

Home Visiting Task Force – Sustainability Workgroup Meeting

September 6th, 2012
10:30am-12:00pm

Children's Home + Aid: 125 South Wacker, 14th Floor

Conference Call Line: 877-731-3469
Pass code: 236208#

Meeting Participants: Nancie Brown, Rebecca Bunn, , Elizabeth Heneks, David Lloyd, Chelsea Pearsall, Andrew Palmer, Lesley Schwartz, Mike Shaver (co-chair), Nancy Shier, Anna Torsney-Weir, John Young

Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions – Co-Chair Mike Shaver

Following introductions, Mike asked whether there were any key players not currently represented on the workgroup who should be invited to join. The group suggested:

- ISBE: Penny Smith or Cindy Zumwalt (Nancy Shier and Rebecca Bunn to follow up)
- Medicaid: (Nancy Shier and Rebecca Bunn to follow up)
- DMH: (David Lloyd to send possible names)
- DHS HS Collaborative: Gina Ruther (Nancie Brown to invite)
- The Governor's office is hiring a community systems builder who will be part of the workgroup (Lesley)

II. MIECHV Implementation Update – Rebecca Bunn, Lesley Schwartz

Rebecca Bunn provided context on the current funding situation: The ACA reinstated the EBHV grant ("Strong Foundations") through MIECHV funding. The difference between the EBHV grant and the MIECHV grant is that the EBHV grant was used for data and training, not direct service, while the MIECHV grant is used for data, training, AND direct service in the 6 communities. MIECHV and EBHV allow funding for all EBHV programs, not just the 6 MIECHV communities.

Lesley explained that there are currently 6 communities being funded by MIECHV: Cicero, Elgin, Englewood, Rockford, and Vermillion. There are 25 total agencies receiving funding in these communities, with one coordinated intake agency in each of the 6 communities. Each community receives \$80,000 per year. This includes funding for community support, capacity-building (e.g., to fund staff or work with COFI), and community and family engagement.

Going forward, assuming that the ACA is not repealed following the results of the November elections, MIECHV formula funding is expected to remain level. This means there will be no new communities or expansion of the current communities.

Currently, there is work being done to create a coordinated intake and referral system for all 6 communities that will create a one-stop shop for families seeking services, including home visiting, and will create a data information system to improve client services.

Mathematica has selected 4 of the 6 communities to participate in the MIHOPE randomized control trial (RCT) to determine the effectiveness of MIECHV funding. The RCT requires that there is a control group of 30 families in each community who don't receive services for 1 year, which are compared to 30 families who do receive services for 1 year. The workgroup recognized the need to have a rigorous evaluation to emphasize the benefits of MIECHV and therefore justify sustained funding. At the same time, the RCT has raised an ethical dilemma because families seeking services

who are eligible might not receive them if they are part of the control group. The workgroup discussed encouraging providers to build up their waitlists, and use families on the waitlist for the control group.

Follow-Up Items from this Discussion:

- Continue updating the workgroup on the 6 communities and any outcomes recorded
- Get more updated materials from Rebecca Bunn on the work that the other Home Visiting Task Force workgroups are doing
- What capacity exists beyond MIECHV? What else is being funded? We discussed getting the state needs assessment done by Chapin Hall, and the survey done in 2009 by the original Funding Strategies workgroup under Ralph Schubert.
- Explore the possibility of non-governmental funding opportunities, e.g. through the United Way (suggested by Liz Heneks) or health insurers (Andrea Palmer), possibly for infrastructure or training instead of direct service
- Determine whether any of the home visiting funding is vulnerable to sequestration (David Lloyd to circulate resources on this)

III. Background on This Workgroup – Mike Shaver

Mike led the workgroup through a review of our current work plan.

Action Step 1, Reviewing results form 2009 survey: Andrea Palmer said she would try to find the survey itself as well as the results to share with the group.

Action Step 2, Reviewing allocation of various funding streams: we identified as a group where we have expertise in determining how these funding streams are being used for home visiting. See follow-up items below.

Action Step 3, Research Medicaid as a potential funding source: we discovered that we do not have much expertise in this area, and want to dig deeper into it as a potential funding source.

Action Step 4, Explore possibility of innovative financing mechanisms: we discussed potentially working on this later.

Follow-up Items from this Discussion:

- Andrea Palmer will find out what home visiting funding is coming out of Title V funding
- Mike Shaver will find out what home visiting funding is coming out of Title IV-E and Title IV-B funding
- Nancy Shier will find out what home visiting funding is coming out of Title XX and TANF
- Nancie Brown will find out what home visiting funding is coming out of CAPTA
- Anna will circulate the primer on using Medicaid for home visiting to the workgroup
- Andrea will circulate a NASHP report on using Medicaid for home visiting

IV. Group Objectives Going Forward – Mike Shaver

- Short-term: Gather information and resources cited during the initial meeting, circulate to entire group for review
- Medium-term: Go more in-depth on using Medicaid for home visiting, possibly finding someone who can talk to the group about it.
- Long-term: Develop a set of recommendations for the Home Visiting Task Force by the end of the calendar year or early spring

V. Next Meeting

We will have our next meeting in late October, where we will vote to amend or approve these minutes, check on follow-up items identified during this meeting, and begin thinking more about digging deeper into Medicaid as a potential funding source for home visiting.