health Link, we are sending direct mail to them.

19 One of the advantages over what happens or did
20 happen at HealthCare.gov is that we basically take their
21 application and we plop it into our system. And we
22 invite them through a code, a unique code for them to
23 claim that application. That never happened on
24 HealthCare.gov. With HealthCare.gov, they had to go and
25 restart.

1 So we think there's some advantages there. And
2 we're really kind of trying to figure out how best to do
3 outreach to those folks and then really kind of capture
4 them so that they don't fall between the cracks and
5 become uninsured because they've missed open enrollment
6 or because they've been denied Medicaid.

7 So that's a real opportunity for growth.

8 MS. CLARK: Fantastic.

9 DR. JAMESON: Thank you.

10 Further questions?

11 I was just curious. Last year, at the end of
12 last year's, when we completed enrollment, not this
13 year, last year, what was the final number last year?

14 MS. KORBULIC: Last year's open enrollment
15 reports from CMS was a total of 83,449 plan selections.

16 DR. JAMESON: Close enough, yeah. And I
17 noticed you mentioned when migrated accounts over, a
18 number that was a bit smaller. And I wondered, is that
19 because by the time you migrated the accounts, that was
20 the attrition rate that had occurred?

21 MS. KORBULIC: I'm going to do my very best
22 diplomatic tap-dance on that. And so, to answer your
23 question, it is very on-brand, in trend, in line with
24 all state-based exchanges and exchanges in general that
25 you have more plan selections than you ever have

1 effectuated numbers.

2 But, yes, the number of 83,000-plus, versus the
3 number of consumers we migrated in October of
4 65,000-plus, is a significant difference and is
5 generally in line with what we saw with CMS, our plan
6 selections versus our effectuations.

7 But, again, that's why I have spent a lot of
8 time talking to the press and anyone else who want to
9 talk about our numbers and the differences between this
10 year and the previous year, is this is why I think it's
11 our new baseline. We actually have an understanding of
12 how many people made plan selections, and we have very
13 real-time data on how many people are effectuated and
14 terms.

15 So I think that we really do need to be judged
16 from this plan year and moving forward.

17 DR. JAMESON: And that was actually the point I
18 wanted to make, was have everybody understand that those
19 numbers last year were not our numbers, and they were
20 not, you know -- as you say, it's which, what is really
21 the effectuated plan. And so that's why this number of
22 77,000 I actually think is an incredible number. And
23 it's a real number. And I just wanted to stress that.

24 Going on, I wanted to applaud you. I don't
25 know if -- as you said, no small feat for any agency. I

1 really can't say that I know other agencies' production
2 or budget. But to be on time. Of course, you had no
3 choice. You had to be on time. And to be under budget,
4 wow, that's just amazing. So congratulations.

5 And when you, the Exchange moved and you were
6 focusing on the established best practice, you have
7 pointed out that the technology and call center vendor,
8 that you are going to focus now, and while you were
9 doing it, on defects and finding defect resolutions so
10 that you could improve and enhance. And I was curious
11 if there were any major defects that you went through
12 and just how you managed them, that of any one in
13 particular of significance that you feel is worth
14 sharing with us.

15 MS. KORBULIC: Well, I have been joking that
16 I've aged a decade in the last year. Yeah, so there
17 were isolated defects and issues, primarily things that
18 we've been chasing and continue to chase, that really
19 didn't block many people from completing their
20 enrollment. And if they did, those were very isolated
21 and attended to as quickly as possible.

22 And, I guess, the one that comes to mind is
23 more of a consumer confusion experience, not so much
24 something that actually blocked somebody. And I know
25 our enrollment partners would agree that this has been

1 the confusion. Something that we saw over and over
2 again was consumers who would log into their portal, and
3 there would be the infamous red banner. We talked a lot
4 about this red banner. And the red banner basically
5 said "You've had a data matching issue." And that was
6 there whether or not a purpose had a data matching
7 issue.

8 And for those of you who don't have to live and
9 breathe this, a data matching issue would mean, for
10 instance, we pinged the federal data services hub, and
11 the information they gave to us on your income, for
12 instance, doesn't match what you put in, so we need you
13 to upload and provide us with some documentation. And
14 so there was a consumer experience where some people
15 were seeing that regardless of whether or not they had a
16 data matching issue.

17 And then some, the other problem related to
18 that, which we are still sifting through and sorting
19 out, was that people would upload data to match and to
20 provide the requested documentation, and that banner
21 would just stay, and it wouldn't go away.

22 And so it was creating confusion. But I mean,
23 ultimately, that was not preventing people from getting
24 enrolled.

25 DR. JAMESON: Excellent. It sounds like that

1 was a major hassle and that you guys are working well.
2 Do you think you're going to find a way to reduce a lot
3 of the things that caused that red banner? Is our
4 state, is our GetInsured, is part of it something they
5 can help, or does it have to do a lot with aligning with
6 federal data that we could never help?

7 MS. KORBULIC: That was purely on our end.
8 That is was a GetInsured-specific defect. And so we've
9 touched base with them daily to manage this list and to
10 resolve these issues, and I think we'll continue to do
11 that. And I will say that they've been very responsive,
12 especially anything that related to blocking someone,
13 which those were on occasion there.

14 And I would also just, I'd like to add that
15 GetInsured has prioritized Nevada, but Nevada really has
16 and will continue to be the trailblazer in identifying
17 and testing their financial application and resolving
18 any defects with that. So states that come behind us,
19 which several have lined up to do, and I talk to them
20 pretty regularly, too, will have a better experience
21 when it comes to launch. Not that we didn't have a good
22 experience. But they'll have an improved experience.

23 DR. JAMESON: Thank you for doing that. And
24 when we look at our total enrollees, again, it's a
25 fabulous number, it's a real number. The average net

1 premium, can you tell me, in our state right now, for a
2 qualified health plan, not on the Exchange, but for an
3 individual who just purchases it, which is virtually
4 almost impossible off the Exchange if you're not doing a
5 play-based or, you know, what is the average net premium
6 now in Nevada?

7 MS. KORBULIC: Do you know that?

8 DR. JAMESON: I thought it was closer to 400,
9 but I could be wrong.

10 COMMISSIONER RICHARDSON: So this is Division
11 of Insurance. It's over \$400. And that's just for an
12 individual. It runs about 480, I would say, on average,
13 for off-Exchange.

