

Meeting Notes

Introductions & Information Sharing (see list of attendees on last page):

Announcements included:

- Laurie Harding shared that Headrest is searching for an interim Executive Director. Sue Thistle has resigned, but is under contract until the end of June to provide supervision part-time. They will be contracting with an MLADC to supervise the residential program when Sue is not available.
- Laura Cody McNaughton noted that Vermont DOH is devoting resources to tick-borne disease prevention. She also thanked the MRC for its response to the PFOA testing efforts in S. Vermont. VDOH is hoping to expand drop-box locations. They are also preparing to launch a pilot universal house-visiting program in Vermont.
- Suellen Griffin shared that WCBH's "Access to Care" program to improve patient scheduling will kick off 6/1. The hope will be to be able to see patients within 24-48 hours of their first call.
- Stacy Chiochio shared that there would be a Community Volunteer Fair on 6/2 at Hypertherm.

Coordinators Report:

Alice shared that the MVHI Board of Directors is developing a name change plan with the help of Karen Borgstrom. Will have more information at the next meeting. The PHC has also contracted with NOMAD Communications to create a brand package for the PHC. We will be reaching out to many of you to share input on how best to package and position the PHC in our community. Alice also shared a summary of the PHC budget in terms of income, expenses, and PHC projects.

SNA Challenge:

Members of the Special Needs Alliance (Bettyanne McGuire, Zack's Place; Brett Mayfield, Spark! Community Center; Sylvia Dow, Visions Creative Housing Solutions) spoke to the group about their collective challenge related to new federal Medicaid regulations regarding the integration of people with special needs into our communities. The regulations have been interpreted by either/both state and regional agencies as preventing caregivers paid with Medicaid funds from taking clients to programs/places seen as exclusively for people with special needs. Some but not all of the SNA members have seen a decrease in the number of participants attending programs because some regional agencies have told caregivers they can't go there. The irony is that many caregivers will instead spend hours walking the aisles at large stores because these locations are "integrated." Some of the agencies have reversed or softened their position based on site visits to particular programs, but these are case-by-case and do not address the larger issue of allowing participants to spend time in places they want to go to and that provide enrichment and companionship. The consensus was that this is an unfortunate outcome of regulations that are responding to conditions that have already been sorted out and a tendency to be overly conservative in how the regulations are interpreted.

The recommendation was that, first, Alice reach out to Developmental Disabilities Directors in NH and VT to explore the issues and the barriers. We could consider hosting a meeting with agency directors and elected officials to address concerns and try to get everyone on the same page. As a last resort, Karen Borgstrom is willing to connect us to people at NH Disabilities Rights Center, ACLU, and NH Legal Assistance.

Data Hub Project (Ellen Fahey, ReThink Health)

Ellen shared information about the data hub project that Laleh Talebian is leading for RTH. The idea is to have one place where we, collectively and as separate programs/communities, can find the data indicators we are using to measure our success. The hub will bring together data from numerous locations and offer it as

granular a level as is possible. This may also be a place where programs can upload and shared program specific evaluation results.

Transformation Waiver Section 1115 (Medicaid Behavioral Health Integration)

We spoke briefly about the application process currently underway. The application, being submitted with D-H as the administrative lead, is due May 31st. Many meetings and webinars have been taking place. The PHC will have a place on the leadership team and we have submitted a letter of commitment.

Working Group Development:

Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL)

Nancy and Laleh are leading this group, and the next meeting of the HEAL working group is scheduled for June 28, 9 to 10:30 am, (Kramer Conference Room, 46 Centerra Parkway). Will be working to expand this group, develop leadership, and set an initial direction over the next few months. Nicole and Valerie Thompson volunteered to join this working group.

Oral Health

The group is forming and recruiting members. The pilot site-based oral health screening project planned for our NH region is on hold pending news of possible long-term solutions. The NH Oral Health Coalition is holding regional meetings to share the new oral health plan for the state; in Lebanon on July 11. Members who work with people with special needs point out their participants with Medicare often can't get dentists.

Aging in Community

PHC is coordinating quarterly meetings of Aging in Community groups; planning to host one in late June. Also, Alice will be speaking at the Elder Forum in June about the Heat and Elders project.

Heat and Elders Project

We have hosted two focus groups to explore the best ways to handle an intervention. Will be working hard in June to pull the information together and get to the details. Plainfield and GCSCC are interested in helping.

All Together

Aita reported on community forum hosted by VTDigger and D-H recently. There were about 175-200 attendees. Hartford Community Coalition may try to build on this. NH has launched a new crisis line for people in need of treatment and support for addiction.

Aita also reported on Recovery Coach development. Five people completed a train-the-trainer program and are now available to train others. AT is now looking for organizations/employers who may want to host a recovery coach; these people could be volunteers or paid.

In other news: The Continuum of Care Networking Luncheon is on May 25th at Jesse's. The Drug Free Communities parent survey is going out in June. They are also asking organizations to think about committing to send staff to suicide pre/post-vention trainings or Mental Health First Aid, or hosting a training session. Monday was the launch of the "5 signs campaign" in Concord.

Next Meeting:

Friday, June 17

9:00 to 11:00 am

Hypertherm, 71 Heater Road, Lebanon

Meeting Attendees (May 20, 2016)

Karen Borgstrom, Partners for Community Wellness
Bill Boyle, Partners for Community Wellness
Margaret Brown, Dartmouth Hitchcock Community Health
Stacey Chiocchio, Hypertherm
Elissa Close, Good Neighbor Health Clinic
Sylvia Dow, Visions
Nancy Dumont, Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital
Christine Dyke, Dartmouth Hitchcock Community Health
Alice Ely, MVHI & PHC Coordinator
Jim Esdon, Injury Prevention Center
Ellen Fahey, ReThink Health:UCRV
Denise Gariepy, Good Beginnings of the Upper Valley
Julia Griffin, Hanover Town Manager
Suellen Griffin, West Central Behavioral Health
Laurie Harding, UVCNP
Ellen Heuduska, DHMC Pediatrics
Whitney Hussong, HCRS/Hartford Police Department
Stephanie Kelly, Health Promotion Research Center at Dartmouth
Bettyanne McGuire, Zack's Place
Laura Cody McNaughton, Vermont Department of Health
Marjorie Matthews, Parent Advocate, NAMI-NH Volunteer
Brett Mayfield, Spark! Community Center
Dana Michalovic, Good Neighbor Health Clinic
Nate Miller, UVLSRPC
Karen Morton, Good Beginnings of the Upper Valley
Casey Murray, Granite United Way
Leonard Roberts, Hartford Police Department
Aita Romain, Dartmouth Hitchcock Community Health
Shawn Russell, MVHI & Town of Dorchester
Mike Samson, Town of Canaan
Donna Stamper, Parent Advocate, NAMI-NH Volunteer
Valerie Thompson, D-H Breast and Cervical Cancer Program