

Unapproved Healthcare Task Force meeting minutes

Meeting Start Time: 10:15 am

In Attendance: Tina Thompson, Deb Raiche, Pam Zellner, Steve Florio, Jim Simon

Guest: Jenn Deboer from Office of Minority Health with Dept. of Health, CLAS Coordinator.

Interpreter: Elizabeth Nadolski

CART Reporter: Sherri Viera

Note Takers: Jim Simon

Task Force Members reviewed minutes from 4/6/11. Tina made a correction in the agenda as we have already reviewed the minutes from 3/4/11 so no need to do both. Steve made a motion to accept the minutes, Deb second, passed unanimously.

Reviewed Outcome of Training at Roger Williams Hospital:

- Steve and Tina facilitated
- Around 35 people attended
- Tina reported the training went well, a lot of positive feedback, group asked a lot of questions.
- Brought up the idea of a “tool box”.
- Gina Rocha was able to get CEU’s for the nurses but would also like to explore looking at CEU’s for social workers, etc.
- There is another training scheduled for October. Tina mentioned that it would be important to hit other locations in RI to maximize attendance such as: Westerly, South County, Kent, Newport, etc. This would be our short term goal for communication access to D/HOH.
- Long term goal- set up a training unit within RICDHH to hire people to do trainings. Need to find grants/funding for this. Also to be a provider of CEU’s. Steve to research grants.
- Jenn was introduced and discussed the work she has been doing with the Dept. of Health and how she has been part of developing a tool box looking at resources for providers and patients rolling out Spanish, French and Portugese to begin with. Anyone who receives federal money must be CLAS compliant (Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services). This would also apply to ASL and communication supports like CART. Jenn handed out a Crosswalk of standards which is a collaborative effort between the RI Dept. of Health and the Hospital Association of

Rhode Island to address Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) between healthcare providers and patients.

- Department of Justice and Office of Civil Rights will incur fines to those not compliant with communication access. Jenn mentioned two organizations, for example, that have nothing but written English, to offer patients.
- Jenn gave an example where in RI a 16-year-old can provide interpreting legally. DOH is telling the hospitals that it would be in their best interest to not have someone so emotionally invested in this role.
- Could look to a grant writer to help with writing a grant for this training need. Steve stated this is time sensitive and we would need to research this ASAP. Jenn suggested we look to RIPIN as a conduit to assist us with this.
- Jenn identified some key people to connect with at the Dept. of Health who may be able to continue this conversation with us in terms of exploring a partnership or Memo of Understanding; Ana Novais is the Executive Director, Rilwan Feyistan, Chief, or Deb G. as the Deputy.

Consumer Training Group:

Tina reported on survey findings from Consumer Education Training Program, Tina was able to identify top findings and topics of interest with both ASL/text responses. Tina handed out a blueprint to start a conversation such as topics of interest (e.g., Healthcare Reform, Mental Health/Depression, Health Food, etc.).

TF can start to take a look at when it makes sense to be start to offer the Consumer Training Groups.

Meeting Adjourned 12:00 pm.

Next Meeting Date: July 14th 10:00 am – 12:00 pm .