

CSI Data Notebook Subcommittee
05/09/13
Conference Call Highlights

On the Call

Susan Wilson
Lorraine Flores
John Pearson
Patricia Bennett
Beryl Neilsen
Amy Eargle

Staff

Tracy Thompson
Linda Dickerson
Jane Adcock

Welcome and Introductions

Susan Wilson, Chair, welcomed everyone on the call.

Public Comment

No Public Comment at this time.

Work Plan Discussion

Susan Wilson: Jane and Linda and I provided a presentation to the CALMHB/C at their April meeting.

Linda Dickerson: I haven't heard anything regarding the presentation but the response seemed positive.

Beryl Nielsen: Many of the CALMHB/C members want to have practical data. The things that interest them in counties are things such as how many children keep going to school or drop out of school. Counties want more than just data on straight retention.

Susan Wilson: Do you have any ideas on where to get this type of data?

John Pearson: There is an interest in outcomes that indicate what's working and what's not working with regard to mental health interventions. There is the annual EQRO data, but there is no comparable data about MHSA funding. There are independent silos of data and it is difficult to get an integrated picture of the overall system.

Linda Dickerson: How could we combine data from different sources? Don't most counties have a director of MHSA projects? Do they make any kind of summary of projects available to counties?

John Pearson: Yes we get periodic reports, but it is mostly what the program is, target populations, and how many clients are involved. The reports do not have any information regarding performance.

Lorraine Flores: For the MHSA Innovative Programs in Santa Clara we are required to provide outcomes every month. We report on service delivery, any hospitalizations, and self-sufficiency matrix.

Patricia Bennett: Different counties require different kinds of reporting around the MHSA. Fortunately, there is not the segregation there used to be between MHSA clients when it comes to direct services and Medi-Cal. Many counties are using MHSA dollars to leverage Medi-Cal dollars. The billing data has information on how many are children served, what they are served with, and race and ethnicity. This is the most standard we can get across most counties.

Linda Dickerson: There is no access to data regarding client level outcomes. Getting information about what works for clients is a different question.

John Pearson: Is it the job of the Planning Council and the mental health boards to report on performance outcomes?

Patricia Bennett: Yes, but we would need an ongoing system of evaluation. There is no money for the Planning Council or local mental health boards to do that.

Linda Dickerson: The MHSOAC Master Evaluation Plan includes a framework of collecting performance indicators. The EPSDT Performance and Outcomes Workgroup are devising indicators and data parameters to be collected across the state with regards to children. We don't have that data yet. Currently, some counties collect their own data.

Jane Adcock: Many counties have outstanding data but it is contained within the counties. We need to look at what data is consistent across the state. The EQRO data is from last fiscal year; do we have a consensus that we would develop the Data Notebook around the EQRO data?

Susan Wilson: Yes. We can set lofty goals but we need to be practical and see what is available and how we can best use that to meet our goal. We need to enable the local mental health boards to do the reporting they need to do. We will use the data set that we trust and that is current. The EQRO data meets that criterion for the short term.

John Pearson: The EQRO data focuses on claims reimbursed through Medi-Cal. This data is valuable, but at least for Napa County, it does not cover all the clients.

Pat Bennett: It is true that the EQRO data will not cover Prevention and Early Intervention and many Innovation Programs, but there is an integration or overlap if the person is at all eligible for Med-Cal. There is a blending of funding there. There will be some people not billed to Med-Cal, but not the huge amount we saw when the MHSA first came out.

Jane Adcock: Other data can be at least 3 to 4 years old and that is not relevant or useful to counties. We can start with the EQRO data and build from there.

Susan Wilson: We need to set a timeline for how we are going to work with CALMHB/C and who is going to do what work?

Jane Adcock: We would like to have feedback from the counties by March 2014.

John Pearson: What do you mean by feedback? *Jane Adcock*: Sending the Data Notebook back to the Planning Council

Susan Wilson: How long would counties need to prepare the Data Notebook and put it together?
Beryl Nielsen: 2 or 3 months AFTER the training.

John Pearson: Once the actual structure of what the Data Notebook should contain is available, and if this is generic for entire state, it may be good to do inventory of what kinds of data counties collect. I am not clear on what the content would be.

Jane Adcock: The Data Notebook would include the latest EQRO report. That is statewide and consistent. We are still deciding what elements should be included.

John Pearson: I think 2 to 3 months is reasonable.

Susan Wilson: We may want to encourage local mental health boards to have a workgroup to work on this. This may be who we target in training etc.

Susan Wilson: What kind of training component are we thinking about?

John Pearson: Are you thinking about offering a webinar? *Jane Adcock*: We will provide a variety of formats to choose from.

Susan Wilson: We may include webinars and consider group training.

Beryl Nielsen: A template of how the Data Notebook should look would be helpful.

Jane Adcock: We have 6 ½ months to design the Data Notebook, design the training curriculum, and disseminate it to the local mental health boards. We should complete the basic design of the Data Notebook by June 30, 2013 and complete training by December 2013.

Susan Wilson: Could we possibly finish the Data Notebook design by August 2013? I think we could set up training in a month or two. I feel as if training will flow naturally once we have the design in place. We can get on the local mental health boards calendars right away for the fall 2013.

Linda Dickerson: Any thoughts on the presentation given to the CALMHB/C by Jane, Susan, and myself?

Beryl Nielsen: It was an overview and it was interesting. That kind of training is good, but for the Data Notebook we need more specific training.

Linda Dickerson: I have listed a large number of data parameters that are in the EQRO reports as a standard and contemplated which of these things we should include in the Data Notebook. This needs more refinement but I will continue to work on this.

Jane Adcock: Can staff work on an outline for the Data Notebook and send that out for the subcommittee to discuss on the next call? *Susan Wilson*: Yes

Linda Dickerson: Are there any ideas of alternatives that would make the terms penetration rates or utilization rates more user friendly?

John Pearson: Penetration rates do not serve any valuable purpose on who is being served or how they are being served. There are no standards. I feel this is a useless standard.

Linda Dickerson: Any other type of measure we would use in its place would be complex statistical sampling estimates and not easy to get at or to communicate.

John Pearson: Penetration rates are only based on an estimate of potential Medi-Cal clients.

Linda Dickerson: Penetration rates calculate the number of Medi-Cal eligibles on a given timeframe and how many people receive mental health services.

John Pearson: The research needs to be challenged and another measure needs to be used.

Beryl Nielsen: How many clients are dual eligible for Medicare and Medi-Cal? This is something the counties want to know.

Linda Dickerson: There are eight large counties that have started pilot programs to start a managed care program for dual eligibles. This information is not in the EQRO reports.

Timeline

- **June 2013: Staff will work on outline for the notebook and send that out for the subcommittee to discuss on the next call (June 13, 2013)**
- **August 2013: Basic design of Data Notebook complete**
- **September 2013: Training component complete (keeping in mind some pre- training activities)**
- **December 2013: Training complete**
- **March 2014: Feedback from the counties complete**

New Business

No new business at this time.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Conference Call Meeting Adjourned

- ❖ **Next CSI Data Notebook Conference Call scheduled for June 13, 2013 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.**