

## **December 14, 2006 Data Infrastructure Grant Regional Conference Calls:**

*Northeast Call at 11:00, Midwest/Southern Call at 2:00 and Western Call at 4:00 (EDT)*

### **The major agenda items for the calls:**

1. February Annual DIG Meeting: Vera Hollen, NRI and Olinda Gonzalez, CMHS
2. Issues related to the December 1, 2006 URS Reporting: Ted Lutterman, SDICC/NRI
3. Report on URS/DIG Workgroups: Bernadette Phelan, SDICC/NRI
  - a. T1-T2 Change Measures Workgroup:
  - b. Survey Validation Workgroup
4. EBP Workgroup Report: Vijay Ganju
5. DIG Supplements for BRFSS Surveys: Olinda Gonzalez, CMHS
6. Plans for the May 2007 CMHS Joint National Planning and Statistics Conference was discussed

### **1. DIG/URS National Meeting: Vera and Olinda**

The DIG National Meeting will be held at the Washington Hilton Hotel on February 14 and 15, 2007. The DIG annual meeting will be held immediately following the NRI's annual State Mental Health Services Research Conference. Each DIG grantee is expected to send two participants: The state MH Planner and the DIG Grant PI.

The DIG meetings will run from 2:00 EST on February 14 to 5:00 PM on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Also, the NRI has set up an on-line registration system so we can track registrations and prepare appropriate meeting materials and participants lists. To register for the DIG Annual Meeting, please go to [http://www.nri-inc.org/conferences/meeting\\_detail.cfm?ID=14](http://www.nri-inc.org/conferences/meeting_detail.cfm?ID=14). Note, there is no registration fee for the DIG Annual Meeting.

A block of rooms for the meeting have been reserved at the Hilton Washington Hotel. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU WILL NEED TO MAKE YOUR OWN TRAVEL AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS. To make hotel accommodations, please contact the hotel at [1-800-HILTONS](tel:1-800-HILTONS) and mention the NRI Annual Conference. Indicate which nights you are staying and be prepared to give a credit card number to hold your reservation.

There are a limited number of rooms available for Thursday night for participants who cannot get a flight home after the Thursday session ends. Please contact the hotel soon to book one of these rooms.

Dr. Gonzalez reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting. A copy of the draft agenda can be found at: [http://www.nri-inc.org/conferences/meeting\\_detail.cfm?ID=14](http://www.nri-inc.org/conferences/meeting_detail.cfm?ID=14)

CMHS has indicated that attendees of the DIG Annual Meeting who also wish to attend the NRI's Research Conference may use DIG funds to cover additional hotel nights to attend the NRI conference, but cannot use DIG funds to cover meeting registration expenses.

**2. December 1, 2006 URS Reporting:**

Each of the three Regional Calls devoted time to discussing the December 1, 2006 reporting the 2006 URS data. The SDICC is currently entering and editing the data received from the states and will start contacting states shortly regarding any issues with their data.

Preliminary analysis of reporting shows that quite a few states reported the new tables for 2006. The Employment by Diagnosis table was reported by over 20 states and the data appears to show the table does help differentiate employment rates (persons with diagnoses of schizophrenia had far lower employment rates than other diagnoses). The Social Connectedness and Functioning table was also reported by over 20 states and many states also reported the new Criminal Justice Data. The SDICC will start to analyze the data and will then reconvene the DIG Workgroups to discuss the results prior to the February DIG Meeting.

**3. Change Measures Duration Workgroup:** (Employment and Increased Stability in Family and Living Situation). The workgroup is currently addressing:

**What are the appropriate time intervals to measure change?** T1 and T2 should be either calculated for a 12 month interval (or possibly 6 months). The workgroup recommended that volunteer states analyze their data and report back to see how much difference there is in observed changes at the different intervals. States can also participate by submitting data to NRI for analysis. A study protocol will be issued by NRI.

Bernadette reported on a conference call held with two statistical experts (Steven Banks and William Fisher) to discuss the project's goals and approach. They made several helpful recommendations regarding how to design the study and the type of analyses that would be most meaningful. The SDICC will prepare a revised work plan for this study will send it to the participating states.

**4. NOMs Consumer Survey Items Validation Workgroup (new workgroup):**

Bernadette reported on the work to validate the consumer survey self-report items related to arrests and functional change with administrative data states already compile. The workgroup had been developing an analysis plan for states to either conduct in-state and then send results to the SDICC or a de-identified client dataset to the NRI to analyze centrally. Bernadette reported on a conference call held with two statistical consultants (Steven Banks and William Fisher) who have made several recommendations for the analytical design. A revised analysis plan will be sent to participating states soon.

**5. Evidence Based Practices (EBP) Workgroup:** Vijay Ganju described the work on refining the EBP URS data. States that reported very high rates of use of 2 EBPs (Illness Self-Management and Medications Management) are being interviewed to determine the reasons for their very high reporting compared to other states. The 2006 URS data on EBPs will also be analyzed and will be reported on at the February DIG Meeting.

**6. BRFSS Modules:**

Olinda reported that the DIG Annual Meeting will have several presentations focusing on an analysis of the PHQ-8 (depression and anxiety) module added to the BRFSS. Both representatives from CDC and several states will present on how they are using this data.

The CDC is holding their annual Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Conference "BRFSS: Promoting Healthier, Safer People" on March 24–28, 2007 in Decatur, GA. CMHS and the SDICC are working with representatives from the CDC to make this conference most helpful to states who received the BRFSS PHQ-8 Supplements to their DIG grants. In particular, training in using the BRFSS SUDAN and SAS software will probably be offered on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. The SDICC has resources to help cover the costs of one staff person from many of the states who received BRFSS supplements. More information about this meeting will be sent to states in early January.

**7. Planning for the CMHS Joint National Planning and Statistics Conference**

Olinda reported on a planning meeting for the Joint National Conferences that was held in early December. The Joint National Conference will be held in May 2007. Additional information about the National Conferences will be sent to states soon.

**8. Next DIG Regional Calls**

The next round of Regional Calls will be held on Tuesday, January 23 at 11:00 EST for the Eastern Region, at 2:00 EST for the South/Midwest Region and 4:00 EST for the Western Region.