

## Family Planning Medicaid Waiver Evaluators Conference Call

January 8, 2007, 1.00-2.00 pm EST

### Participants

**Evaluators:** Mario Ariet (FL), Janet Bronstein (AL), Kim Dauner (SC), Jeff Roth (FL)  
**State Staff:** Bernie Operario (NC), Joan Sartin (TN), Janet Sheridan (SC), Marcia Swartz (NC)  
**Sheps Center Staff:** Priscilla Guild, Ellen Shanahan  
**Others:** Tonya Moore (SCHIP at CMSO), Adam Sonfield (Guttmacher), Paul Youket (CMSO)

### Not on the Call

**Evaluators:** Paul Buescher (NC), Molly Carpenter (VA), Lynne Cossman (MS), Holly Felix (AR), Debeshi Maitra (SC), Dave Murday (SC), Mike Resnick (FL)  
**State Staff:** Danni Atkins (FL), Emily Anderson (KY), Bonnie Cox (GA), Joe Holliday (NC), Karen Jackson (FL), Sherry Lange (FL), Marie Melton (FL), Helen Sancho (FL), Bill Sappenfield (FL), Robyn Slate (NC), Cindy Thames (MS), Lorie Williams (NC), and Angie Yow (NC)  
**Sheps Center Staff:** No one  
**Others:** Nancy Dieter (CMSO), Kathleen Farrell (CMSO), Melissa Romaine (CMSO), Meredith Robertson (CMSO),

In preparation for this call, Pris contacted Cindy Thames and Lynne Cossman in MS to see why they had not been on many calls and if timing was the issue. As it turns out MS CMS had to put the contract out for bid and are in the process of selecting an evaluator. Once this is decided both Cindy and the evaluator will join. Both Cindy and Lynne expressed appreciation in the minutes and e-mails they have received from us.

A question was then asked about the status of the NC evaluator. NC CMS is finalizing the contract and the evaluator will be invited to join the call after this is complete.

Since there was no one from FL CMS on the call, Jeff Roth announced that FL received a 3-year extension for the Medicaid Family Planning Waiver. The baseline year for the original waiver (1996) will continue as the baseline year. The three groups that will need to work together on the waiver and its evaluation in FL (CMS, DOH, and the evaluators) will be meeting very soon to prospectively plan for the coming years.

Jeff asked Paul Youket whether he could give us regular updates on what seems to be working in a state and what is not from their evaluations. Evaluators need to report annually, including a final report; therefore only annual evaluation information will be available. Only non-family planning demonstrations have to submit quarterly reports.

Discussion then turned to the topic for the day, what do we issues to we want to discuss on these calls in 2007? The following topics were suggested:

- How are states measuring primary care referrals? Paul Youket indicated that this is being done in numerous ways and so far there is no best way to do this. It does not need to be measured for the entire population, sampling can be used. Sharing between states can only strengthen how this is accomplished.
- How are states that have men as a target population measuring their outcomes? CA is serving over 100,000 males, so they would be a good resource here. Adam and Paul will be thinking about whom to approach.
- How has the new citizenship requirement affected the population eligible for publicly funded family planning services?
- How does the provision of STD services affect the budget neutrality calculations? CA also might be helpful with this discussion.
- Revisit the birth-spacing issue to determine if additional studies are needed to prove its positive effect.
- Look into evaluating the various outreach efforts in the states to determine which are the most effective.

- How do measures of intendedness of pregnancy affect the evaluation? Sources of intendedness data include both PRAMS and the BRFSS. PRAMS collects retrospective data while the BRFSS has switched to the prospective approach.

There seems to be enough interest and topics to continue the calls monthly in 2007. Pris will summarize these suggestions in the minutes and after the call participants approve them she will circulate a list to participants to see what to discuss on the February call and who is willing to take the lead.

**Next Call:** February 12<sup>th</sup> from 1 until 2 PM EST. The call-in number for all the calls will be (919) 962-2740.