

Hudson Valley RW HIV CARE Network

Care Coordination Committee Meeting

280 Broadway, 4th Floor Newburgh

40 Saw Mill River Rd. Hawthorne

May 5th, 2009 10am-12pm

Present: (Hawthorne) Lorraine Anglin, Marley Harry, Rev. Peggy Howland, Veronica Jones, Joseph Juste, Andrew Lehto, Victor M., Rena Meyer, Ryan Nathan, Maryland Toney. (Newburgh) Saqib Altaf, Emily Boardman, Catherine Emestica, Kristin Fountain, Bill Gallagher, Nancy Reyes, Joanne Schmitt, Kim Youchah.

Network Staff: Barbara Bennet and Michelle Amatulle

Overview

Meeting attendees received the agenda, minutes from the April 7th meeting, DSS letter to commissioners, IDU Risk Area Maps, ACRIA flyer, Albany School of Public Health Webcast flyer, and the Kpax flyer. Minutes were approved (Catherine Emestica, Ryan Nathan).

Old Business

• **Trainings Update**

- ARCS is conducting a Hepatitis C and HIV Co-morbidity training in September and October. It will be a two session training given in the upper and lower county region. Barbara spoke with Deborah May, ARCS trainer, about our committee wanting to do a training on the same topic and she said they would reserve seats for the Network. The executive committee approved this decision. There will be a registration deadline for the training. Otherwise, it will cost us \$500 for a 2 hour seminar in Newburgh by a Hepatitis C specialist. It was suggested that testimonials be given at the training from people living with HIV and Hepatitis C and less about treatment. There needs to be an emphasis on living with Hepatitis C and HIV and the implications of treatment as well as the impact on the individual. We can also see if Deborah can come to a consumer meeting to address questions, concerns of consumers and how to encourage patients to follow through on treatment, which is what most providers have difficulty with their patients.
- It was asked what the outcome is going to be for the trainings. The outcome would be information, education, people improving their quality of life, etc. It was suggested to integrate both consumers and providers as well as having testimonials. It was also suggested that we wait on completing the policy paper until we gather this information from the trainings to support the paper.
- Julie explained why patients may be reluctant to go on treatment which has to do with the Interferon medication that causes depression and other unpleasant side effects. Therefore, mental health providers need to be included on this. Victor explained that it is a multi-tiered treatment and that it is very traumatic for a co-infected individual.
- Barbara has contacted Dusty from Columbia Mental Health and has mentioned that we could cover travel expenses if that is an issue. We have not yet heard back from them. It was asked if anyone knows of a possible trainer for this topic.
- It was suggested that we look at materials from the Mental Health Substance Use Committee Forum: "Three Rogues, One Destination".

Action Item 1: Barbara will email the dates and details on the training.

Action Item 2: Barbara will see if she can get the curriculum/agenda from Deborah May, ARCS trainer.

Action Item 3: Barbara will talk to Deborah to see if she can do another training just for the Network that would be an all day training with testimonials and a long question and answer segment.

Action Item 4: Rena said she would take on the task of contacting them if we give her the exact name of the training we want to do.

Action Item 5: Julie will try to bring the materials for the next meeting.

- **Faith Initiative**

- Barbara spoke to Mary Spriggs from Dutchess County Bealuh Baptist Church about getting Rev. Jesse Bottoms involved. She said that having a small networking forum/seminar on a very local level has been successful. She gave us another contact, Diane Ruffet. Barbara will meet with Mary and Diane in May to see what the possibilities are.
- An ad hoc committee was formed to take on the tasks of getting this project off the ground. They are: Veronica Jones, Ryan Nathan, Victor M., and Rev. Peggy Howland. Brother Jim Dowd will hopefully work closely with us as well. He offered his monastery to hold the forum.
- It was suggested that the committee also email more faith contacts.
- Carolyn Saldana will follow up with Bill Gallagher's contact.

Action Item 6: An email will be sent out with the revised letter to the ad hoc committee and we would like to get everyone's feedback by Friday.

Action Item 7: Lorraine will try to get in touch with Adriana Bernal from Hudson River Healthcare.

Provider Survey/Needs Assessment

- A letter has been put together to prime the providers with the questions on the survey before we can do cold calls. This will give us more accurate information. It was suggested that we speak to an administrator or Quality assurance staff person in order to get the needed information. There may more of an issue to get data from private doctors because they don't have that kind of reporting system in place. If they get Ryan White funding or funding from the AIDS Institute we can ask for an aggregate.
- We will be looking for people from the committee to help analyze this data.
- It was asked if we can get technical assistance from AIDS Institute. Rena Meyer suggested that we either go online to "Epi Info" from the CDC or have a couple members go to the three day training being held in Albany and New York City. Rena and Maryland offered to look at the questions after the meeting.

DSS Forums

- As suggested, Barbara got in touch with Barbara Bento-Fleming from the Housing Committee to inquire about DSS events, however, there weren't any scheduled.
- It was then suggested that we continue to get in touch with them anyway since DSS staff comes to their meetings. The draft letter to commissioners was presented to the committee.
- It would be ideal to have line staff as well as managers but that may not be possible.
- It was mentioned that perhaps we can have quarterly representation from DSS or twice a year have staff members come to the CCC meeting.
- The format for the past DSS forum was to have an expert on each topic of concern meet with providers every few months.
- A good outcome would be a fact sheet but it would be different region to region.

Action Item 8: Barbara will contact Barbara Bento-Fleming and Danielle Ahmed.

Action Item 9: It was suggested to talk to the two DSS commissioners that are on the Executive committee to get their feedback on the letter.

STD/IDU Risk Area Maps

- The maps from the AIDS Institute were reviewed but no further discussion was made about them other than we plan to use this data in the service delivery plan and we would like some people to give us some feedback on the maps. It identifies need in all seven counties.
- The maps would be presented at the General Membership meeting.

New Business

- National Testing Day is June 27th. We would like to promote events going on in all seven counties in our calendar for next month. We will send a reminder to do so mid-month. It was suggested to contact Yedidah, who would have more information as well.
- It was pointed out that our General Membership Meeting scheduled for June 26th may have to be rescheduled due to the National Testing Day events that may conflict. Please send your suggestions of topics you'd like covered at the next General Membership meeting. One suggestion came from the Executive committee to have a speaker speak about and address the needs of HIV positive people who are age 50 and over since that seems to be a growing and large population. Deborah May is going to help us try to find a speaker as well. As far as recruitment we are looking to invite a legislator as well as clergy members.
- We have decided to promote ACRIA's "Train the Trainer" program in Newburgh that will be on HIV clinical trials. It will be on June 16th 9am-5pm. Lisa Frederick is coordinating the event. If anyone is interested, Barbara will send the description on it. They're looking to get 10-15 people.
- There is a Webinar viewing, "Managing Chronic Hepatitis C" on May 21st. Let us know if you are interested in participating in the next 24 hours.
- The Kpax seminar on September 17th was announced so that providers can come to it as well as consumers.

Action Item 10: Please email your events to us before the end of this month.

Action Item 11: The webinar will be sent out to the rest of the network.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Michelle Amatulle,
Program Assistant