Enhancing Healthcare Through Strategic Partnerships and Advocacy

In a landscape of rapidly evolving healthcare needs, our commitment to enhancing the quality, accessibility, and affordability of care in Rhode Island remains steadfast. Through strategic partnerships with key stakeholders and focused legislative efforts, we aim to address the most pressing healthcare challenges and opportunities.

**Stakeholder Engagement:** Collaborating with RI Foundation, Raising RI, Protect Our Healthcare Coalition, Kids Count, Rhode Island Quality Institute and Economic Progress Institute to advance healthcare initiatives.

**Payor Relations:** Engaging in constructive dialogues and partnerships with major insurers including BCBSRI, NHPRI, United, Tufts, and CCA, we strive to align on healthcare delivery improvements, policy adaptations, and the implementation of equitable payment practices. These discussions aim to enhance healthcare quality and accessibility for Rhode Island residents, fostering a collaborative approach to healthcare challenges.

**Regulatory and Administrative Engagement:** Our proactive involvement in regulatory and administrative processes is key to influencing healthcare policy and practice. By participating in quarterly meetings with the RIDOH and EOHHS, monthly discussions with the BMLD, and engaging with the OHIC and others on task forces like the Administrative Simplification Taskforce, we ensure that the voice of healthcare providers and patients is heard. Our presence in these forums underscores our commitment to regulatory compliance, administrative efficiency, and the advancement of healthcare standards.

**2024 Legislative Priorities:**
- RI Shield Bill: Advocating for legal protection of transgender and reproductive healthcare.
- Telemedicine: Promoting telehealth regulation clarity and exploring license reciprocity.
- Payment Parity: Seeking commercial payment equality with neighboring states.
- Medicaid Reimbursement: Pushing for rate reviews and increases in care provider rates.
- Workplace Violence and Interstate Medical Licensure Compact: Advocating for the promulgation of regulations for existing laws.

**2023 Legislative Successes:**
- Streamlined prior authorization processes, enhancing transparency, and reducing administrative burdens.
- Codified ACA protections, ensuring comprehensive coverage regardless of preexisting conditions.
- Passed the Equality in Abortion Coverage Act, securing reproductive care coverage for state employees and Medicaid recipients.
• Implemented cost caps for specialty prescription medications and expanded coverage for essential screenings, including mammograms and pap smears.
• Supported pharmacist-prescribed contraceptives, showcasing leadership in healthcare innovation.

Join Us in Shaping a Healthier Future
Your support and involvement are crucial as we advocate for a healthier Rhode Island. For partnership and engagement opportunities, contact Stacy Paterno at spaterno@rimed.org