

Subcommittee Meeting of the PAC  
Legislative Presentation Workgroup  
March 23, 2015 | 2:30-4:00 PM  
At RISAS

Attendance: Sandra Del Sesto, Sarah Dinklage, Anna Meehan, Shannon Spurlock

Notetaker: Bader Samrout

An assessment of prevention coordinators was implemented. The mean number of coordinator hours was reported as 10 days and the range was 1-28 days.

#### State Examples of Prevention Programming Structure

- In the northeast, the best in coalition models are Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine
- New Hampshire has a charitable foundation and regional networks
  - They have 13 regional networks and there is one FTE minimum for each of those regions.
  - They also get money from the united way and they have all embraced the same outcomes so there is consistency with the block grant money and it's all the same outcomes
  - They give \$1.2 million toward prevention. They meet monthly with the director.
  - In New Hampshire they all work for the state except for those with the community of excellence contract.
- Vermont, 5 years ago, had substance abuse coalitions, and they went to them and told them that they are not wellness coalitions and that they have to use the SPIF model to identify the primary healthcare issues in the region and develop a comprehensive plan to organize priorities. Substance abuse was a priority for all regions.
- Ohio has a really good system and they also have a significant amount of state dollars. They use a model that is very effective and they also do it regionally.
- Iowa is also a good one to call because they are doing a good job with regional coalitions.
- In Minnesota they have regional consultants that support coalitions. They used to get funding from the state, now they don't but they do get supported by the state and they help them get money and help them train. (Not the best model)
  - In Minnesota, they fund 8 different agencies for the FTE. While the FTE pays their salary, they report to Al Frederickson (Head of Prevention in Minnesota) or they all work for the state.
- New York is not the most organized. Not recommended as a model.
- Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Ohio, and Iowa are good models to follow.

#### Regionalization

- BHDDH may support regionalization because you can do so much more with the money.
- We don't have a leveled field of competency, which is why it makes sense to have regional coalitions.
- When the money goes through the town, the town has more opportunity to influence their priorities of a coalition.

- There will be pushback because cities and towns will see that they are losing control in running the state.
- It will encourage them to work collaboratively by region.

Our vision is to collaborate and have regional meetings and that eventually that may lead to different legislation.

List of top things that we want to find out about and find the data that supports them.

- We can look at community profiles for different substances, want to look at the profiles with respect to substance abuse, we want to look at suicide (suicidal ideation, attempts, and completions), violence prevention (bullying, teen dating violence, sexual violence, harassment, domestic violence, youth who witness domestic violence), STD rates (HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhea, etc.), teen pregnancy, behavioral health challenges (depression, anxiety, eating disorders), self-harming data (cutting)
- We want to show that there is sustainability and support

What are we asking for?

- State line item with some level of funding. Reinstate SYNAR dollars.

#### DECISIONS

- Need time to make case for prevention before meeting with legislators
- Want to meet with Director Montanaro before moving to legislative agenda
- Begin with ensuring that funding for Synar is reinstated
  - Possibly open the door for additions to a line item for prevention this year or next
  - Shannon will check with Bette McHugh on the status of Synar

#### ACTION STEPS

- Talk to Vermont and Ohio
- Shannon will find minutes from community meetings specifically around regionalization and with permission, will share with the group
- Schedule meeting to talk to Elizabeth to talk about the agenda for the PAC. Propose for that agenda a focus be on looking at behavioral health and how it could look in the state if we looked at mental health and prevention together.
- Read the three articles and summarize what a regional coalition consists of
- Shannon will check with Bette McHugh on the status of Synar

Next meeting time/location TBA.

See attached sheet, Making the Case for Prevention, for funding breakdown by state.