



WV's Partnership to Promote Community Well-Being

December 5, 2003
Meeting Notes



Members Attending

Jean Ambrose, Kenny Burner, Don Chapman, Judy Crabtree, Michelle Foster, Dave Harris, Mike Lacy, Helena Lee, Gayle Manchin, Beth Morrison, Judith Russell, Angie Saunders, James Vance, and Bill Woodrum.

Staff Attending

Michele Burnside, Tammy Collins, Wayne Coombs, Monica McFarland, Kelli Jo McNemar, Kathy Paxton, Diane Wellman, and Andy Whisman.

Welcome

Steve Mason, Division on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse (DADA)

Steve welcomed committee members to this planning effort to improve WV's prevention system.

Federal State's Incentive Grant Initiative Overview

Wayne Coombs, West Virginia Prevention Resource Center (WVPRC) - (Refer to handout in packet for details)

- WV was awarded a federal Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention one-year State's Incentive Planning Grant (SIG) to improve our readiness to secure a full three-year, \$3 million per year SIG grant that will provide grant funding for sustainable community prevention efforts.
- The grant was awarded to the Governor's Office.
- Steve Mason, DADA, is the project director.
- WVPRC will staff this project along with DADA and the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS).

CREATE History

Helena Lee, DCJS - (Refer to handout in packet for details)

- **C**oordination of **R**ehabilitation, **E**ducation, **A**wareness, **T**reatment, and **E**nforcement (CREATE) helped shape our current prevention system. This group is comprised of representatives from state agencies that have components addressing substance abuse issues. Meetings take place the first Thursday of each month and members collaborate efforts to address substance abuse issues. CREATE is a planning council and does not provide funding for services or programs.
- CREATE was formed in 1987 in response to the requirement of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 that state agencies receiving the federal funds from this act meet on a regular basis to coordinate efforts. The group has met regularly since that time and has developed operating goals.
- The mission of CREATE for a Drug-Free West Virginia is to facilitate the exchange of information and interagency coordination and collaboration to promote the health, safety and well-being of the citizens of West Virginia by eliminating the unhealthy or illicit use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.
- Member agencies include offices and divisions of the Departments of Education, Military Affairs and Public Safety, Health and Human Resources, Administration and Education and the Arts.
- CREATE's three goals are to: (1) Facilitate State Wide Communication, (2) Facilitate Statewide Collaboration and (3) Develop a Statewide Substance Abuse Strategic Plan.
- WVPRC was created to be the working arm of CREATE.

WVPRC Overview

Wayne Coombs, WVPRC - (Refer to handout in packet for details)

- WVPRC grew out of CREATE. It was modeled after the Arizona Prevention Resource Center.
- Officially chartered March 3, 1998, by the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families as a jointly owned and controlled public/private partnership administratively housed at Marshall University Graduate College.
- WVPRC's mission is to build the capacity of individuals, organizations, and agencies to promote the well-being of their communities.
- Works in three main capacity building areas: accountability & evaluation, communication & information sharing, and training & technical assistance.
- Does not provide direct services to the general public but instead provides support to those individuals, agencies, and organizations that do.
- Is a "Bottom-up, Top-down, Outside-in" community partnership model.
- Re-organized this past year into a team-based structure with regional teams to better support working with communities.

WV SIG Planning Workplan

Tammy Collins, WVPRC- (Refer to handout in packet for details)

The WV workplan is arranged by federal SIG goals which are:

1. Establish a state SIG advisory committee
 - The WV State SIG advisory committee will be created by executive order and appointed by Governor. The Governor will send appointment letters in January.
2. Identify state needs and gaps
 - A key informant substance abuse needs assessment was conducted during summer 2003. Final results will be released in spring. The WVPRC is collecting administrative data to populate a website of indicators related to "risk and protective factors."
 - A youth version of this needs assessment is going to be administered to all DCJS' Safe & Drug Free Communities program participants this winter.
3. Complete funding streams inventory
 - A funding study preliminary report was completed winter 2003 and is now being presented to communities for review and discussion in a workshop format. A second portion of the funding study is being conducted to collect data on all subgrants that flow to communities.
4. Establish plan for enhanced collaboration and coordination
 - Various agencies and organizations are coordinating plans and assisting with each others planning efforts.
 - A plan is being developed to more effectively involve youth in planning, implementation and evaluation of prevention efforts.
5. Develop capacity to implement evidence-based programs and strategies
 - Two Center for the Application of Prevention Technology (CAPT) associates and all 16 WVPRC Community Development Specialists are involved with developing community capacity, including providing training of trainers of model and evidence-based programs.
 - An enhanced plan to provide training and technical assistance in this area is being developed.
6. Other systems to support a full SIG including a request for proposal, grant application system, grant management system and evaluation system will need to be developed after initial needs and assets assessment and plans are completed.

Discussion points on workplan:

- Use existing needs assessment or do we need to develop a new one to analyze substance abuse issues in WV?
- There are advantages and disadvantages to getting grant so late as compared to other states.
- WV has already made major steps to completing planning grant goals.
- WV SIG staff are meeting with other states to gain information on their lessons learned and how to sustain efforts.
- The planning grant will assist us to better prepare for coordinated planning of prevention efforts as well as better preparing us for implementing a full SIG.