14 DR. JAMESON: So I just want to applaud the
15 Exchange, the Link, Health Link, for making this so
16 accessible. Because, although we still all, as we know,
17 have a national crises about access to affordable
18 quality healthcare. This net premium of 281, and if you
19 compare it to well over 400 for a qualified health plan
20 for individuals off the Exchange, I want to make sure
21 everybody appreciates the difference between 280 or 480,
22 it puts it completely out of many people's budget. And
23 that this is an amazing service that you're being able
24 to provide. Really it is. If you look at statewide and
25 nationwide and affordable health care plan, it's not as

1 low as we'd like to get. It's not affordable by
2 everybody, granted. But this is excellent work.

3 And the fact that 80 percent of our enrollees
4 are benefiting from the APTC, this is just wonderful.
5 And I just want to point that out. The difference
6 between 281 premium for the year and over 400 is to be
7 applauded. And so congratulations.

8 I wanted to -- I apologize. I should probably
9 know this one. But could you tell us for a moment.
10 Because your bronze plan, 1,050, and as we know, we've
11 been getting away from that and doing a great job
12 allowing lower deductibles on to silver, and the
13 expanded bronze plan, though, bronze and expanded, it
14 looks like we've still got quite a few people interested
15 in that expanded bronze, does it have something to do
16 with the deductible in the expanded bronze? Could you
17 remind me. I don't know.

18 MS. KORBULIC: Trick question. I don't know,
19 either. So I'm looking to see if Jonathan maybe knows,
20 because Val is saying she doesn't know.

21 MS. CLARK: I don't know.

22 MS. KORBULIC: And our Commissioner of
23 Insurance is saying she doesn't know. So I can get back
24 to you. Yes. Thank you.

25 DR. JAMESON: Yes, yes, yes. And on broker

1 enrollments, again, congratulations. Marketing and
2 outreach. I saw these commercials. They are catchy.
3 They are to the point. They reflect reality. They are
4 compelling. Best we've ever had. "I didn't need to
5 enroll, and I wanted to go and act." They were very --
6 they were well-done and competed every bit with our
7 Governor when he did the advertisement that was very
8 popular. And perhaps more so, because I think the
9 average person could relate to those commercials. They
10 were amazing.

11 So I wanted to understand a little better.
12 With the increase over the years, locally and
13 nationwide, of short-term limited duration, these
14 associated health plans, health plans, that we are being
15 called to compete with, and with our Insurance
16 Commissioner here today, how much is that market
17 growing?

18 I do imagine that although they're not
19 necessarily comparable, some of these plans that are out
20 there, I don't know if they all do go through the
21 Insurance Commission. How much is that marked for
22 growing? Is there any possible way of knowing if this
23 is actually where some of that business attrition of
24 ours is actually going to?

25 I was excited to hear you're doing surveys. I

1 better stop here, because I'll get into too many
2 questions at once. Maybe we could first hear from the
3 Commissioner. Is this, are these options -- and I'm not
4 going to use any descriptions of these plans, people,
5 and a lot of times don't realize that the short-term
6 plans are not offering them everything that they could
7 have. But are they becoming popular, are they
8 competitive, are they a concern for us in our
9 marketplace?

10 COMMISSIONER RICHARDSON: So, for the record,
11 this is the Commissioner.

12 I will tell you, last year, we actually passed
13 a law, the legislators here in Nevada, that controlled
14 how often you could buy a short-term plan. So you used
15 to be able to buy a short-term plan for six months, and
16 then you could buy another short-term plan for six
17 months. And the federal government was trying to do a
18 you can keep on renewing for three years. But Nevada
19 stepped in and said, no, short-term plans are short-term
20 plans. They're supposed to be a transition plan
21 between. You know, you lose your option or you lose
22 your insurance from a job and you need to transition to
23 a new job. That's the focus and the priority of them.

24 So here in Nevada, they're not a true
25 competition for anything that's on the Exchange.

1 The other thing that we did was require that
2 they have the bulk of the essential health benefits and
3 the mandates. So they're really not competition at all.
4 They're just literally a holding pattern between that
5 and what might be an open enrollment period for you.

6 DR. JAMESON: This is very exciting. I was
7 following that, and I actually just didn't hear how the
8 outcome turned out on that particular bill. So that's
9 excellent to hear. It was really scary wanting them to
10 extend it and extend it. So that's excellent news.

11 Now, we were so excited and have been about the
12 six broker agents that received the Exchange release,
13 the grants, the five grants and the storefront programs.
14 I was curious. What percent of our business do you
15 think actually came from that project? A return on our
16 investment, how did we do?

17 MS. KORBULIC: I'm trying to catch up and
18 answer here. So we are wanting to know how many
19 enrollments came through our broker grantees, is that
20 correct? Oh, 2,500.

21 DR. JAMESON: No, do you -- oh.

22 MS. KORBULIC: So 2,500 combined from those
23 five. Yes, correct.

24 DR. JAMESON: 2,500?

25 MS. KORBULIC: Yes.

1 DR. JAMESON: Yeah, that's very nice. And so
2 do you feel that probably is worth the investment to do
3 that again next year?

4 MS. KORBULIC: Absolutely. Just this -- I got
5 to visit a couple of these storefronts. And one of them
6 was, I think, the Boulevard Mall. Yeah. And that was
7 just such a good environment for people walking through
8 who thought, "Oh, I should get connected" And that's
9 exactly what we need.

10 So I watched enrollments happen right there in
11 the mall and connecting to consumers who wouldn't have
12 maybe thought to do it otherwise. So that awareness and
13 brand recognition, along with the enrollments and
14 support for our broker partners, was just critical and
15 something that we plan to invest in again.

16 DR. JAMESON: So it sounds like we'll be doing
17 that again next year. I think, one of my questions,
18 also, is, you know, particularly I'm involved with a lot
19 of nonprofits. And we always call events friend and
20 fund-raisers. And what you just said is that, I think,
21 this is just a wonderful way of advertising those and
22 exactly who we are and what we do, what we can do for
23 you.

24 And what I'm wondering is when people come,
25 because I haven't seen this part of our platform, does

1 it say how they were, how they came to us, do you say
2 because of the commercial, because the storefront,
3 because of -- or because a lot of people that go to a
4 storefront, they're busy. When I'm out shopping, I'm
5 not going to stop when I want to go do something. I'm
6 curious.

7 MS. KORBULIC: Yes, so that's a really great
8 question. There are a couple of different ways that we
9 track that information. There isn't a specific question
10 in the application that asks "How did you hear about
11 us?" from new consumers. And it is something, a goal of
12 ours to get our call center to be asking about how
13 they've heard of us.

14 But, ultimately, what we can do is digital
15 tracking. We can find out what website they were at
16 that led them to our website, what they were searching
17 that led them to our website. So we can kind of better
18 refine and hone in on those types of searches and those
19 folks.

