

# 2010-09 WV Partnership Meeting

## Regional Breakout Discussion NOTES

### 1. What role do you see the Partnership having 5 years from now? (Stay primarily with substance abuse prevention or expand?)

#### REGION 1

- Will the Partnership be here 1 year from now?
- Concern that Behavioral Health representatives are not invested in the Partnership.
- SAPT BG funding is renewed on an annual basis. Is this sustainable?
- Concern that this issue has happened to eliminate PRC, eliminate competition with Behavioral health
- Will our answer change in Nov. with a change in administration? Changes in department heads, etc.
- Perhaps this is a question that the Partnership members need to answer...? How do they feel about this?
- Wood County (Kelly Shook) is expanding its coalition to focus on wellness abuse- SAP can be a part of this holistic picture. They believe they will be able to accomplish a lot more than just one isolated area of health... more of a positive approach. Focus on all age groups- gives more flexibility to do what is needed. Currently working on strategic plan... coalition members want to “do something” and not necessarily stay in planning mode.
  - SAP Taskforce
  - Nutrition Taskforce
  - Physical Activity Taskforces
- Governor should change the Executive Order so it includes a comprehensive wellness plan- currently it reads just for substance abuse prevention
- Nationally, there is a lot of talk about “wellness” as the direction to go
- Healthcare reform also will affect the direction we go
- Evaluation perspective- better to focus on positive directions forward, etc... maybe this would give a “niche” to our work
- Will this eliminate power struggles? Never completely... but need to be aware & figure out how to negotiate the power issues, be ready for change.
- “If you’re afraid of change, leave it here” – the Partnership has been dealing with change for a while.
- Preserve the system & networking- that has worked in the SPF-SIG communities.
- This is all related to community & economic development
- Devils advocate: if we are too broad, we may be seen as chasing funds, etc. on a state level
- Suggestion; develop a 5-year strategic plan outlining our issues of importance with a strong justification for funders and how it all relate... a “piece” of what we are trying to do
- Strategic plans should go up for review periodically for revision, change, etc.

#### REGION 2

- Focus expanded beyond prevention to include treatment and recovery.
- Communities need Partnership to lead the way.
- More inclusion of recovery community.
- In existence.
- More funding from other agencies and government agencies.
- Expansion ...substance abuse is a symptom
- Leadership role for Partnership
- Substance abuse control system expanded more of a think tank...equal partners
- Partnership keep focus on data
- Co-occurring disorders that we recognize

- Service array indicates Substance Abuse
- Looking beyond substance abuse/mental health...violence/social inclusiveness/health...better ways to access
- Well-being index more comprehensive...health/violence/etc. ex: greatest health risk is your social class...need to determine the main product of the partnership.
- How do we define ourselves? Dropout Prevention / Violence Prevention / Well-Being Prevention
- Tool – SAWB Index
- Annual Data

### REGION 3

We need to stick with what we know. But still keep our minds open to related opportunities in related areas. A good example of this is the Purdue Parma. We can also see the partnership becoming an advisory council to assist with recommendations on how grants are awarded and distributed.

### REGION 4

- Planning and policy reviewing.
- Same role as of now; according to executive order.
- Continue as is in reference to Substance Abuse Prevention.
- Concern: Who is to carry on work of CDS – will there be a gap in services.
- Shift to research based agency.
- Without empowerment no partnership.
- Have regional reps for regions.

## 2. What role do you see for the WVPRC with the Partnership?

### REGION 1

- WV State Police- we like the way it currently exists (structure, etc.)
- But this is unstable... if we could lose funding any year?
- This is never permanent... we must take advantage of what we have & use it while we can.
- Codification? Keep trying...
- What is PRC's role with the partnership now...? They staff it. People with day jobs doing specific roles... what would happen if they left?
- It would fail... need someone responsible to handle logistics
- CMCA training- one item that MUST be in place is at least one person ("community organizer") who can be relied upon... who will fill that role in the PRC or Partnership?
- There are many possibilities for collaboration and modification- need to see where our interests & focus intersect to move forward collaboratively.
- The PRC & the Bureau need to cooperate for the sake of county coalitions
- We don't want to reinvent the wheel...
- A lot of this issue is over 2 distinct funding streams... this is a new funding stream (regional funding)... not SPF, not Block Grant... need to take what works & start fresh
- Where is CADCA in this Partnership? What about WV-CADCA? Need to be involved...
  - Should bring CADCA rep. up to Mike at the Policy & Procedures workgroup. This has been done.
  - Perception that CADCA wants to "take over"
  - There is a WV statewide CADCA association (membership org.): called "Coalitions for a Better WV". If you link up with national CADCA, you are part of WV CADCA

- WV CADCA Advisory Board- Michele was involved with this process... didn't really advise anything, might not have been representative
- Lots of misinformation & miscommunication btw. WV CADCA Advisory Board & PRC & Partnership
- History of dissonance between WV CADCA Advisory Board & PRC
- Most WV CADCA members are already represented at the Partnership
- If WV CADCA is truly represented, are they excluding non-CADCA members?
- If they are an association of county CADCA members, they should meet.
- Need a more informed membership base... more inclusive
- Wood County is a CADCA member, but not feeling like there is much benefit for them... trainings are helpful for others, but often far away.

