

**HealthWatch Meeting
June 11, 2008**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Approval of Minutes	<p>Introductions Approval of May minutes-no changes Announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unnatural Causes airs this Saturday, June 14th on PBS-Is Inequality Making Us Sick?" • Westside Health Care Assoc /DHFS – is hosting a focus group on June 18th regarding childless adults/GAMP; they are looking for 10-15 participants; refreshments provided along with a first-aid kit give-away, please contact Nzinga Khalid at 935-8000 x215. If you are interested in participating, another focus group is scheduled for later in July (see electronic copy).
Agency of the Month Katherine Sieger, CSSW's Pregnancy Outreach Program	<p>Pregnancy Counseling & Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program began in October last year out of domestic infant adoption placements • Focus on all options for young women in Milwaukee County. • Pregnancy counseling for teens / any young women experiencing a pregnancy • Work with partners, parents, and extended family during counseling • Provides additional resources- will also refer out to any other appropriate community resource (i.e.: adoption, pregnancy termination, etc.) • Hard items also available such as diapers, etc... • Education in schools-comprehensive (abstinence & safe sex) • All services are free, provided at CSSW's office, can also meet at school, neutral or other safe place. • New foster parent program • 11/12 year old support group/girls' circles offered this summer • Short-term counseling; also before and post-birth for 12 months; will refer out if they need additional services <p>*Program access by Katherine's cell phone only</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement of birth fathers? Yes, more than 50% have partners involved. • Youth/peer education? Refer to Planned Parenthood usually • How many calls per week?-not many; 2 calls per week for pregnancy counseling • Languages? Access to interpreters for counseling only • Need more referrals? Mostly provide one-time counseling; Most women know what they want to do; When they receive more information, they would rather absorb it rather than talk to a counselor.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer education/mentoring suggested for program • How do you outreach? The schools get information, Katherine mostly works with the foster care system • What could community members do? If teens need info./options/neutral support refer to Katherine • What is upper age limit? They've served up to 24, no one is turned away. • Do you make a connection with family planning waiver? All are signed up for T-19, brochures provided for this. <p>MASH(Milwaukee Adolescent Sexual Health): grant designed as reducing unintended pregnancies & STI's</p>
AGENCY REPORTS	
EDS Report	No one present
DHHS Report	<p>Verlene Perry-Newburn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In process of creating an overtime project • If a client calls to make an appointment, they are mailed a form that needs to be signed/dated returned and then someone will contact them to schedule. • Thanks to Verlene to helping a family!!! • Information will be provided next month on customer service unit • How do workers collect out of pocket medical expenses? This is a training issue for staff • May 22-verification of documents/review for approval • Continuing problems concerning the communication between W-2 agencies and the county.
GAMP Report	<p>Bridgett Murray-no updates at this time</p> <p>Meetings for the transition from GAMP to BadgerChoice will begin at the end of the month. Anyone eligible for GAMP needs to sign up because they will automatically be enrolled in Medicaid.</p>
COALITION REPORTS	<p>HASSR (Masiel Gomez)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driver's license issue is a problem for food pantries only-Walker Point provides photo ID's. Clients should keep old ID's just to have even if expired. HASSR is meeting next week Wednesday, June 18th and will alternate every other month. Please see handout regarding opportunities for organizing outreach at the Mexican Fiesta Health Fair Event. <p>Voices Against Hunger/ Hunger Task Force (Jon Janowski)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm Bill passed at federal level • Healing Young Minds-have parents call 211 for summer meal site closest to where they live. Free meals provided. • jon@hungertaskforce.org or at 238-6475 <p>EPIC (Laura Kerecman)</p>

- New system-positive feedbacks
- Increasing clarity in new notices such as reviews
- Issue with new med-stat code if SSI recipient is pregnant. Should be no co-pays for pregnant women, but coded as SSI and therefore getting co-pays.
- Will be voting for new co-chair