20 DR. JAMESON: I'm trying to read my writing. I
21 apologize. We'll have to, we're going to let you off
22 the hook on that question, because. Oh, got it. You
23 said there's some changes you think the platform may
24 need to utilize in order to accommodate the special
25 enrollment period of people. What do you think's going

1 on there? Why would that be the case?

2 MS. KORBULIC: That's a really great question.
3 So one of the surprises for the Exchange staff was we
4 thought we would launch November 1st open enrollment,
5 and then that would be something that we managed. And
6 that was something that we managed. But, of course, on
7 December 21st, when we turned off all open enrollment
8 functionality and we had to switch into our special
9 enrollment period, we were basically launching an
10 entirely new rules engine.

11 And so we are now in the second phase of
12 understanding and managing defects and issues and kind
13 of just going through a similar process that we did with
14 open enrollment, identifying areas that are needing
15 improvement and prioritizing them for resolution.

16 DR. JAMESON: Excellent. Now, I want to
17 congratulate you on adding the extended hours on your
18 call center. I think, that's amazing. Because many
19 regular working folk need those extended hours.

20 I guess, I'm wondering, what percent of your
21 volume, or during the extended hours, was that a really
22 heavy volume time? What percent of your volume do you
23 think actually came during the after hours and weekend
24 hours? And, most importantly, because we're all from
25 Las Vegas down here, and we're a 24-hour town, I think

1 you should consider even more extended hours, like one,
2 maybe minimal, call person answering, even if there's a
3 long queue. You know, even my favorite online ordering
4 places have allowed 24 hours.

5 MS. KORBULIC: I appreciate that. And it's
6 absolutely something that we're kind of in our
7 decompression phase on open enrollment and doing
8 postmortems and trying to figure out where the high call
9 volume came and when we really need to sort of leverage
10 and open hours for our call center.

11 So part of the statement of work that we were
12 developing and finalizing with the GetInsured vendor
13 includes call center maintenance and operations, and it
14 includes key performance indicators for this next plan
15 year and ongoing. So that'll be part of our discussion.

16 DR. JAMESON: Excellent. So you talk about
17 these different level of support and how they got very,
18 very complicated. Was most of that what we already
19 addressed, the red banner?

20 MS. KORBULIC: I wish it was just that simple.
21 Complicated cases can have just a variety of different
22 flavors to them. I'm trying to think of one where --
23 let me think of one that might be a good example for
24 you.

25 So a consumer enrolled and paid for their

1 enrollment at a full price, let's say, and then later
2 entered and made changes to their application that would
3 have put them within subsidy realm. So now they are
4 getting an applied subsidy, but they've already paid the
5 carrier for the full price of the premium. And we, at a
6 Tier 3, our quality assurance officers are working with
7 the consumer and our carrier to rectify that situation
8 for that consumer. That's one of many.

9 DR. JAMESON: Well, considering how complicated
10 it is, and they throw that problem in, of course, your
11 lap where, of course, it belongs, the 90 percent
12 consumer satisfaction is outstanding. So well-done.
13 Well-done.

14 And we're going to skip over the descriptions,
15 but I do appreciate you've shared with us before the job
16 titles. And I appreciate you sharing with us. Because
17 it really gives us a good overview of the complexity of
18 your staff with the new charge of doing all of this
19 ourselves. And it makes us appreciate the complexity,
20 responsibility, the accountability.

21 And you guys, I really respect how accountable
22 you are being, and not just because you have to, you're
23 state-supported, but because you guys are so
24 conscientious to do so and you want to be the very best
25 you can be. And I just got to tell you, your new people

1 that you've hired to help you with your program
2 integrity rules and everything else -- I don't mean the
3 program integrity rules, but your policy and compliance
4 for you, I congratulate you that you're able to share
5 that with others.

6 So going to the program integrity rule, you
7 know, it's the old expression, it just seems so unfair
8 they can keep changing the rules, building the ship as
9 we fly, and making one ship get it somewhat down, that
10 you now have to adjust to all these new rules.

11 So what I'm wondering is, does the federal
12 platform for checking biannually, do they already have
13 that in place?

14 MS. KORBULIC: That's a good question. And I
15 do not believe that they do. I believe, that's
16 something that they're working towards for this next
17 plan year, though.

18 DR. JAMESON: Oh, very good. I just was
19 thinking, since you said we're not sure how we're going
20 to go about doing that, I'm not sure if this is -- I'm
21 not recommending we model their plan, but that it'll be
22 interesting to see what they do. And I'm sure that our
23 GetInsured is going to check that out first immediately.
24 But it probably is not going to be an urgent issue,
25 since they haven't got it started.

1 And, now, what I'm wondering about is the
2 incorporating the quality star ratings. Because we
3 didn't have enough time to do it last year. And, again,
4 I plead ignorance. Who sets these quality star ratings,
5 is this our Commissioner, where does this come from?

6 MS. KORBULIC: Thank you. That's a great
7 question. The quality star ratings come from data that
8 the carriers provide, related to several different
9 metrics, to CMS. And then CMS performs algorithms on
10 the data that they provided and rate them based on the
11 quality of service that they give to consumers.

12 DR. JAMESON: Very good. So it's kind of like
13 when you watch a movie, it's five stars, four stars.
14 And it should give our consumers an idea of the better,
15 better plans, the quality?

16 MS. KORBULIC: It should. I would say that I
17 have some reservations about the data and the quality
18 ratings that we've got in Nevada. And, I think, it's an
19 ongoing conversation between carriers and CMS as to
20 whether they're using agreeable metrics. I try to stay
21 out of that. But there is, you know, there's some truth
22 in the middle on whether or not those are accurate.

23 DR. JAMESON: I just wanted to -- my final, my
24 final comment was on the -- and you've somewhat
25 addressed this already. You talked about how carriers

1 are able to do a plan, to do a preview portal. They're
2 able to do, finally, once they've completed it, their
3 portal and view their enrollees and everything. And you
4 talked about the consumers, how they can get on there.
5 And you mentioned that, earlier, it'll be -- you'll be
6 able to follow up and see why someone may have left our
7 plan, et cetera.

8 What I'm wondering is, with the new data, I'm
9 sure you're able to see the number of people who get to
10 that final step but then don't actually enroll. And
11 even at that step, like when you're out shopping, you
12 know, the clerk tries to get you before you actually
13 leave. Now, I know we wouldn't be able to do that. But
14 I think, at the end of the year, looking back and
15 saying, "Look it, we lost these people during the year,"
16 then asking them to do a survey, maybe we could get in
17 on it a little sooner. Any chance of that?