Advisory Committee Roles & Responsibilities

Helena Lee – DCJS

The Partnership discussed the following responsibilities as they function as WV's prevention and intervention planning body:

1. Develop a comprehensive statewide plan for the improvement of the prevention system;
2. Coordinate planning with other interrelated systems;
3. Establish priorities for the improvement of the substance abuse prevention system;
4. Identify and leverage prevention funding to fill needs and gaps in service;
5. Advise the subgranting of funds from any federal agency or any other source.

Discussion points on roles & responsibilities:

- Lisa Bruer, Adolescent Coordinator for DADA, is working on a three year plan focusing on mental health and substance abuse with representatives from various agencies and organizations. This committee could possibly review a draft/outline of this plan at the March quarterly meeting.
- Concerns about involvement with interrelated systems. Health is spiritual, physical, emotional, mental, and social. How does substance abuse fit into the whole picture, for example, obesity? Approach needs to be holistic, inclusive, and innovative.
- Arguments can be made that substance abuse is linked to all areas. New research continues to show connections.
- Need to discuss and focus on the fundamental issues that tie into other topics – find a commonality for prevention - focus on the business of prevention:
 - Program development and evaluation
 - Workforce development and evaluation
 - Process development and evaluation
 - Technology
- What makes this planning effort different from all the other planning efforts that never made any sustainable system change?
 - Readiness and the development of a fundamental core group of committed folks.
 - We make it different because we are bringing down barriers to work together.
 - We have learned more about the planning process.
 - Now various organizations have plans or are working on plans so they can be coordinated.
 - Suggestion for a group motto: “We’ll never do it that way again.”
 - The funding study is a key to coordination and continuum of services. We need to know where the dollars are coming from and how they are being spent so that we can develop a comprehensive strategy. This is the first time we have this information as a basis for planning.
 - There is more commitment (at state and local levels) and groups are willing to work together, for example, community programs (direct service) are involved in planning, which adds a different voice and perspective.
 - Factors that may work against us include:
 - Language which can be overcome through a common set of terms.
 - Thinking which can be overcome through broad systems working for communities.
- Concerns about plan and execution of plan. There is a big step between finishing a written plan and actually implementing it.
- We know people want to keep their own funds, but if we could put all the funds on the table, think about what we could do. How open is everyone to making “their” funds fit into the plan that we develop.
- Plan what each of us could do so as not to duplicate services
- Make two plans. One plan for the “perfect world” to loosen our thinking, creative approaches, look at the issues differently and then a “Secure Plan” which we know we can accomplish and then work on stretching toward the “perfect world” plan.
- Suggestion: keep a running list of acronyms and list of lessons learned in previous planning experiences.
- Is the end goal to get the full SIG grant? The end goal is a better prevention system and better child and family services system. If we can create a coordinated system, but don’t get the grant, we still win.

Advisory Committee Name

Helena Lee – DCJS

The consensus of the group was “WV’s Partnership to Promote Community Well-Being.” Other suggestions are listed below.

- Governor’s Partnership for Prevention & Early Intervention. Governor’s Committee was dropped because of concerns about the perception of political ownership.
- WV’s Partnership for Prevention & Early Intervention
- WV’s Partnership for Community Well-Being
- WV’s Partnership to Promote Community Capacity Building
- WV’s Partnership to Promote Community Well-Being*

Advisory Committee Workgroups

Helena Lee – DCJS

- **The Partnership agreed to hold a planning retreat on February 3rd – 4th.**
- Judith Russell, Mike Lacy, Helena Lee, and Angie Saunders will work with WVPRC and DADA staff to plan the retreat. **More information will be emailed later after the Retreat Planning Workgroup meets.**
- Suggestions for Retreat Planning Workgroup to consider:
 - Review other related WV system plans and other SIG state plans.
 - Have each system represented on committee outline their plan at the retreat. Note the common philosophies/goals.
 - Use the “Future Search” planning method which strives to conceptualize what communities and the state will look like after we implement the plan.
 - Have outside (not Partnership or staff member) facilitator(s).
 - Components we need to cover in plan include needs and assets assessment, funding streams, etc.

What’s In This For Us?

Helena Lee, DCJS

The Partnership discussed how being a part of this planning process is of interest to them and can benefit them.

Comments included the following:

- It is a piece of the continuum of services for youth. This plan will complement other plans. It will allow us to fill gaps in other plans with these resources. It compliments the vision, goals and objectives and issues of the Juvenile Justice Subcommittee of the Governor’s Committee on Crime Delinquency and Correction and the Coordinating Counsel on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice. It will allow wiser decision making and will allow us to communicate and implement change in WV.
- I am a father and WV citizen. This hits the heart of our communities.
- Education and intervention for parents must be a part of this plan because home/community environments are a strong influence on youth behavior.
- Local ownership to work through processes to change the community culture.
- Being part of the regional sustainability training.
- Work on the whole system to make pieces strong.
- Community service can play a role with the protective factors.
- Positively impact community based organizations to develop/implement prevention on a wider scale (before we need treatment and enforcement).
- Get prevention rolling in the communities.
- Build community opportunities for youth.
- Make community successes and learning points available to others.

Future Quarterly Meeting Dates

- March 26th 10 am to 3 pm
- June 18th 10 am to 3 pm
- September 17th 10 am to 3 pm
- December 10th 10 am to 3 pm