

CMHS/SAMHSA Data Infrastructure Grants/ Uniform Reporting System Regional Conference Call Report March 20, 2008

Group 1 – Northeast, 11AM
Group 2 – Midwest/Southeast, 2PM
Group 3 – Western/Pacific/Territories, 4PM
Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Olinda Gonzalez

Meeting Summary Prepared by State Data Infrastructure Coordinating Center (SDICC) at NRI
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Agenda:

- 1. 2007 State Output Reports sent to states for final review**
- 2. 2008 DIG Annual Meeting Review**
- 3. DIG/URS Workgroup Updates**
- 4. Technical Assistance and Group TA Workshops**
- 5. BRFSS Supplement**
- 6. Next Monthly Regional Calls (April 22, 2008)**

1. 2007 State URS Output Reports (facilitated by Ted Lutterman/SDICC)

All states and territories should have received a draft set of 2007 URS Output Tables showing their state's December 2007 URS data in both detailed 2007 Tables and Multi-year Output Tables. Each set of tables shows a state's data, as well as national information.

States are asked to review their state tables and send any corrections/modifications to the SDICC by mid April 2008. The tables will be finalized and then posted on the SAMHSA website during May 2008.

2. 2008 DIG Annual Meeting (facilitated by Ted Lutterman/SDICC)

The 2008 DIG Annual Meeting materials are now available on-line at the SDICC website: http://www.nri-inc.org/projects/SDICC/meeting_reports.cfm The Agenda, PowerPoint Slides from meeting presentations and Poster Sessions, and the participants list are all electronically available.

A summary of the Meeting Evaluation forms has been completed and sent to CMHS. The overall conference rating was very high and participants cited the Poster Sessions and opportunities to exchange ideas with peers as very useful parts of the conference. Participants made a number of recommendations for future meetings that will be used in planning next year's meeting.

3. Setting Performance Targets in the MHBG

A report summarizing the discussions of the five (5) small group sessions at the 2008 DIG Annual Meeting on how states set performance measure targets in their MHBG applications

has been prepared and sent to CMHS. The report summarizes the discussion of state experiences in:

- a. Setting targets and approaches used to set them
- b. How states are monitoring their targets
- c. Training and Technical Assistance needs to improve how states set and monitor targets.

Once the report is reviewed by CMHS, a copy will be sent to the DIG listserv and will be used to identify future technical assistance and meeting topics.

4. DIG/URS Workgroup Reports (facilitated by Ted Lutterman)

Three Workgroups will have calls during April (dates to be determined). All state staff are invited to join any of the workgroup calls. Times and dates for all calls will be announced via the DIG listserv.

- a. **BRFSS Supplements WG** will hold a conference call. This workgroup has been meeting to help states share analyses that they are conducting with the PHQ8 BRFSS supplements. Staff from CDC and CMHS have participated in these workgroup calls and the calls have been helpful in sharing ideas for analyses and allowing states to identify new or alternative analyses to run.

For the April call, Dr. Tara Strine, the lead mental health analyst at the CDC will be invited to speak about the analyses she has been conducting of the BRFSS and PHQ8 module. The workgroup will also start preparing for the expected April release of the new K6 and Stigma modules of the BRFSS.

- b. **Criminal Justice Outcome Measures Workgroup** will meet during April. Dr. William Fisher (University of Massachusetts) is completing a White Paper on “Using Criminal Justice Involvement as a Mental Health Outcome Measure: Issues in Interpretation and Measurement”. Dr. Fisher led a discussion session at the 2008 DIG Annual Meeting that reviewed the white paper and discussed potential alternative criminal justice measures. The White Paper will be completed this month and then workgroup will meet to begin discussion of the potential to pilot test some of the alternative measures related to criminal justice involvement.
- c. **Evidence-Based Practices Workgroup:** Dr. Vijay Ganju led a discussion of potential refinements of EPB reporting and issues of fidelity and reporting of additional EBPs at the DIG annual meeting in February. During April, the EBP workgroup will meet to begin assessing piloting refined collection of EPB measures based on the workgroups recommendations.

5. SAMHSA-CDC Interagency Agreement

Dr. Gonzalez reported that at this time we are awaiting word from the CDC on state eligibility for funding of a new K6 BRFSS module implementation for 2009. Once there is information on this process, information will be provided on the DIG listserv. States awarded for a Mental Health and Stigma Module will also be eligible for a DIG Supplement that has already been announced on the SAMHSA website.

States that had received a PHQ-8 BRFSS Supplement for 2005/6 have been asked to send Dr. Gonzalez at CMHS copies of their analyses of the supplement data and a report of their supplement activities. If states have not sent a supplement report for the PHQ-8, they can be in touch with Dr. Gonzalez regarding report expectations.

Dr. Gonzalez from CMHS participated in the 2008 CDC/BRFSS Conference held in Orlando, Florida in March. In addition to having several sessions focusing on analyses of the mental health data in the BRFSS, the meeting also focused on work by CDC to modify the BRFSS telephone methodology to respond to the increasing number of persons who rely on cell phones and do not have a traditional "land-line" phone. CDC is exploring combining mail and telephone methodologies to enhance future BRFSS response rates.

6. State Technical Assistance

The SDICC provides technical assistance to assist states in reporting and using URS data. States can either receive individual on-site TA or participate in group TA. Interested states have to complete the TA application and submit to NRI/SDICC for review and CMHS approval. The application form and instructions are available on the NRI website, <http://www.nri-inc.org/projects/SDICC/TA/TAapplication08.doc>.

The SDICC is planning two group TA events to be held this Spring/Summer.

- a. **Consumer Surveys Group TA.** This group TA will focus on helping states improve their consumer survey sampling approaches and improving survey response rates. Tentative dates for this TA event are May 29-30, 2008.

The SDICC has TA funds that will cover the travel, hotel and food costs of participation in this workgroup for state staff. Please contact Ted Lutterman (ted.lutterman@nri-inc.org or 703-682-9463) if you are interested in participating in this workshop.

- b. **Data Integrity/Improving the Quality of URS Data:** This workshop will focus on techniques and approaches states can use to improve and verify the quality of data they collect for the URS. This TA workshop is being developed in response to the need raised by a number of states at the DIG annual meeting to focus on how to improve the quality of data being reported to them. The meeting will focus on both statistical tests states are applying to data to improve its quality, as

well as an exploration of data audits and data integrity reviews being conducted by some states. This meeting will be held during the summer of 2008. States from the Western Region recommended that CMHS consider having this workshop held in a central location instead of in Washington, DC.

For both Group TA events, the SDICC is asking states to notify them if your state is interested in participating. SDICC staff will follow-up with interested states to refine the plans for the workshops to assure the agendas and speakers will meet state needs.

7. The 2008 National Block Grant Conference on Planning and Data will be held in Washington, DC on May 21 and 22nd. The title will be 'Leading for Change'. Plenary sessions planned include Trends in Mental Health Service Delivery and Mental Health Issues of Returning Veterans. Data sessions planned include State models on EBPs and fidelity, electronic health records, state initiatives on data quality, and use of mental health prevalence data.
8. **The April Regional Conference Calls will be held on April 22nd:**
 - a. 11:00 AM (EDT) Northeastern States
 - b. 2:00 PM (EDT) Midwest & South
 - c. 4:00 PM (EDT) West and Pacific Territories