18 MS. KORBULIC: Absolutely, Madam Chair. And
19 that is something that we were very excited about
20 throughout the open enrollment period. We were able to
21 take a look at numbers, or the members who had started
22 applications but not completed. And we chased them in a
23 probably somewhat irritating way, but we were very
24 persistent in following up with those consumers and
25 getting them to get back into the system and complete

1 their enrollment in time for the end of open enrollment.

2 And so the other thing that we are trying to
3 think through in our postmortem is where in the
4 application did people stop, and then get a sense about
5 that space and whether or not we need to do a better job
6 explaining the questions, whether or not that
7 question -- or, and kind of do some analysis on why
8 people would have stopped where they stopped.

9 DR. JAMESON: Again, excellent.

10 I'd like to go ahead now, unless there's any
11 other questions, and move ahead with our wonderful
12 marketing and outreach update. I'm very excited to have
13 them share what they have planned.

14 COMMISSIONER RICHARDSON: So, Madam Chair.

15 DR. JAMESON: And I'm sorry to keep you
16 waiting.

17 COMMISSIONER RICHARDSON: Madam Chair.

18 DR. JAMESON: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER RICHARDSON: I do want to add one
20 more thing just for everyone's benefit. I would say
21 that, you know, I know we're all very proud of Heather
22 and her team. All the other state commissioners,
23 insurance commissioners have been following you as well.
24 So I get a lot of comments and a lot of, you know, how's
25 it going? How's it working? And it's, you know, we

1 always send them back to you and to the other Exchange
2 folks in order to make sure. And there's quite a few
3 states who have followed the line and who are so excited
4 that you've broken this path so that they can also move
5 on to state-based exchanges.

6 It is very exciting. So I just wanted to make
7 sure to echo that and let everybody know.

8 The other thing I wanted to reiterate to is the
9 information about the 77,000 folks. HealthCare.gov
10 wasn't exactly the best data, you know, sharer. That's
11 probably a nice way to put it. And they had a tendency
12 to not want to give as full and accurate information.
13 It was a lot of sort of vague information that you were
14 working with. So having Heather and her team actually
15 have a real number to work with is going to make a huge
16 difference. And I think that that's going to also give
17 us some idea of what's going on in the market.

18 Because from the Insurance Division's
19 perspective, the number between the 63, which is the
20 effectuated, and the 77, that's a rise. That's huge.
21 And they were trying to play it against the what was
22 enrolled and potentially those folks who had either
23 gotten jobs or moved to another program. And, you know,
24 that was all done within the first three months, which
25 means that they weren't truly enrollees.

1 So this is, this is something that I think that
2 you all should be very proud of.

3 The other thing to consider is that your risk
4 pool this year is almost exactly the same as it was last
5 year, which is, that's an accomplishment in itself. So
6 this is a healthy stable market that you've moved into
7 and a healthy stable set of consumers. So kudos.

8 MS. KORBULIC: Thank you.

9 DR. JAMESON: Thank you.

10 MS. KORBULIC: And if you'll allow, Madam
11 Chair, if I could just mention one other thing about
12 other states.

13 DR. JAMESON: Oh, please.

14 MS. KORBULIC: Just for any state that might be
15 listening, I'm going to write a book. And so you don't
16 need to call me. I'll just write this book, and then
17 you can read it. Thank you very much.

18 DR. JAMESON: Well, I don't think you're going
19 to have time to write that book, so they may have to
20 call.

21 MS. KORBULIC: That's true.

22 DR. JAMESON: But I do want to thank our
23 Commissioner, Insurance Commissioner for clarifying what
24 I was trying to say. That is exactly right. I think
25 that that number 77 is a solid number we can rely on,

1 and it's a great and improved number.

2 So thank you for really clarifying that.

3 Because the Exchange has done an incredible job of
4 getting real numbers, which we've been dying to have
5 since the inception of this organization.

6 So having said that, we will go on to our
7 wonderful marketing and outreach update.

8 MS. DAVIS: Good afternoon. Thank you, Madam
9 Chair. For the record, my name is Janel Davis. I am
10 the Communications Officer here at the Exchange.

11 I am actually going to start on page two,
12 because this is quite repetitive. So I'm starting with
13 the second paragraph.

14 In preparing for the Exchange's 7th open
15 enrollment period -- that's crazy, we're already in our
16 7th open enrollment -- Nevada Health Link communications
17 team and our marketing partner Penna Powers introduced a
18 new creative look and strategy for marketing and
19 advertising for plan year 2020.

20 The goal of this package was to promote the
21 open enrollment period, obviously, enforce Nevada Health
22 Link's position as the trusted resource for health
23 insurance, and promote the benefits of Nevada's
24 state-based Exchange platform.

25 The strategy was to understand who the pool of

1 potential Nevada enrollees are and to use the migrated
2 data from HealthCare.gov to help determine the pool of
3 uninsured and underinsured throughout the state. And
4 you can see that we increased that from a 65,500 pool to
5 about 77,000.

6 The primary goal was to retain current
7 enrollees, with a secondary goal to recruit new
8 enrollees. The access to real-time consumer enrollment
9 data provided the marketing team with better insight
10 into consumer demographics which clarified our target
11 audience focus for a more optimized marketing campaign.

12 So our advertising campaign was entitled "Peace
13 of Mind." It focused on three different scenarios
14 entitled "Sick Kid," "Body Cast" and "Anthem." And it
15 promoted the consumer question of how do people describe
16 their health coverage through Nevada Health Link. And
17 then it encouraged the Nevada consumer to visit our
18 website, NevadaHealthLink.com, to learn more, see if
19 they qualify, and then actually complete enrollment.

20 The spots ran as TV advertisements, online
21 videos in 15-second formats, while the Anthem spot,
22 which represented Nevada's consumer diversity, was
23 promoted in both 15-and 30-second formats. All of our
24 media vehicles included TV, radio, out-of-home, print,
25 outdoor, and content marketing. And they were targeted

1 by age, ethnicity, interest, and more.

2 The campaign's media buys were strategized
3 based on their ability to reach specific audiences,
4 which was not a one-size-fits-all approach. Even mass
5 channels, such as TV, radio, out-of-home, which is,
6 transit is an example of out-of-home, that have
7 traditionally been used to blast all audiences, were
8 very targeted by the network, genre, and zip code.

