MINNESOTA HEALTH CARE COMMISSION
An Inventory of Its Records

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

Agency:  Minnesota Health Care Commission.
Series Title:  Records.
Abstract:  Records of this body charged with advising the Legislature, Governor, and the Commissioner of Health on health policy issues.
Quantity:  3.5 cu. ft. (3 boxes and 1 partial box).
Location:  See Detailed Description section for box locations.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE COMMISSION

The Minnesota Health Care Commission was a legislatively created body charged with advising the Legislature, Governor and the Commissioner of Health on health policy issues. It was created by the original 1992 "Health Right Act" [now known as "MinnesotaCare"] and provided an opportunity for major stakeholders to discuss and develop consensus recommendations on health care reform in Minnesota [Laws 1992 c549 art1 sec4].

The Commission was composed of twenty-eight volunteer members, with representation by consumers, employers, labor unions, health care providers, health plan companies, and state agencies. Thirteen members were appointed by the Governor, two were appointed by the Legislature (one each by the House and Senate, respectively), and the remainder appointed by organizations specified under the Commission's governing legislation [Minn. Stat. 62J.05]. The chair of the Commission was also appointed by the Governor.

The Commission contributed significantly to research, development, discussions, and recommendations on health policy and programs for Minnesota. Many of its recommendations were enacted into law and served as the basis for the state's strategies to improve health care access, affordability, and quality. Its research and discussions helped facilitate legislative and public debates by clarifying health policy issues, positions, and possible options for addressing the issues. Because all Commission meetings were open and public, it served as a valuable forum for communicating with the public and receiving public input to the health policy process. It was an important source of information to private sector decision making, and served as a convening forum to aid voluntary, market-based approaches to health care reform.
The Commission also reviewed and made recommendations on health care technology issues with the assistance of the Health Technology Advisory Committee [HTAC]. The HTAC, also created in 1992, was advisory to the Commission [Laws 1992 c549 art1 sec7].

The Commission was funded through an appropriation from the state's Health Care Access Fund and was staffed by an executive director. The Commission and its staff received operational support from the Department of Health. In addition, staff work closely with other state agencies, the federal government, the University of Minnesota, and other organizations.

In June 1997, the Governor signed legislation repealing the Commission, effective June 30, 1997 [Laws 1997 c225 art2].

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

The records include minutes and agendas (1992-1997), correspondence (1992-1997), subject files (1992-1997), and published records and reports (1991-1997). Major topics covered include health costs containment, health care reform, legislation, MinnesotaCare, universal coverage, consumer incentives, technology, acute and long term care, financing, health care delivery systems, community involvement, and managed care. Also included are files documenting mental health services, finance working and service purchasing and delivery work groups, and a universal coverage committee.

INDEX TERMS

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

Community health services—Minnesota—Citizen participation.
Health.
Health care reforms—Minnesota.
Health maintenance organizations—Law and legislation—Minnesota.
Health planning—Minnesota.
Health promotion—Minnesota.
Health services accessibility—Minnesota.
Hospital care—Minnesota.
Long-term care facilities—Minnesota.
Managed care plans (Medical care)—Minnesota.
Medical care—Minnesota—Cost control.
Medical policy—Minnesota.
Medical technology—Minnesota.
Mental health services—Minnesota.
National health insurance—Minnesota.
Patient advocacy—Minnesota.
Organizations:
Minnesota. Dept. of Health.
Minnesota. Health Technology Advisory Committee.
MinnesotaCare.
University of Minnesota.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:
See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:
Accession number(s): 2005-05; 2005-33: 2008-37

Processing Information:
Catalog ID Nos.: 2960952 (history); 2960959 (records)

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note the location shown below. Each file consists of one folder unless specified otherwise.

Location

  1992 August–December. 10 folders.
  1993. 18 folders.
  1994 January. 2 folders.

119.H.4.3B 1994 February-December. 15 folders.
  1995. 10 folders.
  No meetings were held in April and May.
  1996. 4 folders.
  1997 January-February. 2 folders.
Correspondence and miscellaneous items, 1992-1993. 2 folders.

119.H.4.4F Correspondence and miscellaneous items, 1994-1997. 3 folders.
Financing Work Group minutes and agenda packets, June-December 1996. 19 folders.
  Documentation of this committee to construct a framework to aid policy analysis and policy decisions in health care financing.
Mental health correspondence, 1993. 4 folders.
  Executive Director Michael Scandrett’s constituent correspondence regarding the impact of MinnesotaCare on mental health services.
### Location

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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Location
128.I.5.14F

1992. 1 item in folder.

1993. 2 items in folder.

1994. 5 items in folder.
The Use and Distribution of Health Care Technology in Minnesota, March 1994.
Minnesota Health Reform Master Plan: Summaries and Progress Reports for All MinnesotaCare Programs, June 1994.

1995. 1 item in folder.

1996. 4 items in folder.
A Strategic Plan for Integrating Acute and Long-Term Care in Minnesota, January 1996.
Minnesota’s Health Care Market: Descriptive Overview, Key Trends, Impacts and Issues, Draft, November 1, 1996.

1997, Folder 1. 2 items in folder.
Update on MHCC and Community Efforts to Reduce or Prevent the Adverse Impacts of Tobacco Use and Violence, January 1997.
Location
128.1.5.14F

1997, Folder 2. 4 items in folder.

- The Impact of Managed Care and Other Forms of Health Care for Persons with Chronic Conditions, Disability, or Terminal Illness, February 1997.