

WAKHCAN MEETING SUMMARY

5/6/15

In attendance:

Jan Chamness

Gina Brien

Keisha Cornett

Kay Hoffman

Rashmi Adi-Brown

Kellie Kozee Warren

Sue Thomas-Cox

Harold Brown

Karen Cooper

David Gross

Andrew Bledsoe

Thursa Sloan

Ron Catchen

Sandy Romenesko

Carlos Marin

Polly Mullins-Bentley

Charlotte Walker

Jennifer Thurman-

Humphrey

Bonita Bobo

Ann Ohara

Jan Chamness welcomed the group and provided a history of Community Health Worker (CHW) programming at the Montgomery County Health Department (MCHD) dating back to 2001 when some members of this group gathered together as part of the migrant coalition.

Members introduced themselves and their agency and explained their history, if any, with CHW programming. An ice breaker was conducted by Rashmi Adi-Brown to facilitate group members getting to know each other better.

Jan Chamness provided an overview of the project, including:

Vision: Increase and improve healthcare access for all low-income, uninsured and underinsured residents, documented and undocumented, of rural Kentucky.

Mission: Increase the number of CHWs in Kentucky by expanding our network to include partners throughout Western Appalachian Kentucky and developing training centers and a certification process for all CHWs.

Goals and objectives for year one, year two and by project end (reference one page handout provided at the meeting).

The network had a facilitated discussion regarding network logistics. The following are important components to effective collaboration:

- Decision makers are at the table
- Clear, safe and effective communication is practiced and every member has a voice
- Common vision
- Flexibility
- Follow through
- Member participation and effort
- Trust
- Focus
- Informed
- Personal agendas are put aside
- Transparency

In order for the network to be effective, there are certain expectations of members:

- Meeting of the full network twice per year
- Meeting of the Executive Committee every other month
- Good attendance by members
- Members have decision making ability
- MOA signed by all agencies

Additionally, the network agrees

- All opinions should be respected
- Communication should be short and direct
- Members should be informed with regular progress notes
- Decisions made by consensus should be honored

Member benefits include free trainings as described by Gina Brien (reference handout provided at the meeting).

The group identified some of their strengths as individual members and agencies. They include:

- Sharing information
- Program replication
- Historical perspective
- Ability to disseminate information
- Regional representation
- Network of information
- Like mission
- Marketing
- Ability to pull other FQHCs on board
- Traditional and non-traditional membership with outside connections
- Technical support
- Creative training programs
- Connection to state effort and CDC. Reduce divergent efforts
- Relationships
- Sharing
- Data

Desired outcomes include:

- ✓ Opportunity to learn
- ✓ Success through measureable tasks
- ✓ New relationships
- ✓ Increasing access / decreasing ER use and admissions
- ✓ Increase coordination and quality of care
- ✓ Save money while improving care
- ✓ Network can work to “sell” program
- ✓ Use CHW programming to meet affordable care act benchmarks
- ✓ Full time CHW Coordinator
- ✓ Decrease number of uninsured

- ✓ Preventive health compliance
- ✓ Reduce hospital admissions
- ✓ Reduce wait time in the emergency room
- ✓ Define and promote a CHW “101” and “201”
- ✓ Bring to light mental health needs and the absence of care

Next steps of the group will include the meeting of the Executive Committee with the network TA, Kap. During this meeting, information from the full network including outcomes and strengths will be shared. Kap will help group focus on the network vision and begin to generate action steps to move forward.

In conclusion, the following describes a network:

Hard to do but can do great things to take care of people

Effort

Endeavor to persevere

Compassion

Take on something ~ leave our mark

Challenge

Float

Cheerleader

Laughter

Humor

Passionate

Stories

Commitment to provide help to people

Means a lot

Work being done

Inclusion of diversity

Vision ~ outlook

Same thing seen differently

Taking a chance outside of comfort zone

Don't be afraid to fail

Looking forward

Home

Evolution