9 So paid campaigns were designed to complement
10 owned and earned media efforts.

11 The media campaign was designed as a
12 three-pronged approach. And that means, you can see
13 below there, one, two, and three. We talked about
14 transition messaging. And then we did a preenrollment
15 campaign and then an open enrollment general advertising
16 campaign.

17 So, again, having access to enrollee data
18 provided an opportunity for Penna to precisely target
19 the Nevadans who were most likely to enroll. If they
20 had already enrolled once, they're not afraid of the
21 process, and they understand the benefits.

22 So, in addition to the traditional
23 preenrollment and open enrollment messaging, we reached
24 out to existing enrollees to encourage and experience
25 the ease of the transition away from the federal

1 platform.

2 Our target audiences are listed here as well.
3 And then, going into a little bit of the metrics, with
4 the push to increase the scope and budget for search
5 engine optimization paid search marketing, website
6 traffic to NevadaHealthLink.com observed a significant
7 spike in users, sessions, and page duration on specific
8 pages of our website. There was in particular a
9 noticeable jump at the start of December through the
10 final enrollment date.

11 And the page visits to NevadaHealthLink.com
12 showed significant improvement in acquisition and
13 behavior. And this one I was particularly proud of. It
14 meant our campaign worked. People were spending a very
15 significant amount of time on the actual webpage, which
16 means they were reading about the program and staying on
17 the page.

18 So paid search drove 10,000-plus more sessions.
19 We had a lower bounce rate and significantly higher
20 session durations.

21 The SBE enrollment portal brought a significant
22 increase in referral traffic. So people would go to
23 NevadaHealthLink.com, and then they would log in or
24 claim their account on the actual
25 enroll.NevadaHealthLink.com platform.

1 Moving on to public and media relations, in
2 collaboration with its marketing vendors, the Exchange
3 developed and implemented a robust transition-focused PR
4 campaign, which included the development of a media wish
5 list to identify and prioritize the top media targets,
6 and pitched angles to local and national reporters.

7 On the day of the soft launch of the platform,
8 Nevada Health Link pushed out a press release announcing
9 the go-live of the website and call center that provided
10 consumers with detailed information on how to claim
11 their migrated user account.

12 Both state and nationwide interests remained
13 focused on the transition initiative and provided
14 significant opportunities for the Exchange to engage in
15 meaningful conversations about the benefits and
16 efficiencies of being our own state Exchange.

17 Consumer and stakeholder messaging points
18 served as an aid in background for scheduled editorial
19 board meetings and op-eds that were attributed to key
20 Exchange staff and executive Board members, which
21 provided further opportunities to talk about the
22 transition and open enrollment to the public.

23 We also hosted a press conference in Las Vegas
24 to kick off the beginning of open enrollment, which was
25 Friday, November 1st. Governor Sisolak attended and

1 spoke at that presser. Also, on November 7th, we hosted
2 a press conference here in Carson City and invited key
3 legislators to speak on this bipartisan message and the
4 importance of getting covered.

5 In addition to the kickoff of the press
6 conferences, we collaborated with the UMC Trauma Center
7 in Las Vegas to host a closeout press conference on
8 December -- I think, this was actually the 15th, but I
9 don't know, maybe 13th, where Dr. Douglas Fraser --

10 MS. KORBULIC: No, it was the 13th.

11 MS. JANEL DAVIS: Okay. Yeah. Because open
12 enrollment ended on a Sunday.

13 MS. KORBULIC: Yeah.

14 MS. JANEL DAVIS: Dr. Douglas Fraser, head of
15 trauma, he spoke on the importance of having health
16 insurance. We were also successful in securing multiple
17 interviews with key Hispanic media outlets throughout
18 southern Nevada, and we issued seven press releases and
19 media advisories in the Spanish language.

20 Something new that we participated in this year
21 that proved successful, some other highlights listed
22 here, is we presented at the city council member
23 meetings in Henderson, City of Las Vegas, and the Clark
24 County Commission, as well as Washoe County
25 Commissioners meeting and the City of Reno.

1 We also hosted our third annual prep session,
2 and they were hosted in both Las Vegas and Reno. We
3 offered three different session times for guest
4 convenience. And that resulted in an increased
5 stakeholder and community partner turnout versus prior
6 years.

7 Moving on to outreach, Nevada Health Link
8 continued to place a significant investment in
9 strategizing and conducting year-round statewide
10 outreach activities with the following primary goals:
11 Build continued awareness of our call to action to visit
12 NevadaHealthLink.com and get enrolled and educate
13 targeted communities and help shape and change behaviors
14 toward the importance of having coverage.

15 We concentrated activities to areas and groups
16 where such behavior changes are warranted and most
17 potential consumers would qualify for subsidies. These
18 areas include specific zip codes with poverty levels
19 above the 25 percent throughout the state, which include
20 key rural areas; Hispanic/Latino populations throughout
21 the state; Asian/Pacific Islander populations; and
22 children in underserved populations. And then we also
23 have a couple sponsorships listed here.

24 Outreach remains a critical component of the
25 Exchange's strategy year-round, and we will continue to

1 work closely with stakeholder groups throughout the
2 state to identify key influences and community
3 partnerships statewide in order to pursue
4 cross-promotional opportunities.

5 We developed creative content and print
6 educational literature for distribution via statewide
7 Chamber organizations, school districts and
8 universities, just to name a few, which provide the
9 opportunity to reach Nevadans we have not been able to
10 communicate in years past.

11 In focusing on the strategy to shaping and
12 changing behaviors, the Exchange shifted some event and
13 sponsorship focus toward children and family activities
14 to plant that seed toward understanding the value and
15 importance of having health insurance at a younger age.
16 So the message is received by both the children and,
17 obviously, their parents.

18 So we continue to align with underserved
19 community recreation centers and libraries to sponsor,
20 promote, and attend events and functions. The Exchange
21 enrollment facilitators serve as the primary event staff
22 who table our events and provide an outcome event report
23 that indicates data about the size and makeup of the
24 audience who attended those events, the quantity and
25 quality of Nevada Health Link booth engagement, type of

1 questions asked by consumers and, also, receive and
2 capture email addresses for ongoing communications. And
3 those are just some examples of sponsorships that we
4 participated in this year.

5 So we continue to engage with these existing
6 community partners by participating in a robust
7 literature distribution program, and this involves well
8 over 200 partners statewide. This year, we updated all
9 of our educational literature because we got a new phone
10 number. And we distributed all of those resources,
11 printed in both English and Spanish, throughout the
12 state. That was quite a big task to make all of those
13 deliveries. So thanks to all of our partners and staff
14 who helped with that.

