

MIG Evaluation Committee
December 5, 2007

Present: Larry Carlson, Terry Nowakowski, Julie Robison, Noreen Shugrue, Kerri Fradette, Amy Porter, George Ducharme, Cindy Gruman (conference call), Martha Porter

1. Connect-Ability calls QA

Amy as Project Manager will do QA follow up calls. Has time set aside. Will ask if treated with respect, etc. It does not have to be formal process esp. because George will be doing longer quality assurance with narratives. Amy will ask if willing to take part in longer follow up with George.

2. CMS core outcomes measures

CMS will decide on core outcome measures to compare states. MPR will use these. Have been trying to draft core outcomes. Shared with states by survey through MIGRATs. Asking is this relevant to your grant? No results back yet.

At this time the outcome measures are:

1. Medicaid buy-in program
 - o Number enrolled in the Buy-In in the past year
 - o Percent of Buy-In participants with earnings in the past year
 - o Average annual earnings of Buy-In participants among those with earnings
2. Access to PA services
 - o Number of people receiving PAS across all state waivers, State Plan, and other sources
 - o State annual expenditures on PAS across all sources
3. Three big picture measures, using census data for people on SSI/SSDI:
 - o Percent of people with disabilities who are employed (from ACS)
 - o Number and proportion of SSDI recipients returning to work under Title II
 - o Number and proportion of SSI recipients returning to work under Title XVI

They need some type of measure of infrastructure changes since beginning of process, but this can't be core measure. Say our infrastructure changes are met, how to quantify this across states? Would need to measure impact on infrastructure. As we develop large evaluation template, need to keep these in mind as long term vision.

3. Site visit from MPR

MPR has a performance measurement group. CMS wants to work with them – will do pilot site visits – starting with CT – will be here 12/13 and 14. Will spend time with Larry – he does know where data comes from. Also meet with Julie and Noreen re what/where data pieces are. MPR have proposed set of questions.

CMS is funding all MIG, so does CMS care about other than Medicaid population?

Yes – esp. if it keeps people from transitioning to Medicaid. With employment comes medical insurance, etc., so will reduce bottom line. No one measure fits all states – if count any person working and qualifies for Medicaid, then indicates we have more people in employment – so not one question fits all states.

4. Local level initiatives status report

Letters of intent came in. RFP – proposals due 12/12. Will then be reviewed, awarded to develop strategic plan. After strategic plan done, then can work with UConn to see how will evaluate it. February 6 status report by Glendine on local level initiatives.

Overall, MIG will evaluate the success nationwide, any statewide initiatives, at local level, WIPA, & TA.

5. Update on Office for Workforce Competitiveness data interoperability project

Still moving forward with idea of building inter-operative data between agencies for data such as how many people going to work? Legal issues are a big hurdle. Working with OWC and consultant they hired. Walked through legal issues – how to deal with them. Made lot of progress on legal issues. Draft work plan developed.

Goal to create way for one agency to share information with another. Possibly use a data warehouse. Can create it so data doesn't actually sit there. Next step to bring agencies commissioners together to agree to it. Get buy-in from commissioners – meeting next week with OWC. Then will become deliverables from this quarter. Website a possibility to see all projects they developed.

How does whole CT Health Information network fit in?

Not sure – they did not share legal info, are not working with employment. Sharing data will eventually allow for both evaluation and services – to connect with services like case management.

6. Workgroup evaluation plan

Asking for drafts by January 2nd. Not all at same level of completeness.

- Transition – survey for boards of education, have data on special education, need other
- Hiring and Recruiting – survey for employers, use baseline data from MIG needs assessment
- Stakeholder education – using attitudes from MIG needs assessment
- Transportation – difficult to get baseline measures – have work plan.

What transportation is being used now for employment? MIG 1 asked about barriers, transportation barriers. Maybe talk about attitudes towards use and availability of transportation. At last Steering Committee meeting Robin Wood presented way to get access to information about transportation possibly statewide. How many people see that as their biggest barrier. Process evaluation needs to become a part of this – important to measure.

Info possibly from DOT LOCHSTP – South Central Region’s Locally Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. Also United We Ride. Will ask Glendine – will need baseline measures like these. At next MIG meeting will do brainstorming about what and how to measure this.

7. Process evaluation

PCA report

Incorporating Amy’s edits. Share with Pam Giannini, LTC Advisory Committee, DDS Council on Disability. Print maybe 50? Send PCA report to Larry.

Tool to technical assistance. What people think about self-directed care based on vignette in study – who most likely to use – their experiences. Info possibly for MFP discussion. Before we had single service PA waiver – but now consumers are managing lots of PAs and trying to work. This does not work. Look at how to manage this. Most people liked the combination of agency and self-direction. Helpful for other waivers design. Is a contribution to literature on PCAs – possibly couple it to previous survey report about employers/PCA (Julie and Cindy). Literature piece good job – good background, but need to examine now what.

Pop up web survey

Given to Mintz and Hoke. They said they were ready for it, we are now ready. UConn gave Andrew web survey. When will it pop up and how often? First time someone logs on – will come up at end of visit before they log out.

Connect-Ability

Larry presented data tracking from Connect-Ability. Clear pattern – When run TV ads, then have more calls. Can tie to where person is calling from, etc. Look at demand and tie to C-A calls.

Is this part of the evaluation? We will use this in evaluating Technical Assistance. How marketing impacts TA, the call system. Is this being evaluated? Want it to be part of the evaluation. Is it statewide? Should be one outcome – so would want to include that data. Is website part of TA or stake holder education? TA is overarching and may be missing successes such as this.

How to track these successes like report in local magazine? How to use what we have? Entering it into databases is hard. Need to start to look at visually what we have. Use big bulletin board at DSS to post successes. Need to keep track of ads – how many. How many hits on website. What is M&H measuring? Do we ask how the person heard of us? Advertising with print – very little in Fairfield for radio/TV because too expensive. Getting calls mainly from Hartford and New Haven.

What are kinds of things you want to capture? Makes sense to have information collection. Perhaps monthly reminder – put on each workgroups agenda? Perhaps use new MIG staff person Margarita – task for 1 or 2 people to get this info.

8. Committee schedule

Will keep Evaluation Committee first Wednesday of the month. January 2nd is next meeting.
Noreen will check to see if room available.