

Minutes Standards Workgroup for NWI – May 2007

The following people met in Portland during the annual NWI Meeting:

Jim Rast, Jon Nibbio, Sharon Yarish, Susan McLaughlin, Marcus Small, Marty Stone-Smith, Gerry Rodriguez, Don Koenig, Robin Orlando, Keith Solomon, Sharon Morrison-Valsco, Cheryl Treadwell, Neal Brown, Mary Jo Meyers, Michael Rauso, Ontson Placide, Bunny Hentschel, Connie Burges, Doral Sterling,

Bruce Strahl was not at the meeting, but asked to receive these minutes.

Discussion

Following introductions, the group had a general discussion of issues around program standards and staff credentialing. Many ideas were discussed and some of the consistent themes included:

- There is a need for program standards to provide leverage with states, communities and agencies to ensure minimum necessary conditions and supports are met.
- There is a concern that standards can be inflexible and stifle local innovation.
- There is a concern that standards could require extra expense that might make it beyond the reach of some agencies.
- Credentialing staff might be a good idea, but we need to explore this further.
- We need to get more family representatives involved in the planning process..
- We should build on the successful work already done in these areas by states and communities.

The group prioritized three goals for the coming year:

1. Gather current standards, guidelines and contract language that relates to standards and make these available to support this work.
2. Develop a draft set of program standards for organizations who want to provide high fidelity wraparound.
3. Develop 3 options for credentialing to be circulated to the larger NWI advisory group for feedback.

The group developed the following initial action steps:

1. The group identified 15 current sources of standards, guidelines, and contract language and assigned people to get copies.

California – Gerry R.
La County Contracts – Michael R.
Oklahoma – Jim R.
King County – Susan M.
FIMH – Jim R.
Arizona – Jim R.
Nebraska – Gerry R.
Kansas – Susan M.
Missouri – Sharon Y.
Illinois – Bunny H.
Pittsburgh – Robin O.
Connecticut – Mary Jo
New Jersey – Mary Jo
Ohio – Neal B.

2. Group members will send these to dee@vroomvdb.com or fax to 303-790-1926 (phone: 303-790-4099) by June 22nd.
3. Gerry, Connie and Jim will review these and make an initial list of categories (e.g., staff ratios, process timelines, etc.) and VVDB staff will scan any docs not already electronic and send entire set with initial list to all workgroup members by July 2nd.
4. Workgroup members will review materials and make edits to category list by August 3rd. This will include getting feedback from family members with at least 5 locations.
5. Summary materials of all comments and list suggestions will be sent to all workgroup members by August 10th.
6. Workgroup members will have a working call to review work and plan retreat on August 18th.
7. Workgroup will have a two day meeting the week of September 24.
8. Next steps to complete goals will be developed on call (8-18) and retreat (9-24).

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