15 The Exchange is mindful that outreach and
16 community relations are a critical component to not only
17 reaching Nevadans, but to understanding and addressing
18 their concerns. The Exchange engages in these efforts
19 throughout the year, and we remain committed to our job
20 in connecting Nevadans to qualified health plans.

21 And so we are now at the off-season campaign.
22 Obviously, open enrollment has concluded. But we
23 continue to do our work to reduce the number of
24 uninsured Nevadans in the off cycle. And we refer to
25 this consumer outreach and messaging effort in the off

1 cycle as the off-season campaign.

2 So we work to brand the organization as a
3 consistent presence and resource for consumers and
4 stakeholders as it relates to healthcare policy and
5 obtaining coverage.

6 For this off-season campaign, which will run
7 from January to June of this year, Penna Powers has
8 strategized specific goals which are focused on
9 introducing impactful messaging and tactics to promote
10 the special enrollment period through Nevada Health
11 Link. We also plan to continue to incorporate outreach
12 concepts that demonstrate the intrinsic need for health
13 insurance coverage. And since we now have access to
14 real-time consumer enrollee data, Nevada Health Link and
15 Penna Powers will use that data to gather behavioral
16 insight to understand and confirm the obstacles keeping
17 Nevadans from enrolling in coverage. So we're looking
18 at why people are foregoing the insurance.

19 Nevada Health Link is repurposing existing
20 creative images and advertising to maintain brand
21 consistency and to gain efficiencies. The messaging
22 focus for digital ads and content marketing is the
23 special enrollment period, to educate on what qualifies
24 a life change and encourage those eligible to enroll,
25 and target uninsured consumers with direct messages to

1 assist them. We will also be, as Heather already
2 stated, surveying consumers on the reasons as to why
3 they may be canceling their plans or foregoing
4 insurance.

5 And so I will now turn this over to Patty
6 Halabuk, who will provide some campaign metrics for us
7 and talk a little bit more in-depth about the off-season
8 campaign.

9 DR. JAMESON: Thank you so much, Ms. Davis.
10 That was an excellent report. And sometimes it's hard
11 to appreciate you're an independent business, because
12 you act and breathe and function as though you are part
13 of us. You are so, just so really in touch with our
14 mission and vision and putting it out there. I imagine
15 you go to bed every night dreaming about how you can do
16 outreach better. I thank you so much for your
17 commitment.

18 MS. DAVIS: That's exactly right.

19 DR. JAMESON: Thank you for your commitment.
20 It really shows. And your report demonstrates your
21 incredible commitment, enthusiasm and passion. Thank
22 you.

23 MS. JANEL DAVIS: Well, I have a nice team to
24 support us.

25 MS. LEWIS: I do think it was a great report.

1 But I do have one comment or one question. I notice the
2 number of enrollees who are white and the number of
3 enrollees who are Hispanic and Asian, but I see no
4 African American enrollees. And I know that, you know,
5 we have a lot of poor African American people.
6 Certainly, African Americans make up about 10 percent of
7 the population in Clark County. So I am concerned. And
8 I don't remember seeing any, or very many, I'll say
9 that, advertisement in African-American outlets, like
10 KCEP or BET, for local TV, or The Urban Voice, the
11 Pearson Center or the Doolittle Center, those places
12 where there are large numbers of low-income African
13 Americans. So I'm just wondering, did we not get any
14 metrics on African American enrollment?

15 MS. DAVIS: Thanks for your comment, and that
16 feedback is very appreciated. As far as the data is
17 concerned, I think, for this report, we just, we just
18 labeled a couple very ethnic groups. But I can
19 absolutely provide the exact number of people who
20 enrolled who are African American.

21 However, I will say, on the application, to say
22 what your race is, is an optional question. And so
23 sometimes we may not get the full spectrum of actual
24 data.

25 And then, as far as outreach and advertising is

1 concerned, we do work with the Black Image Magazine and
2 a couple of the different radio groups as well in
3 Las Vegas. And we are a part of the northern Nevada and
4 southern Nevada Black Cultural Awareness Society as
5 well.

6 DR. JAMESON: Thank you, Ms. Davis.

7 I do agree. And Ms. Lewis has brought this up
8 intermittently throughout the years. And in the future,
9 going forward, I would love to have, even if it's a less
10 than 10 percent, I would love to have numbers on there
11 for the African Americans population. They're a
12 critical group that we're trying to reach we know have
13 poor access to healthcare.

14 And, also, I think, it would be very
15 interesting, and maybe helpful, if you, who seem to
16 understand and have knowledge of some of the media in
17 our community, Lavonne, if you could perhaps meet with
18 Janel and share with her some of the organizations that,
19 or companies that provide magazines, literature that you
20 think is fairly popular. And --

21 MS. LEWIS: I'd be happy to do that.

22 DR. JAMESON: That would be awesome.

23 MS. JANEL DAVIS: I'd be open to that as well.
24 I'd be happy to connect with you, also. Yeah.

25 DR. JAMESON: Thank you so much.

1 MS. HALABUK: Good afternoon. My name is Patty
2 Halabuk. I'm with Penna Powers. And following up to
3 Janel's very comprehensive marketing report, I get to
4 give you the fun visual part of the report. So I'm
5 going to keep my highlights short and sweet and walk you
6 through this deck.

7 And, Ms. Lewis, just to add on to what Janel
8 had mentioned, you made some excellent points. I just
9 wanted to comment as well that we in the past have in
10 several magazines, including Black Image.
11 Proportionately, we do look at the African American
12 population, which is about 8.8 percent, versus the
13 Hispanic population, which is close to 40 percent. So
14 that is one factor.

15 Also, we do have several sponsorships as well
16 as events throughout the year outreach-wise that we are
17 involved in that have a heavy black presence. We also
18 consult with a couple of our navigators who are African
19 American, who also give us some guidance in that area as
20 well.

21 But your points are duly noted and taken. And
22 as Janel said, we would love to get some input from you
23 offline to see how we can up that quotient.

24 Okay. Starting on to pages one and two, I've
25 provided for you kind of an overview of the different

1 advertising media that made up our Open Enrollment 7
2 advertising campaign.

3 We stayed with our integrated formula, which
4 combines both traditional media as well as digital and
5 online media. We have found that this formula has
6 always proven to be very both effective and
7 cost-efficient, because it allows us to reach our
8 various target audiences within the ways that the
9 audiences choose to receive their information.

10 For example, older Nevadans still watch a lot
11 of TV and listen to radio, versus younger Nevadans who
12 gravitate more towards digital and online means and
13 streaming audio and podcasts.

