

Tri-County Meeting 3-11-2011

Attendees: Bill Shapiro, Joann McEniry, Shelia Carter, Ka'leef C. Washington, Kathy Murphy,
Bob Armstrong, and Linda Hendrixson, Roberta Feil, Joel Aronson

Bill spoke about beginning the 4-6 month process of Priority Setting. Core Services and recommendations go to the Planning Council. RFP out in November, Award usually out by March 1st. This year, a partial grant award was awarded to funded agencies with the final award expected sometime in the April. Funds can be redistributed and reallocated, some flexibility when funds are received.

Grantee has been very supportive of the unique issue/needs of our area. Last 2 years, the Grantee has had to justify how they were funding our area and led to last year's discussion about need to address this issue more effectively. Consequently, last year's priority setting debate combined total dollars for Morris, Sussex, Warren and Essex Counties. 7.3% for Morris, Sussex and Warren, was approved as minimum versus it being the maximum. Essex agreed to this. This will be revisited every year based on demographic data and the Tri County review. This new funding process allows the Grantee flexibility to keep our funded agencies afloat and potentially allow for expansion.

Presentation from NEMA

Ka'leef C. Washington, Health Planner from the Newark EMA HIV Services Planning Council was here to do a presentation. Instead of monthly meetings they will be twice a month. The Comprehensive Health Plan – 3 years with an addendum every year. NEMA needs an assessment the data in the state changed cycle December 2009. 2010 data showing increase in tri-county. The state is behind 1 to 1 ½ years with data.

1. Get funded by performance
2. Get funded by use

The federal government only uses official data. Preliminary data may change a little 1%-1 ½ % not great then 2%. The county needs to be vocal in funding data. The needs assessment is the cornerstone. Pleading from every agency for their needs, cares, and supplying agency data is very important. Agencies that don't participate are at the curb. Ask questions – don't be silent. We need the agencies to show the Newark EMA what really is needed data.

There are 3 questions-

1. Number of people who drop out of RW care. Where are they now? Who are they? Have they reentered the system or are they receiving Medicaid or Medicare? Are they receiving case management services only? Are they going to the Family Health Center? Do they have private insurance? Do they have no dental coverage? Access other services, CHAMPS program outlines and guidelines why terminated? Things get missed, not necessarily matching data. Chart reviews that are conducted match CHAMPS data. We want to see match for HERSA that CHAMP data is accurate. If you have anyone at Medicaid or Medicare dealing with federal or state plans as a contact let Ka'leef know.

Medicaid has a different plan for receivers of SSD who make too much for regular Medicaid. You can call Medicaid or Medicare to find out what a client is receiving with their release signed. The CHAMP System is our gauge and it is only as good as what you put in. Sad that it is, it is a numbers game, but that is our climate, we don't want to supply duplicate services. There needs to be case coordination between providers.

2. Youth that are 13-30 years, Find out numbers from diagnosis to entering into care, there is an increase in minority, MSM and transgenders. In 2005 the CDC changed the youth category to 13-30 year olds.
3. Mental health levels are being provided by RW, it is now more in align with national numbers. Mental health has sub-categories, create more categories to be more accurate and to be more universal. Are there gaps? Are services there and clients don't know about them? Funding is what client services needs. We are bound by HIPA.

Agency Reports and Announcements

Shelia Carter, Human Service Coordinator for Division of Behavioral Health & Youth Services, County of Morris distributed HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee Orientation Packets for Morris, Sussex, and Warren counties. Orientation was cancelled due to weather. It outlines structure of county, various sub-divisions, Advisory Committee on Aging, Disabilities & Veterans.

Joann McEniry of New Jersey AIDS Services handed out flyer on upcoming Vagina Monologues and spoke of the NJ AIDS Walk which will take place Sunday, May 1st; 11:30am registration and 1:30pm walk.

Sister Roberta advised a renewal of COA Commission being held at Hope House conducting interviews, checking charts and exit review at 4pm. Four clients and Sr. Roberta are going to Washington DC with Hyacinth, they are also getting ready for the retreat.

Discussion held regarding the 8th Annual Conference for Not-For-Profit Organizations Strengthening our Community, Thurs, April 28, 2011 at the Meadow Wood Manor in Randolph, details to follow. The Morris County Library is hosting volunteers from Volunteer Income Tax

Assistance Program who are offering free tax help. It is recommended that individuals seeking assistance in filling out their tax returns make an appointment by calling 973-538-3451. Also, a listing of tax sites was distributed, sponsored by Norwescap.

Sussex County Task Force has zero funding from the Freeholders. The money set aside is being used to outreach senior citizens. There are 6 more health fairs that they will do, they do education and agency referrals. The agency was started in 1990 by a resolution from the Freeholders.

Bill will work on a letter to send to the Freeholders, he will run it by Linda first. Bill will also ask for a letter to be written by the Newark EMA. Sussex County Task Force's budget was \$2,500 per year then cut to \$1,000 and now cut to zero.

Joel is planning a group trip to NY for Hope House to visit The Center of Photography a museum founded by Kodak. They will also invade offices of NY magazines for the purpose of getting interviews. They will also visit FIT. Joel asked for help with being given a list of acronyms, Bill said he could get that for him.

Bill from Morristown Memorial Hospital spoke of the expansion of a nutrition program. They are trying to assess everyone who is receiving services at the Family Health Center. Providing healthier diets and helping their overall medical care. Services would be done on site twice a month, and to process services out on computer and word of mouth.

The following is a list of the upcoming meetings:

May 24th @ NJAS

June 28th @ HH

July 26th @ NJAS

Aug 23rd @ HH

Sept 27th @ NJAS

Dec 13th @ NJAS

Additional dates will be added as required