

June 26, 2007 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. NRI's Profiles Component on URS and NOMS reporting: Ted Lutterman, SDICC/NRI
2. Report on EBP Measures Workgroup: Vijay Ganju
3. Report on URS/DIG Workgroups: Bernadette Phelan, SDICC/NRI
 - a. T1-T2 Change Measures Workgroup:
 - b. Survey Validation Workgroup
4. Consumer Survey Sampling Issues: Ted Lutterman, SDICC/NRI
5. DIG Supplements for BRFSS Surveys and the BRFSS K6 + Stigma Workshop: Olinda Gonzalez, CMHS

1. **URS NOMS Reporting:** The NRI's 2007 State Mental Health Agency Profiles System included a new component to track where states are in implementing the URS tables. The component includes an assessment of the Utility to the state for its planning and evaluation of each of the SAMHSA NOMS as well as an assessment of the Burden of reporting. Preliminary results from 45 states and territories were discussed. Measures of Access (URS Table 2 and 3) and Consumer Perception of Care (URS Table 11) were the highest rated measures in terms of Utility. The use of Evidence-Based Practices (EBPs) were also rated of high utility, but were also rated the highest Burden of any URS Tables (Table 16 and 17). The use of New Generation Medications (URS Table 18) was rated as very high burden and the lowest Utility. The NRI will be using the results from this Profiles Module in a report to CMHS regarding the use of the URS to generate NOMS and will include recommendations for potential changes in URS reporting. States that had not completed their Profiles NOMS component were encouraged to send them in this month.
2. **Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) Workgroup:** The URS/DIG Workgroup on EBPs is proposing a workshop that will be held this summer to address the reporting of EBPs. The proposed workshop will involve both state DIG staff from the EBP committee, along with EBP experts who have developed the EBP models and the EBP fidelity measures. This workgroup will probably meet in August.

States are concerned that some states measure fidelity and other states do not measure it. Even states that measure fidelity are asking if just measuring fidelity is sufficient, or if a minimum threshold of fidelity is needed before an EBP should be reported to the URS. The workshop will address these issues of reporting EBPs, including the fidelity issue, and also discuss the upcoming new SAMHSA tool-kits.

3. T1-T2 Employment Change Measure WG:

- WG met on June 20 and discussed the analysis on the 4 states' employment data.
- Each sample state uses different time interval in collecting employment data (monthly, quarterly, semi-annual)
- For each state analysis, 3 case studies were presented (where cases were excluded if service duration <1 month, <3 months, <6 months)
- Preliminary observations from the data:
 1. Greater than 75% of the population was Unemployed.
 - Next meeting: to separate out the group Not in the Labor Force
 2. Data suggests that a certain dose of mental health services (dose in terms of a length of time in service) seems to effect the length of time a person stays employed.
 - Next meeting: conduct statistical test of LOS and VR impact
 3. For portion of the population that have been in the system at the beginning of the study period and who are employed, data suggests the length of employment is in the range of 4-12 months. (Caveat: gaps in data have to be dealt with to get a precise count for duration). For the new admissions, the employment duration is in the range of 2-5 months. In short, this implies a quarterly collection seems a reasonable interval.

NOTE: The WG will continue to meet and no recommendations as of this time.

4. Criminal Justice Validation WG:

- WG met on June 13
- Reviewed OK's latest data – pattern didn't change; high agreement posted between survey and administrative data remains among the number of people who reported no arrest;
- Led to a brief discussion on the avoidance of arrest as a possible measure (ala substance abuse NOM)

Proposal for CJ Expert meeting in September has been submitted to Olinda for approval. CJ Experts to be invited include:

- Bill Fisher (U Mass)
- Henry Steadman (PRA/GAIN)
- Other MH-CJ Experts
- NIMH Representative
- Chief of Police Association Rep
- Council of State Governments

WG state representatives who have been actively participating in the discussion of the group will be invited.

- WI consumer feedback on how they understood the criminal justice questions and how they responded was discussed.
 - When asked about arrests since starting MHS, were they thinking the first time they receive the service in their entire life or just when they started their current episode of services? 54% - entire life
 - When asked if the skip instructions was clear, 70% - yes
 - When asked if they actually follow the skip instructions, 81% - no

5. Improved Functioning Validation WG:

- WG did not meet and will wrap this up.

6. Social Connectedness Write-up

Social connectedness write-up has been issued and posted on the NRI website

7. In the pipeline - Other similar materials related to NOM development

- Improved Functioning
- Criminal Justice Validation
- Employment T1-T2 Time Interval

8. **Consumer Survey Issues:** The SDICC is working with several states to prepare a “White Paper” on how states are conducting and utilizing random samples and stratified random samples for their consumer surveys. This paper will provide specific examples of how states have drawn stratified random samples that allow comparisons of providers and/or client groups on the Adult MHSIP and YSS-F surveys. Examples of how to re-weight stratified samples for URS reporting will also be addressed.

9. BRFSS K-6 and Stigma Module Workshop:

The SDICC is working closely with CMHS on a workshop that will assist states to better understand the BRFSS Mental Health and Stigma Module. The module has been funded for implementation this year in 35 states. This one-day workshop, which be held on September 10th in Alexandria, Virginia. This workshop will provide:

- a) information on recent research work and issues related to the prevalence of mental illness and stigma, including a review of the SMI definition;
 - b) historical perspective in the development of the K-6 and stigma module; and
 - c) basic understanding of the BRFSS module data.
- The SDICC can sponsor only 1 representative per state from each of the 36 states conducting the BRFSS K6 and Stigma Module. The SDICC has sent invitations to all 36 qualifying states. (28 states have confirmed).

You may express your interest by e-mailing us (Ted or Bernadette). Please let us know if you plan to send more than one person. The state will be responsible in finding the funds to support the additional person.

10. New DIG Supplements for BRFSS:

States need to talk with their respective BRFSS Coordinator partners to consider the new DIG Supplements for the BRFSS PHQ-8 module implementation. The application for implementation will come via the CDC to the BRFSS Coordinator, and states funded to implement the module (via the CDC) will receive a DIG supplement with minimal

application information. There will be awards for up to 20 grants and supplements and a priority is for those states that did not implement the PHQ-8 in 2005 and 2006, however, the grants will be selected on a first come first serve basis. The DIG supplements will be up to \$18,000 and will have an analyses, information dissemination, and planning option to it. As the grant announcement has not been made at the CDC, DIG PIs are being asked to talk with their BRFSS Coordinators regarding this opportunity which is forthcoming, and may have a short turnaround time period.

11. No-Cost Extensions

The deadline for DIG grant no-cost extensions beyond the end of the DIG grant period, is July 20th. Roger George will be sending a note on the DIG listserv with additional information on No-Cost Extensions.

12. Next DIG Regional Calls

The next round of Regional Calls will be held on July 24, 2007 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.