14 The campaign stated started out, as Janel said,
15 with preenrollment with a "Get ready to enroll" message
16 in late September and morphed into "It's time to
17 enroll." Overall, we spent over \$1.3 million in
18 advertising on this campaign to ensure that we reached
19 our audiences multiple times in multiple ways to
20 reinforce the importance, value, need, and time for
21 health insurance.

22 Moving on to pages three and four, you'll see
23 some of the analytic performance, that Janel referenced
24 in her report, of our digital and online advertising.

25 The summary here, you can see. I'm not going

1 to walk through all the individual analytics. But the
2 summary is our targeted Nevada audiences saw our ads
3 millions of times, and tens of thousands of our
4 consumers clicked through to NevadaHealthLink.com as a
5 result. And, basically, that's exactly what this
6 advertising campaign set out to do.

7 I'm flipping over to page five now, which is
8 going to show you the snapshot comparison that Janel
9 alluded to of our activity on NevadaHealthLink.com
10 comparatively between the time frame of November and
11 December of 2018 to the time frame of November and
12 December of 2019.

13 As Janel alluded to, you'll see
14 across-the-board that there's a significant increase in
15 the number of visits, the sessions, which are individual
16 viewing periods, the average time they spent in a
17 session. And, again, as Janel said, this really equates
18 to our audiences knowing who Nevada Health Link is and
19 where to go to learn more and to enroll.

20 Page six and seven, I'm talking a little bit
21 about email. And I wanted to indicate that this is a
22 demonstration really of another groundbreaking marking
23 the advantage of the state-based Exchange. It's really
24 the ability now to proactively and cost-effectively
25 communicate in an email with consumers. The state-based

1 Exchange gave us the ability to do that throughout open
2 enrollment, because their information was available
3 before and during the campaign and not after the
4 campaign. And that's really huge. This resulted in our
5 ability to segment and send customized information via
6 email to consumers that provided them with the tools and
7 resources to learn and enroll in a more streamlined and
8 personal manner.

9 So, in summary, this year's open enrollment
10 advertising campaign set new benchmarks and opened up
11 new customized communication opportunities, in large
12 part due to the Exchange's move to their own state-based
13 platform. So, as we've alluded to, it's new benchmarks,
14 but we're excited from a marketing standpoint as well,
15 because it's new benchmarks for us moving forward.

16 Rounding out the efforts of the advertising
17 campaign are our ongoing outreach and community
18 relations efforts. And page eight will show you some of
19 those highlights. This year, we are pleased to align
20 with several community partners who shared our open
21 enrollment mentions with our audiences and have also
22 committed to working with us ongoing.

23 Turning to page nine, Janel alluded to this,
24 but I would really be remiss without mentioning how
25 instrumental the efforts and results of our PR and media

1 relations was to the overall success we have seen. PR
2 partner FFW, in collaboration with Janel and Heather,
3 devised, implemented, and conquered a far-reaching
4 robust media relations movement of sorts that sought to
5 inform Nevada of the Exchange's new platform in a
6 straightforward transparent way that communicated the
7 benefits and efficiencies for Nevada consumers. Got a
8 lot of great coverage there that equated to a lot of
9 paid -- translated into what would be paid value for
10 basically added value through the media. And you could
11 see that there, the breakout.

12 So where do we go from here, pages 10 and 11.
13 Although Open Enrollment 7 is over, our marketing
14 efforts continue in the off-season, as Janel alluded to.
15 This is the time when we construct a much smaller-scale
16 campaign to promote the special enrollment period and
17 continue to inform and educate Nevadans about Nevada
18 Health Link and the importance of having health
19 insurance.

20 We strive to repurpose and reformat existing
21 campaign creative and messaging, which not only
22 maintains an efficient bottom line, it maintains brand
23 familiarity and positioning with our consumers.

24 Another key component that we use is the
25 ongoing ability to segment and develop email

1 communications to Nevada Health Link customers, again
2 made possible because of the state's own platform and
3 data capabilities. It not only nets out as an extremely
4 cost-effective means of communication, it continues to
5 foster a more personalized relationship. And
6 personalized relationship in the form of our community
7 relations and outreach efforts are always, they always
8 remain a cornerstone of our marketing foundation as
9 well.

10 Thank you for allowing me to share the summary.
11 We look forward to a great year ahead. And if there are
12 any questions, I'm happy to answer.

13 DR. JAMESON: Thank you. Again, an excellent
14 report.

15 And does anybody in the north or south have any
16 comments, questions?

17 MS. BIERMAN: I do. This is Suzanne Bierman.

18 I just wanted to add to all of the voices that
19 say great, fantastic job, Heather and team. In
20 Medicaid, we're also quite concerned about our remaining
21 and uninsured population and in particular those that
22 are likely eligible but not enrolled in Medicaid. So I
23 think you all have done such a fantastic job and
24 basically provided a great roadmap of how this is done
25 and done well.

1 I did have a question just trying to understand
2 the budgetary implications in your overall PR value. So
3 it looks like, if I'm reading this correctly, the paid
4 advertising media budget was 1.3 million, and the total
5 PR value is about 6.5 million. So is the rest of that
6 free and earned media?

7 MS. KORBULIC: Yes. All those appearances on
8 TV earned that.

9 MS. BIERMAN: It paid off.

10 MS. KORBULIC: Yes, yes, absolutely. Yep, you
11 have it exactly right.

12 MS. BIERMAN: Okay. Thank you.

13 DR. JAMESON: And, Ms. Bierman, that won't be
14 the first time. We've heard that about every year.
15 They do manage to leverage what little money they get to
16 go a really long way. Never been so important since the
17 feds decreased our advertising outreach budget. So
18 congrats to you.

19 And I would like to point out my favorite page
20 and graph on page five. That's really remarkable, the
21 difference between November 2018 graph, the '18 and the
22 '19 year, really shows us that indeed, over time, every
23 enrollment year you definitely -- obviously, this last
24 time round must have gleaned a lot more experiential
25 knowledge and wisdom, because you certainly excelled

1 last year. Congratulations.

2 And then, on Medicaid, the question that went
3 through my mind, and perhaps you know this -- the
4 problem with speaking up is that you might get a
5 question.

6 MS. BIERMAN: I might or might not be able to
7 answer it. I'm happy to try.

8 DR. JAMESON: In Medicaid, in the basic groups,
9 white population, Hispanic, African American, is there
10 indeed a disproportionately larger number than their
11 number in the state population of the African Americans
12 on Medicaid? Is that why perhaps we don't see them on
13 our Exchange, or just didn't get the numbers?

