

RICDHH

HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE – TASK FORCE MEETING

January 27, 2010

Members Present: Steve Florio, Tina Thompson, Christine Harkins, Debra Raiche, Pam Zellner

Tina called the meeting to order at 2:37pm.

Minutes of December 7, 2009 were reviewed. Deb motions to accept the minutes. Tina seconds the motion.

Tina Thompson contacted Gina Roche at RI Hospital Association to ask if she/we could do presentation for them to get “feedback” from them. This will serve us “dry run”. Gina will get back to Tina.

Tina made changes that were suggested by all re: presentation. Pam reported we can buy video that all viewed and thought was excellent. Steve mentioned that purchase protocol and procedure is not easy, but he hopes to have video by next meeting. Pam will order this. Tina requested again that Pam develop a binder or manual to go with training.

Powerpoint presentation was shown that was developed by TF (Tina and Steve). Stats included information by the National Joint Commission on Hospitals. Comments included:

- A. Great! – shows ASL 3rd most used
- B. Returning veterans needs mentioned
- C. ASL is often used in ER (destroys myth)
- D. Roger Williams Hospital lawsuit mentioned now, although Tina had reservations earlier.
- E. Tina shared story re: Dr. refusing to “write down” instruction for hard of hearing friend – ex. how this happens often.
- F. TF made decision to include handouts from Joint Commission re: Rehab. Act 1973 Section 504, ADA and so forth.
- G. All felt information re: VRS, VRI and remote CART should be included in package.
- H. “TDD/TTY” these terms will be taken out of presentation. Only current communications technology will be suggested/discussed as listed in manual.

- I. Information re: other healthcare resources will be included. This includes: Bridgemark. Other? We will research... Steve mentioned links to website(s) that will also give health and other information for and about Deaf, and for use by professionals working with and for Deaf.

Pam suggested written scenarios could be included reflecting needs of child, adult, etc. Deaf person, discussion around if this would lead to having too much. Original video covers much of this information already.

Steve made announcement that “hospice” is now under this Task Force. Hospice volunteers (potential and current) were discussed (Paula Bernfeld, Bonnie Abols, etc). Training Hospice provided, again was discussed. The last one was approx. 2006, Tina suggested Task Force seek C.B.V.S for this training, possible entities would include but not be limited to: RIRID, MSW’s, RI Mental Health Assoc., Drug and Alcohol Assoc., Nurses Assoc., etc. Chris H. will get information regarding this.

“Best Practices” was discussed re: use of interpreters. Steve has resources re: this, and will review with Tina to see if this can be condensed and included in training and or packet/manual.

Tina mentioned Jim’s topic of “consumer education*” It was decided to wait until Jim was in attendance to discuss this in depth. *(health related: HIV, health risks, healthcare systems, etc.) In the meanwhile, Pam will contact various programs to see if they have heard from their program participants about this being a need. Programs will include but not limited to: OSCIL, PARI, Corliss Center, Bridgemark, RI School for the Deaf, Perspectives.

Next meeting dates: Feb. 12th, Friday at 1pm
Feb. 25th, Thurs at 1:30pm

Announcements: Steve – Betty Vohr will give a keynote speech, “Congenital Hearing Loss in 2009: A Medical Emergency”. Discussion re: pathology of hearing loss ensued.

Meeting adjourned at 4:08pm.