

MRT Work Group Meeting Summary

WORK GROUP NAME: Social Determinants of Health

MEETING DATE, TIME, LOCATION: July 7, 2014 – 10:00-3:00 (in person and by phone)

NYC - NYS Department of Health Metropolitan Area Regional Office

90 Church Street, 4th Floor, Conference Room A/B, Manhattan

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Co-chair –Elizabeth Swain, President and CEO, Community Health Care Association of New York State

Co-chair – Kristin Proud, Commissioner, Office of Temporary Disability Assistance

Noilyn Abesamis-Mendoza, John Allen, Diana Babcock, Oxiris Barbot, LaRay Brown, Neil Calman, MD, J. Emilio Carrillo, MD, Vince Colonna, Carol Corden, Susan Dooha, Anthony Feliciano, Jacqueline Martinez Garcel, Dan Gentile, David Jolly, Jonathan Lang, Glenn Liebman, Amy Lowenstein, Daria Luisi, PHD, MPH, Pamela Mattel, Theo Oshiro, Nancy Rankin, Harvey Rosenthal, Christine Schuyler, BSN, RN, MHA, Michael Seereiter, Curtis Skinner, PhD, Chau Trinh-Shevrin, Jackie Vimo, David Wright, Guthrie Birkhead, MD, MPH, and Peter M. Rivera.

MEMBERS ON THE PHONE

Jo Ivey Boufford, MD, Ngozi Moses

SUMMARY OF KEY MEETING CONTENT:

The work group began with brief introductions.

Kristin Proud provided an overview of the New York State Medicaid Redesign Team’s mission, vision, and guiding principles. Medicaid Redesign is premised on the idea that the only way to really control costs is to improve the health of program participants and the quality of the care they receive. When one looks at health disparities, one needs to look at the determinants of health. There are intrinsic biological determinants, such as age, sex, and genes. There are “downstream” determinants, such as medical care, environmental factors, and health behaviors. These are influenced by “upstream” social determinants of health, such as personal resources, including education, income and the social environments in which people live, work, study, and play.

Elizabeth Swain provided an overview of the group’s charge, which is to provide guidance to the NYS Department of Health on how best to address the social determinants of health, especially those related to employment. The group was charged to take a broad perspective, think outside the box, and work towards identifying and discussing a full range of evidence-informed, potential strategies, programs, and/or policies related to employment that could decrease disparities in health access, utilization, and

outcomes. As with other MRT Work Group recommendations, the goal is to identify proposals that: 1) improve care, 2) improve health and 3) reduce costs to the NY Medicaid, or are at least cost neutral. The output which is expected from the group is a short, written report to the MRT which includes specific recommendations to impact the social determinants of health related to employment.

Four speakers provided some of the rationale, evidence, and previous work in NY or localities, and discussed potential strategies or approaches for expanding this work more broadly or statewide. The slides for the presentations are posted to this website.

1. Strengthening Employee Benefits

- Nancy Rankin, VP of Research and Advocacy, Community Service Society

2. Supportive Employment for All Persons with Disabilities

- John Allen, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, Office of Mental Health

3. Workforce Development Initiatives

- Shawna Trager, Executive Director of the New York Alliance for Careers in Healthcare
- Kelly Dougherty, Executive Director, NYC Department of Small Business Services

There was a question and answer period and discussions of these proposals.

After lunch, the group divided into three targeted Work Groups. Each Work Group was led by two co-chairs:

1. Strengthening Employee Benefits

- Daria Luisi, PhD, MPH, Manager of Employee Wellness Program, Consolidated Edison of NY
- Nancy Rankin, VP of Research and Advocacy, Community Services Society

2. Supportive Employment for All Persons with Disabilities

- Joanne Oplustil, President and CEO of CAMBA, Inc.
- Kevin Muir, MPA, Executive VP of CAMBA, Inc. (Acting Co-Chair)
- John Allen, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, Office of Mental Health

3. Workforce Development Initiatives

- Michael Seereiter, President and CEO at NYS Rehabilitation Association/Rehabilitation Research and Training Institute
- LaRay Brown, Senior VP, Corporate Planning, Community Health and Intergovernmental Relations, NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation

The targeted Work Groups developed a preliminary list of proposed topic areas, including policy initiatives and programmatic changes. A summary of these discussions and topics were to be compiled and submitted within two weeks, to be discussed by the Work Group co-chairs. Each targeted work group will be holding several conference calls.

NEXT STEPS/PRELIMINARY AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

The next steps for the targeted work group are to:

- Schedule and hold several conference calls with work group members.
- Draft a list of potential topic areas.
- Research topics and obtain data to review at the next meeting.
- Prepare presentations for the next meeting of the full MRT Social Determinants of Health Work Group meeting regarding proposed topics, evidence supporting, and potential health and fiscal impact of proposed initiatives and policy changes.

SECOND MEETING DATE, TIME, LOCATION:

Friday, September 12, 2014

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

School of Public Health, U Albany – SUNY

1 University Place, Rensselaer, NY 12144

THIRD MEETING DATE, TIME, LOCATION:

Friday, October 10, 2014

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

90 Church St., Conference Room 4A/B

New York, NY