

June 19, 2006 Data Infrastructure Grant Regional Conference Calls:

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

The major agenda items for the calls:

1. Status of Changes to URS—OMB Review (Olinda Gonzalez, CMHS)
2. Status of DIG Supplements for BRFSS Surveys (Olinda Gonzalez, CMHS)
3. Workgroup Reports
 - a. Prevalence: Olinda Gonzalez, CMHS
 - b. Consumer Surveys and NOMs: Ted Lutterman, SDICC/NRI
 - c. Change Measures Workgroup: Ted Lutterman, SDICC/NRI
4. Scheduling the July 2006 URS/DIG Regional Calls

Plans Modifications to the URS Forms (Olinda Gonzalez from CMHS Reported):

The DIG Workgroups have been exploring several changes to URS reporting tables. Any changes must be approved by the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB). CMHS is currently planning two sets of OMB proposals:

1. A set of minor changes based on DIG state recommendations to the few Basic, Developmental, and new NOMs items will be submitted to OMB this summer. Simplifying age categories, adding reporting employment by 5 diagnostic groupings.
2. Major Changes: Any other changes, and the Change Measures (T1 and T2) for Employment and Living Situation, will be submitted to OMB in January 2007. This will permit the DIG workgroups to complete their development and testing of measures.

Prevalence Workgroup and State Grant Supplements for BRFSS Modules:

Olinda reported that CMHS is working with CDC on a second set of state grant supplements to a smaller group of states to use and analyze an additional (K6) mental health module as part of the next BRFSS survey. CMHS will schedule a conference call for interested states as soon as the supplements are finalized.

1. BRFSS will be adding the K6 as an optional module for serious psychological distress to next year's BRFSS survey. They only have \$1 million for the K6 (less than last year), so CDC will handle adding supplements to states to conduct the K6. CMHS will be notifying states about their selection (and states selected will be eligible for a DIG grant supplement to work with the K6 data). States should be notified in the next 4 weeks.
2. The DIG Prevalence Workgroup met at the National Conferences with David Moriarty (CDC). The Workgroup will be working with the CDC on those measure that will be reported out of the CDC for all states for the PHQ-8 measures, and the states will then develop additional reports of their own as pertain to their individual needs and interests..
3. The NRI and CMHS may sponsor, through the SDICC a workshop for states on utilizing the BRFSS and specifically the PHQ-8 data. Please contact Ted Lutterman at the NRI if you are interested in participating in such a workshop.

Consumer Survey Items Workgroup: (This workgroup has been developing consumer self-report items for 4 of the SAMHSA National Outcome Measures (NOMS): Social Connectedness, Improved Functioning, School Attendance, and Criminal Justice Contacts): Ted Lutterman (SDICC/NRI reported)

The workgroup met twice during the last month and is prepared recommendations for the MHSIP Policy Group regarding changes to the Adult MHSIP and Child/Family YSSF surveys.

The MHSIP Policy Group is planning to meet this summer to develop a plan to approve changes to the MHSIP Consumer Surveys and to test these revised surveys.

Change Measures Workgroup: (Employment and Increased Stability in Family and Living Situation) Ted Lutterman, SDICC/NRI reported. The workgroup met twice by conference call during May to develop recommendations on how to report Employment and Living Situation as “Change” measures looking at change between at Time 1 (T1) and Time 2 (T2). The workgroup is continuing its exploration of these issues. A report of issues considered is on the SDICC Website.

The workgroup is currently addressing two major issues:

1. **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 a few states that can calculate changes analyze their data to see how much difference there is in observed changes at the different intervals.

We are looking for a few states that update the Employment and/or Living Situation of consumers on a frequent status (at least every 6 months) to participate in a special analysis. The goal of the analysis will be to determine what state data suggests may be appropriate time intervals to measure change in public systems.

2. **Living Situation:** The workgroup began discussion about what the appropriate focus should be for a measure of change or stability in living situation. Two specific areas have been suggested. The group will discuss these further on their next conference call:
 - a. Movement into and stability in **Independent Living Situations**
 - i. The group liked this as it is a focus of desired living situation for many consumers
 - ii. Disadvantage: Would need to operationalize “Independent Living” situations for reporting (not a current URS category).
 - b. Movement from **Homeless** at T1 to other Housing Situations at T2
 - i. Focuses on a high need group’s movement off the streets or out of shelters.
 - ii. Disadvantage is only ~4% of SMHA clients are homeless, so this measure would focus on a very small population of clients.
 - c. Children’s Living Situation: The workgroup is exploring what Living Situations are being examined in the CMHS “Systems of Care” initiative—which uses housing instrument “ROLES” and will be speaking with other children’s MH Experts.

SMI/SED Estimates: Ted Lutterman reported that the SDICC has been running the Federal SMI and SED prevalence estimates for states and CMHS the last few years. These estimates require Census Bureau data on Civilian Population. This year the Census Bureau has been delayed in releasing new Civilian Population estimates. Therefore, we are unable to update the SMI and SED estimates at this time. CMHS has said it is okay to include last year’s estimates in MHBG

plans. As soon as new Census data is available, revised SMI/SED estimates will be e-mailed to the states.

Technical Assistance Available:

Ted Lutterman updated states on TA available from the SDICC. Both individual state TA and group TA is available.

The NRI is currently working on developing a TA event on developing web-based systems to compile EBP data for URS Tables 16 and 17. This TA will probably occur in September. Please contact Ted Lutterman or Vijay Ganju at the NRI/SDICC to find out about the TA.

National Conference Presentations:

Olinda reported that copies of all presentations at the Joint National Conferences will be going on the DS2Kplus.org website.

Next DIG Regional Calls

1. Midwest/Southern: Monday, July 17, 2006 at 11:00 AM EDT
2. West/Territories: Monday, July 17, 2006 at 4:00 PM EDT
3. Northeast: Wednesday, July 19, 2006 at 2:00 PM EDT