
WV's Partnership to Promote Community Well-Being

Epidemiological Workgroup Meeting Notes

March 31, 2005 ♦ 10:00-1:00pm ♦ WVPRC

Members Present: Ron Childress, Jim Doria (representing Joe Barker), Jim Elzey, Steve Heasley

Staff Present: Michele Bush, Wayne Coombs, Melissa Crawford, Andy Whisman

Workgroup Membership

It was suggested that Dr. Mary Emmett with CAMC and Dr. Ronald Althouse with WVU would be valuable additions to the workgroup.

Future Meeting Dates

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

(Time and location to be determined)

CSAP Assistance

CSAP is available for technical assistance should the need arise.

SPF SIG Work Plan-Assessment Plan

The timeframe for the needs assessment steps was discussed. This is an ongoing process through the duration of the SPF SIG. The PRIDE survey is being conducted this year surveying 6th through 12th grade students. This data will help fulfill Stage 2 needs assessment. Stage 3 needs assessment is more localized and data will be continually collected and sub-recipients will be involved in this process.

Assessment of Where We Are

Data needs are changing towards a greater focus on consumption and consequence data. Furthermore, the current data is primarily on the state level and county level data is needed to determine high priority counties. The following were indicated as additional indicators to pursue

- Domestic violence
- Breathalyzer data
- DUI arrests
- Governor's Highway Safety Program
- EMT run forms data
- Sexual assault
- Injury
- Rape exams by county

- Medicaid/PEIA
- Mental health commitments for substance abuse
- Existence of other non-behavioral chronic medical diseases
- CHIPS

Workgroup Expectations

- Single state cross-agency survey (modular)
- Youth/Adult data collection in alternating years
 - PRIDE survey in odd years
 - Adult survey in even years (possible expansion of BRFSS)
- Creation of a Health Policy Institute, a statewide agency to facilitate and coordinate data collection.

Workgroup Recommendations to the Partnership

- The workgroup is not at the point with consumption and consequence data to assign priority areas.
- There is currently enough data to support planning grants. The planning grants do not require us to set priority areas.

To Do:

- Contact Dr. Mary Emmett, Dr. Ronald Althouse, and Penney Baughman (with the WV Health Care Authority) about attending the next workgroup meeting. (Andy Whisman)
- Look into WV State Police breathalyzer data and county rape examination data. (Melissa Crawford)
- Develop alternative methods for assigning counties to one of the four quadrants based on level of risk and resources. (Andy Whisman)
- Provide a list of how the WV Health Statistics Center aggregates counties for the purposes of data analyses. (Jim Doria)
- Contact Dan Christy about expanding the BRFSS to include adult substance abuse issues. (Andy Whisman)