14 MS. BIERMAN: I will be happy to follow up on
15 that. I've actually been spending more time digging
16 into the people that aren't currently on Medicaid but
17 that we think are eligible. And I can say, based on
18 predictions with that population, there are disparities
19 in terms of a higher population of Latinos, African
20 Americans, and Native American populations that have
21 been estimated to be eligible but unenrolled. And so
22 we're trying to figure out how to reach those
23 populations.

24 But I can follow up with demographic
25 information on our current enrollees. I'm sorry I don't

1 have that today.

2 DR. JAMESON: Thank you.

3 MS. BIERMAN: M-hm (affirmative).

4 DR. JAMESON: Thank you. When we migrate the
5 information from those people that we refer, Heather --
6 it's for Heather. When we refer people who we find are
7 eligible for Medicaid when they're enrolling, if they
8 have clicked, and we can see what those numbers are,
9 if -- I think, did you say there were something like --
10 what was the number that migrated over?

11 MS. KORBULIC: Oh, you mean that we received
12 from DWSS to the Exchange. That number was somewhere
13 between 18,000 and 22,000.

14 DR. JAMESON: And the ones that were on our
15 Exchange and were directed to the Medicaid?

16 MS. KORBULIC: That was a lower number. I need
17 to get you the exact figures. But I want to say, and
18 this is just my knee-jerk response to that, it was
19 somewhere around the number of 8,000 that came to the
20 Exchange that were then transferred.

21 DR. JAMESON: What I'm curious about is just,
22 also, in that portion of the major breakout, for what
23 percent in the Caucasian, Hispanic, and African American
24 that was, just a follow-up. Thank you.

25 MS. KORBULIC: Yeah, thank you.

1 DR. JAMESON: Okay. Now we'll just get down to
2 a little business. And if there are no further
3 questions, we'll go on to item six, approval of the
4 semi-annual Fiscal and Operational Report pursuant to
5 NRS 695I.370(1)(b), going to the Governor and
6 Legislature.

7 Do I hear a motion? Did you want to actually
8 first present anything or wait for discussion after
9 first and second?

10 MS. KORBULIC: I'm happy to wait till
11 discussion.

12 DR. JAMESON: I just do need that my Board
13 members have reviewed that. So we'll go ahead and make
14 a motion.

15 MS. LEWIS: I move approval of the Fiscal and
16 Operational Report to be sent to the Governor.

17 MS. CLARK: Second.

18 MR. BRANCH: This is Quincy Branch. Second.

19 DR. JAMESON: And hearing the second, then
20 everyone in favor, say "aye."

21 (Board members said "aye.")

22 DR. JAMESON: Is there anyone -- thank you.
23 Anyone opposed?

24 Anyone abstained?

25 It is unanimous, moved, approved.

1 And for further action, adoption of the 2021
2 Carrier Premium Fees to be charged to insurers. See
3 attached. And this is a notice of hearing of the fees
4 to be charged to the insurers.

5 And we would like to move that we adopt that
6 these will be put out. Do I hear a motion for that?

7 MS. CLARK: Valerie Clark. I make a motion to
8 accept the fees.

9 DR. JAMESON: And a second?

10 MR. JOHNSON: Jonathan Johnson. Second.

11 DR. JAMESON: And everyone in favor of this
12 motion?

13 (Board members said "aye.")

14 DR. JAMESON: Thank you. Any opposition?

15 And has anyone abstained?

16 The motion is passed unanimously. Thank you.

17 Now, discussion and possible action regarding
18 dates, times. And I look to our staff to tell us. What
19 is the next scheduled date?

20 MS. KORBULIC: Thank you, Madam Chair. Our
21 next meeting is on April 9th at 1:30 p.m. And we are
22 happy to take notes and provide the Board with whatever
23 information they would like to hear about then.

24 DR. JAMESON: Is that another Wednesday, or
25 Thursday?

1 MS. KORBULIC: That is a Thursday.

2 DR. JAMESON: Okay. Great. I loved Wednesday.
3 I'm just... I just couldn't resist saying this was
4 great.

5 So any discussion of -- we've given you a few
6 little follow-ups for the agenda next time. Was there
7 any other agenda items that the Board can think of at
8 this time that they would like added to our next agenda?

9 MR. MELENDREZ: This is Jose Melendrez, for the
10 record.

11 I'm just going to point out that week of
12 April 9th is, at least in southern Nevada, spring break
13 for the school district. So I don't know how many
14 people might be impacted by that. But I know I will be
15 out of town.

16 DR. JAMESON: I think, that is true. I think,
17 that is a vacation week. Does anybody else?

18 All right. It seems --

19 MS. KORBULIC: Madam Chair, I'm happy to look
20 and work with Tiffany Davis, our Executive Assistant, to
21 try to find a date that works for everyone.

22 DR. JAMESON: Yes. And it may be if -- excuse
23 me, Jose, you're the only one --

24 DR. JAMESON: Yeah. Yeah.

25 DR. JAMESON: -- then we may go ahead and

1 proceed with that since the staff has determined it's
2 good.

3 DR. JAMESON: Yeah, no need to change it for
4 one person. But just pointing it out.

5 DR. JAMESON: I think, I could be out, but I
6 think I failed to put it on. I think, it's my break,
7 but I failed to put it on my calendar. But I will let
8 you know right away, Heather.

9 MS. KORBULIC: Okay. Thank you.

10 DR. JAMESON: Okay. So, now, no other further
11 concerns, is there any public comment?

12 There's none here. Is there any up north?

13 MS. KORBULIC: No, there's not.

14 DR. JAMESON: And would our Board like to make
15 any other comments, any public comments?

16 MR. JOHNSON: This is Jonathan Johnson. I just
17 wanted to comment on the question earlier about the
18 difference between bronze plans and the expanded bronze
19 plans. Virtually, there's no difference. A bronze plan
20 is designed to be -- meet a 60 percent actuarial value.
21 The expanded range gives them a little bit more latitude
22 to make those plans richer in benefit and still be
23 classified as a bronze level plan.

24 MS. KORBULIC: Thank you. That's very helpful.

25 DR. JAMESON: Thank you so much.

1 All right. Well, seeing no public comment, no
2 other Board comments, no public comments, I would like
3 to go ahead and accept adjournment.

4 MS. LEWIS: Madam Chair, I move -- E. Lavonne
5 Lewis. I move to adjourn the meeting.

6 MS. CLARK: Second.

7 DR. JAMESON: I would say we could go ahead and
8 adjourn. And thank you, everyone, for an amazing
9 performance this last 12 months. Thank you.

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