

**Family Planning Medicaid Waiver Evaluators Conference Call
MINUTES**

April 13, 2009, 1:00-2:00 pm EDT

Participants

- Evaluators:** Janet Bronstein(AL); Ruth Eudy (AR); Jeff Roth (FL); Kathy Vetter (IL); Dave Murday (SC); Aradhana Sathiadevan, Michelle Bensenberg, Marianna Gomez and Kendra Sippel-Theodore (TX); Molly Carpenter and Gerald Craver (VA)
- State Staff:** Kris Albers, Karen Jackson, Kathy Canfield, Catherine McGrath and Susan McNamara (FL); Tysha Grays, Marcia Swartz and Angie Yow (NC)
- Others:** Tom Hennessy, Julie Sharp (CMS); Julie DeClerque and Ellen Shanahan (Sheps); Priscilla Guild (Sheps – retired) and Adam Sonfield (Gutmacher Institute)

Dave Murday opened the April call welcoming colleagues from CMS, Juliana Sharp and Tom Hennessy, whose office will be taking over from Lane Terwilliger, et al. in handling the FP Waiver demonstrations. The process is still in transition, so many decisions are pending regarding policy changes and updates. Julie and Tom provided their email addresses and invited participants to write to them. The group suggested to Juliana and Tom that CMS provide templates (e.g., for budget neutrality) to be added to the FP Waiver Evaluator's website.

Corrections to the March minutes were noted: (1) Texas is still investigating doing surveys but haven't yet done so; (2) North Carolina conducted focus groups with women and mailed surveys to men; and (3) Janet Bronstein sent a clarification regarding primary care referrals: *"The waiver program's obligation is to see that the FP providers have the resources to make referrals to primary care. It is not the program's obligation to make sure that clients actually follow up with the referrals because there are so many individual issues involved"*. Each call will include a review of minutes and approval to determine if any changes need to be made before uploading to the public side of the group website. Everyone was asked to review minutes to prior calls to make sure they are accurate and appropriate to be posted on the web. Beginning in May, we will have minutes from all prior meetings available on the website and link them to the list of topics discussed in each monthly meeting for easy access.

Referrals for Primary Care: Janet will start to write up the materials sent by the states on primary referral.

Question about training available for state evaluators? Several suggestions were made.

1. The American Evaluation Association: June 15-17 through CDC.
Susan McNamara mentioned that she had participated and it is wonderful.
2. National FP Waiver and Reproductive Health Association also sponsors trainings.
Kathy Vetter mentioned that she had participated.

Topics for future discussion

Definitions for Common Indicators – Refining and Updating

In our February meeting, the group decided we needed an overall framework to consolidate our comparative information to help us see what we have so far and what we still need to tackle. Dave Murday (SC), Jeff Roth (FL) and Kim Dauner (SC) volunteered to do this task for the group. They will try and meet to put together material for review and then lead a discussion on comparative benchmarks during the May call.

Provider Mix Kathy Vetter (IL), Kim Dauner (SC) with input from Kendra Sippel-Theodore (TX)

Provider mix serving Waiver participants does not tell us much unless we know what the overall state profile of provider use is (e.g., PHS Titles X, V and XX).

How do you classify FQHCs? Are they public/private? Kathy offered to put together an outline of issues/talking points and circulate to the group to get everyone's input with the goal of producing a common framework for classifying provider types.

Publications: When the question was asked about what we could / should do with all the information we were collecting, Janet Bronstein offered to lead a group of volunteers and have a call be devoted to such a discussion (July call possibly). Should we write up some of what we do for professional journals? Janet suggested we talk with Adam about how we might collaborate with the Guttmacher Institute on this. Kathy Vetter and Ruth Eudy (AR) volunteered to work with Janet on this as well.

On-Going Each state should continue to email the following to the Sheps Center. Please send to Ellen_Shanahan@unc.edu. These will be posted on the group's Website:

1. Final Waiver Evaluation Plan for your state
2. Annual Summary Report for your program
3. Papers, presentations, or ancillary reports related to FP waiver activities or evaluation
4. Survey tools, questionnaires that may be useful to fellow FP waiver evaluators
5. Name and contact information for your state's evaluator (program and data person)

Make sure any documents being sent have State clearance for distribution to the group. User name and passcode for the private section of the site is available through each state's contact. See website for list of names and contact information.

Next Call: Monday, May 11th from 1 until 2 PM EDT. The call-in number for all the calls is (919) 962-2740.