

Center for Children's Advocacy Attorney Bonnie Roswig to Represent Children's Voice on Health Insurance Exchange Advisory Committee

Hartford, December 17, 2012 – Bonnie Roswig, senior staff attorney for the Center for Children's Advocacy Medical Legal Partnership, has been appointed to the Health Plan Benefits and Qualifications Advisory Committee of the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange.

The Exchange supports health reforms statewide and nationally, working to improve the quality of healthcare for Connecticut residents and reduce health disparities.

"Attorney Roswig has the qualifications and expertise to be the Advisory Committee's voice for Connecticut's children," said Deputy Insurance Commissioner Anne Melissa Dowling. "She brings broad knowledge of the needs of the state's underserved children and the experience and advocacy skills necessary to help guide the Exchange in increasing the number of insured children and improving the quality of their healthcare."

[Advisory Committee members](#) include representatives from medical fields, insurers, hospital associations and, with Attorney Roswig's appointment, a legal advocate for children. "The committee is charged with a key role in assuring that the Exchange enacts regulations that consider the needs of the community and provides health coverage that is accessible and affordable. I am pleased to have the opportunity to ensure that the voice of children resonates with the Connecticut Health Exchange," said Roswig.

Attorney Roswig was appointed by Connecticut Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, who is also Chair of the Exchange's Board of Directors. The Committee's healthcare advisor is State Healthcare Advocate Victoria Veltri, JD, LLM.

Nationwide, state Health Exchanges have been set up under the federal Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) to enable uninsured individuals and small businesses to purchase affordable health insurance.

The Connecticut Health Exchange established four advisory committees to assist in key areas, advising on policy and goals and providing ongoing program evaluation – all toward improving the affordability of health care. The Health Plan Benefits and Qualifications Advisory Committee is charged with promoting competition while offering consumers a broad choice of high quality affordable health insurance plans.

In the next few years, Connecticut's Medicaid population may be part of the Exchange. In the meantime, the Affordable Care Act delineates certain coverage for young people who are in foster care or transitioning out of foster care. Attorney Roswig's participation on this committee will ensure that underserved children are considered in all decisions made by the exchange.