

DEPARTMENT OF
Managed
Health  **care**

CONSUMER PARTICIPATION PROGRAM
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2011 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2012

February 26, 2013

Health and Safety Code section 1348.9 requires the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to report the awards issued under the DMHC's Consumer Participation Program (CPP) to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature before March 1 of each year. This report covers the reporting period from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

The CPP allows the DMHC Director to award reasonable advocacy and witness fees to any person or organization that demonstrates that the person or organization represents the interests of consumers and has made a substantial contribution on behalf of consumers to the adoption of any regulation or to an order or decision made by the Director, if the order or decision has the potential to impact a significant number of enrollees. Pursuant to title 28 of the California Code of Regulations, section 1010, consumers interested in receiving awards through the CPP must complete a three-application process. The applications: Request for Finding of Eligibility to Participate and Seek Compensation; the Petition to Participate in a Proceeding; and the Application for an Award of Advocacy and Witness Fees are available on the DMHC public website at http://www.dmhc.ca.gov/aboutthedmhc/gen/gen_cpp.aspx. Consumers with questions regarding the CPP can contact the DMHC at cpp@dmhc.ca.gov.

Since the CPP became effective on July 1, 2003, the DMHC has approved: 18 Requests for Finding (or Renewal) of Eligibility to Participate and Seek Compensation; 40 Petitions to Participate in a Proceeding; and 18 Awards of Advocacy and Witness Fees.

During the reporting period of July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012, the Department approved two (2) Requests for Finding (or Renewal) of Eligibility to Participate and Seek Compensation, one (1) Petition to Participate in a Proceeding and three (3) Awards of Advocacy and Witness Fees during this period. The Awards of Advocacy and Witness Fees were awarded to the following consumer advocate organizations:

- Health Access of California was awarded \$2,100.00 for its substantial contribution regarding Director's Letter 4-K dealing with the implementation of AB 2244 (Feuer – Stats. 2010, chap. 656) concerning prohibition on pre-existing limitations for children under the age of 19.
- Consumers Union of the United States was awarded \$8,504.40 for its substantial contribution regarding Director's Letter 8-K dealing with guidance concerning SB 1163 (Leno – Stats. 2010, chap. 661) on premium rate review.
- California Pan-Ethnic Health Network was awarded \$1,000.00 for its substantial contribution regarding Director's Letter 8-K dealing with guidance concerning SB 1163 (Leno – Stats. 2010, chap. 661) on premium rate review.