



**Income Supports and Supportive Services
Subgroup
Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2009**

Items Relevant to Other Workgroups

- *Community-Building and Communications:* Several ISSS subgroup tasks involve soliciting input from and disseminating information to the regions. The ISSS subgroup has questions about how these actions fit into the communications plan being developed by the CBC workgroup.

Attendees

- *Paul Beiring*
- *Bill Cox*
- *Scott Dzurka*
- *Nancy Oliver*
- *Cathy Truss*
- *Jeff Kaplow (PPA)*
- *David McConnell (PPA)*

Goals for This Meeting

- To share progress in addressing current action items and plan next steps.
- To discuss integrating the Employment and ISSS groups.
- To plan future meeting dates.

Discussion Items

Review of Progress on Action Items

Action 2.1.1: Identify Promising Practices in Supportive Services

- Currently the team is exploring the communications aspect of this task.
 - How do we communicate all the information that has been collected with the regions and Continuums of Care (CoC)?
 - How will these promising practices be incorporated into the longer term goals of the task?
 - ◆ Trends identified in the promising practices already have been incorporated into the HPRP funds.
- Jeff Kaplow has talked to other facilitators at PPA about how to go about getting this information out.
 - There is a communications plan for the whole campaign that should be rolled out soon.
 - In the meantime, we should continue to use the tools we have available, such as Paul's frequent contacts with the Regional Councils.
 - ◆ Linda Schmidt is the V4A coordinator and can be utilized to communicate this information to the V4A regions.
 - ◆ Cathy suggested that she could talk to the DHS information officer to see how this information can be rolled out on a broad scale.

- Also we should be making use of the individuals in the group who sit in on the regional councils and CoCs.
 - ◆ Workgroup members should be passing along the best practices at these meetings and discussing how these practices could be utilized in the regions.
- We will want to be sure to communicate to these organizations/groups that interested parties might be contacting them for more information, when we do get the communication out more broadly.
 - ◆ Paul has already notified the groups that we are using as examples of promising practices and has posted information on the MSHDA Web site in the HPRP section.

Action 2.1.2: Identify Barriers to Provision of Supportive Services

- The next step on this task will be to disseminate the list the team created and solicit input from the regions on possible ways to overcome these barriers.
 - Because the list is not a comprehensive list of barriers, we will want to communicate this to the regions and get feedback from them.
 - We also want input on more barriers that are not on the list and ideas for overcoming those barriers.
 - The group should be prepared for a lot of input.
- Paul can help get this out to the regions; this may tie into the broader communications plan.
- This will likely happen in a month or two, but in the meantime the workgroup can come up with its own ideas for overcoming the barriers that have already been identified.
 - The task team will need to be re-assembled for this and more members will need to be added.

Action 2.2 Revisit 2-1-1 System

- The group received an update on the citizens' portal.
 - Things are still in the formative stage.
 - However, there is a concerted effort to get the portal up and running as soon as possible.
 - ◆ It is possible that the Food Stamps application will be online in August.
 - ◆ The next phase would be Medicaid, but that does not seem likely to happen for some time.
 - There is still some question as to how the portal would be integrated with Bridges.
 - It will be necessary to make sure that there is adequate staff and other personnel to support this effort.
- There is currently a flurry of activity at the local level for regions that do not have 2-1-1.
 - This team might be able to identify areas where collaboratives are coming together, like in St. Clair, to help build a bridge for these communities.
 - ◆ For instance, connecting the community mental health center in an area that does not have 2-1-1 with their counterpart in an area that does.
 - What seems to be working so far is having communities share success stories with other communities.
 - ◆ Paul has had people from 2-1-1 come to regional meetings and talk about what they do to educate the unserved communities.
- Because 2-1-1 is a locally based system, it is funded differently in different places.
 - This workgroup might help by putting together a list of different funding strategies to give the unserved areas some idea of direction.
 - Scott volunteered to work on this list.

- ◆ He should be able to have a draft of the list in about two weeks.

Action 4.1: Identify Strategies for Overcoming Transportation Barriers

- Paul has done some work on this using the same type of template he used for the framing of promising practices.
 - Looked at Michigan and also nationally at agencies that are doing mobile outreach.
 - Paul will forward the list to Jeff.
 - Jeff will send the list out to the group so we can discuss it at the next meeting.
- The Employment subgroup is working on this task also.
 - It makes sense to combine this effort.
 - Paul and Cathy should meet with the task team from the Employment subgroup to discuss the current status of this task.

Planning Next Steps

- The group talked about doing some work on the stimulus funding.
 - The Web site www.michigan.gov/recovery is a utility we can use to look at the programs that are out there and track the spending here in MI. If we could understand how the stimulus funds can be applicable to our issues we might be in a better position to have an impact.
 - This would require someone from the group to go through the recovery act spending and compile a list of what is relevant to the workgroup. There were no volunteers for this action.
- Jeff going to talk to the facilitator of the Communications workgroup to try to make sure that Paul is not torn in too many directions.

Combining the Employment and ISSS Groups

- There is a consensus among those present today that the ISSS workgroup and the Employment workgroup should be integrated to form one larger group.

Communication Items

- We may use the e-newsletter to try to solicit input on barriers to the provision of supportive services.
- We will need to revisit the best practices info we provided to Pace and Partners to see how that will be used for the Web site.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting—a combined meeting between the ISSS subgroup and Employment subgroup—is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8, at 2:00 p.m.
- Future meetings will be combined meeting between the ISSS subgroup and the Employment subgroup. Future meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month from 2:00-3:30 p.m.