## REGION 2

- Liaison between Partnership and communities...fidelity
- Need a level of academic expertise that can be provided that is unavailable elsewhere...WVPRC the provider of that expertise
- PRC as the hub and backbone for the data and resources needed to do community work
- The technical assistance and support...outcome and standards...PRC would continue
- PRC had a role – outside entity that brings needed technical assistance

## REGION 3

PRC needs to continue to educate the partnership and the communities. They can do this by continuing to collect and analyze data. They can also begin to look for other revenue sources for the state and coalitions. The PRC can act as a liaison between the counties.

## REGION 4

- Single State Agency – Role (now) collaborative model. Leadership and policy development share decisions in a democratic way, equal say and role.
- Role is shifting from PRC to BHHF and will determine how money will be spent.
- PRC lost ability to communicate with communities during change.

## 3. Future role of Partnership in the substance abuse prevention system in WV?

### REGION 1

- Like CATO Institute, etc... a think-group that legislators can turn to when they have questions... come up with models, provide policy guidance, etc.
- Each state must have a Mental Health Planning Council & a Developmental Disability (DD) council... there is an absence of SAP council (both funding & legislation)
- Perhaps as a data clearinghouse for coalitions, etc.
- Advisory board for grant writing (SAPT Block Grant), etc.
- There are different ways- data, planning, review board, etc.
- Bureau added consumer, family & provider SAPT seats to Mental Health Planning Council (unfunded mandate)
- Partnership could be SAP planning council for WV... state partners are great, but need community stakeholders at the table.
- Each division puts in about \$35,000 to \$40,000 each (DADA, etc.) to have a part-time coordinator who organizes community forums, etc.

- What is meant by advisory role? Not necessarily decision-making... but political clout.
- Federal mandate to form advisory role, etc... originally worked to get SPF-SIG
- More legitimacy if community stakeholders work as Advisory Board to direct focus
- Next logical step- define Partnership specifically as an advisory board?
- Want to see the Partnership take an active (not passive) role of doing something
- Need to get away from grant mentality- grants don't sustain our work... need some kind of sustainable funding not at the whim of an agency. This would be a perfect role of the Partnership to assume- permanent funding (not grant driven).
- Partnership should be more than just an advisory board, but also a Policy Development group- specify what needs to be done and move into legislation. Apply pressure & get it done.
- But some of the current membership would not be allowed to speak to or demand legislative initiatives or taking a stance on policy.
- If the Partnership involves more consumer & family groups- they can do more of the lobbying or advocacy work
- WV CADCA (if more functional) could take on a stronger legislative advocacy role

## REGION 2

- Keeping the information open.
- We need the Partnership to repair the relationship and keep one system together...the falling out between the two biggest cohorts (WV DHHR's BHHF and WVPRC). Partnership needs to tell both parties to work things out...establish common ground for action.
- Defining the roles and responsibilities and expectations
  - Partnership
  - Government
  - Expertise
  - Community
- Partnership help to get larger pots of money

## REGION 3

- We would like to see the partners from the partnership set up and assist the PRC with things. Work is done in workgroups we need to work more within those groups and begin to delegate tasks out.
- If everyone takes a share it will mean less of a work adjustment within the PRC.
- We need to learn from our and others mistakes and success.

## REGION 4

- Question – “Will counties go back to their silos”?
- No legislation or leadership for the Partnership to continue.
- PRC staff are what makes up the partnership and are limited by funding at this point.
- Sustainability needs to be developed.
- Possible future role of Partnership – advisory group for single state agency.

## 4. How can the Partnership and/or PRC continue to help the regional and local coalitions continue to move forward?

### REGION 3

- We need to identify all the coalitions that have other funding, SAMHSA etc...

- Identify with coalitions that recently received regional awards from BHHF. Learn who is knowledgeable about the partnership and who is not.
- Identify the coalitions that did not receive funding of any kind that are still meeting. Find out how they continued their efforts and begin to model their programs and share that with others within the state.

**5. Knowing what you know now after 6 years with SPF SIG, would you do it again?**

**REGION 2**

Yes, but differently based on the experience.