



Rhode Island Department of Health
Three Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5094

www.health.ri.gov

MINORITY HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Family Van Program 134 Thurbers Ave

9:00 – 11:00 am

June 22, 2009

Members Present: Aleatha Dickerson, Yvette Mendez, Betty Bernal, Julie Rawlings, Yvette Mendez, Debbie Correia Morales, Jennifer Chaves, Helena Friedmann, Emma Simmons, Mary Falvey, Deborah Perry

Members Excused Absent:

Members Unexcused Absent: Maria Barros, Maria Sansiveri, Vinnie Velazquez, Janet Anderson, Ammala Douangsavanh, Gloria Hincapie,

HEALTH Staff Present: Carrie Bridges, Helen Drew, Rilwan Feyisitan

- I. Call meeting to Order—Aleatha Dickerson, MHAC Co-Chair
- II. Welcome from Host Agency—Mary Falvey, Program Manager
 - A. Family Van Success—Hepatitis A, B series completion
- III. Review of Minutes
- IV. Emergency Preparedness Update (Rilwan)
 - A. Federal Vulnerable Population Grant—hiring part time staff to conduct needs assessments of vulnerable populations (refugee, homeless ect)
 1. Measuring translation capacity, community based organization, communication
 2. Mobilizing community organization to be front line responders—using Incident Command Structure (ICS)
 3. Post-event response
 4. Contacting promotion centers to host joint forum with HEALTH
 - B. ICS Planning Update (Carrie)
 1. Planning for H1N1 resurgence in the fall
 2. How to best get providers in the loop
 3. Issue: providing Tammiflu to uninsured, tracking state allotment
 4. Vaccine planning (won't have enough to vaccinate whole state)
 - a. Influenza vaccine + 2 shot H1N1 series (3 touch points)
 - b. Get regular fall vaccinations done earlier
 - c. First allotment of H1N1 vaccine to first responders
 - d. Preference to hi risk populations: young children, pregnant women, the elderly
 - e. Concerns: resistance to vaccination
 - f. Education efforts needed (esp. to home care population)

MESSAGING WILL BE KEY

HEALTH will develop fact sheets in different languages

g. How to get people back in for 2nd shot?

Bracelets, colored magnets, suggestions from Mary

Need manpower to make reminder phone calls

5. Weekly communication from HEALTH available on website

a. **Email helen.drew@health.ri.gov** to be put on direct email list

b. Possible summer meeting at HEALTH to discuss further

6. Problems in the community

a. burden on patient to stay out of work for 7 days, especially if it is a mild case

- Talking to infectious disease to sort out better balance

- Testing for epi reasons, not diagnostic—doesn't impact treatment

b. Disproportionate use of Tammiflu for insured because it is \$\$\$\$\$

-ACCESS TO CARE issue

V. Hospital Mergers/Certificate of Need (CON) Discussion

A. Informal comment process still open

1. take a look at general departmental criteria in packet to see what should be considered for CON

B. Merger Issues

1. Will St. Joseph's at Peace St. be closing? REFER TO APPLICATION ON WEBSITE

a. Very important site--urgent care center, walk-in, uninsured population

b. Fatima not as accessible by transportation, not open on weekends

2. How does the Diocese fit in?

a. Maintaining "Catholicity" of services at both locations

b. Roger Williams won't pursue stem cell research, but will offer Family Planning

3. Planning to combine administrative services first then merge service delivery

4. Will allow reduction of staff through attrition

5. FEEL FREE TO SEND INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS TO HELEN

C. CON Review Criteria Sheet

1. Review Criterion 1: Character & Competence

a. Trust of providers could be lost with merger

2. Review Criterion 2: Access to Affordable Care

a. Can CHCs provide same services?

b. Stimulus funding to expand clinics, but will this be enough to support the expanding population in need?

3. Review Criterion 3: Access for Underserved Populations

a. Will St. Joe's be closed? Not in next 5 years

b. Need "reverse CON" if so

c. Required to follow CLAS standards

d. Access will be affected regardless—they can say they will have Fatima access, but the target population may not benefit

-need someone who understands their language

-cultural issues at new center

-don't feel like you belong in that system

4. Review Criterion 4: No Incentives for Referrals
 - a. System of referral from Peace St.?
5. Review Criterion 5: Retention of the Workforce
 - a. Power of union?
6. Review Criterion 6: Workforce Retraining
7. Review Criterion 7: Balanced Health Care
8. Review Criterion 8: Market Share
9. Key elements that may be impacted by patients going to Fatima
 - a. Relationship with providers, trust, transportation, language barriers

D. Four CONS before council (full applications on website)

1. Group discussion of 14 questions to determine which ones should be reviewed by this committee (done through consensus)
2. Q19 particularly important to health disparities
3. All questions, except for #14 will be included
4. Rilwan will email out page numbers with responses to the specific questions of interest to MHAC
5. Priorities
 - a. Deb supported, Julie seconded, all in favor
 - 1) End Stage Renal Dialysis Training Center
 - 2) Kent Country Hospital Based Ambulatory Surgery Center
 - 3) Women & Infants Hospital: The daVinci Si Surgical System
 - b. read through applications and send responses to Rilwan by July 13th

VI. Minority Health Advisory Business

A. OMH State Office Updates

1. 2009 fact sheets finalized
2. new hires for Healthy People 2010, part time Epidemiologist
3. Community Forums over summer
4. \$25,000 reduction in budget

B. State Agency Partner Updates

C. Sub committee Updates

1. Welcome to new member, Darryl and new co-chair, Julie
2. Leg. Meeting in Sept.

VII. Open Comments/Discussion

A. MHAC Members Community/Organizational Updates

1. Tent cities on S. Main St and in Woonsocket
 - a. Is HEALTH looking at these sites?
2. HIV & Underserved Communities lecture Tues, June 30th 12-1 at Miriam Hospital on 1st floor
3. Adjourned for summer

Next Meeting

Meetings are on the 4th Monday of the month from 9:00-11:00 am. The next regularly

scheduled meeting is on Monday, September 28th from 9:00 – 11:00 am hosted by The Providence Housing Authority: 50 Laurel Hill Avenue in Providence.