Mental Health Task Force (Brad)

- Decision made to approve the move to St. Michael's for behavioral health services
- June 30 –mental health summit III at Marquette; day long exploration of interaction between corrections/mental health-registration bradm@namigrm.org; parking free

SSI Managed Care (Julie)

- Advocacy project/quality assurance project-this year state asked to look at mammograms/pelvic exams in disabled populations. They want to examine issues of accessibility, mobility, and disability discrimination. We would like to hear from women who are interested or if anyone has ideas how to reach people. They would like to do a focus group-no date for focus group yet. Please call or e-mail Julie with any ideas 773-4646 x11 or julieds@drwi.org.

Make It Work Milwaukee!

Meeting next week Tuesday at IMPACT @ 2:30

Ongoing Issues and Action (Tanya)

- Do we want to change the format of our meetings? Do we want to streamline coalition reports? Is it okay as it is? The co-chairs of other coalitions can e-mail info in advance and people can still ask questions.
- Vote: streamline format of meeting. Mental Health Task force will still report since their meeting is the day before HW meeting.
- Suggestions/responses:
 - E-mail questions for individual cases/clients prior to meeting?
 - Idea of raising issues is a good idea ahead of time, however it is also good to be spontaneous-strength of coalition-needs a balance
 - EPIC-a lot of subcommittees occur and there are assignment of tasks-should we do this? ; improves inter-agency communication and work towards answers on the issue.
 - Subcommittee model is good.
 - Send problems as they happen- use our two state reps for Southeast WI: Audra Brennan and Sarah Fraley
 - We should not re-create EPIC-maybe invite EPIC folks, refer our members to EPIC.

Elections of new co-chair- Kari Mattson from Community Advocates!! Congratulations!!

Planned Parenthood (Tanya)

Planned Parenthood Express Center opened on Capitol. There are no appointments needed. The center provides STI/HIV testing , birth control, anything that does not require an exam. At the end of June patients on Mill Road transferred to Fond du Lac center.

Pharmacy Carve-Out Panel

- In response to more in-depth training wanted.
- Kari is putting together a panel that will be held on July 8th from 1-4pm at Bay View Library

Independence First (Kathleen Meisner-Altman)

MAPP

- Alternative for people to get Medicaid insurance. Around since March of 2000
- Good for individuals already receiving SSD who are on a Medicaid deductible.
- Way for someone to get Medicaid with a possible premium which is based on income.
- Monthly premium for those with higher incomes rather than meeting a deductible without ongoing insurance
- Qualifications: work, as little as 1 activity/month (i.e.: babysitting, dog walking) or in-kind work (i.e.: exchange of service such as cutting the lawn for rent reduction; exchange of cooking for shelter). Need a simple contract signed by both parties.

Questions:

- We can help with eligibility but we cannot refer directly
- What is the range of the premiums? The majority of recipients do not have premiums, some might have high premiums. Earned income is looked at differently than unearned income, such as disability benefits. Clients will differ in premium amount.
- **Medicaid Handbook is the best resource**
- HECF-if clients are not currently working, program will talk to them to develop a plan that is submitted to state to make them eligible for MAPP and they have a full year to find work.
- Assets? Limit is \$15, 000, can have a house/vehicle, can hold an independence account-50% or earnings for large purchases (i.e.: house)
- Comment: need to be careful about income, can affect FoodShare
- New Project: Analysis and advisement services- free to people receiving SSI/SSDI benefits that are considering going to work, will show them what will happen to their benefits if they begin to work so they might make an educated decision (handout).

Call Kathy or Deb with any questions

Kathy Meisner-Altman (414) 291-7520 or Debbie Falk-Palec (414) 479-9317

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund Campaign- see handouts○ Title X gag-not yet issued, Tanya will let HW know if this will occur
Next Meeting:	Wednesday, July 9 from 9:30-11:30; at Aurora Family Services located at 3200 W. Highland Ave.