

California Home Visiting Program Monthly Conference Call

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 10, 2014

1:30-3:00 p.m.

Participants: MCAH Directors and Coordinators of MIECHV Funded Programs

Meeting Facilitator: Kristen Rogers

I. General Updates

a. *Chris Krawczyk's Departure*

b. *Reauthorization*

Kristen: We have no new information. We have asked our federal officer for more information and will let you know as soon as we know. The Doc Fix Bill – Protecting Access To Medicare Act – was signed on April 1st. Essentially, this delays the scheduled reduction in Medicare reimbursement rate for physicians and also extends many other programs such as ours. All MIECHV-funded programs have been reauthorized and will be funded to March 30, 2015. New funding will be discussed/negotiated after the new Congress commences in January, 2015.

c. *Invoices*

We are starting to close in on the fiscal year, so please submit your invoices.

II. Updates from the Program and Evaluation Sections

a. *TA Meetings*

Erika Trainer: The TA Meetings will be held in LA, Fresno and Sacramento on May 5-6, June 11-12 and June 25-26, respectively. There will be one full day training for administrators on “Creating a MediCal Funding Plan from A to Z,” presented by Patrick Sutton, LGA Consultant; discussion and networking, facilitated by Karen Finello, WestEd Center for Prevention & Early Intervention; “Motivational Interviewing” training with Susan Dopart, MS, RD, CDE; and “Advanced Perinatal Mental Health” with Gloria Castro, PsyD.

1. This TA Meeting is targeted for home visitors and administrators, but the 2014 HV Summit will be targeted for the supervisors and managers.
2. With this meeting, we wanted to address the major needs for home visitors and administrators,[although Supervisors may attend also].
3. Administrators are allowed to register for both tracks.

b. Site Visits

Karen Shevlin: To date, we have completed about half of the site visits, including Sacramento, San Mateo, and Tri-County Consortium for the North NFP sites and Butte and Madera for HFA sites.

Highlights

1. Impressed with quality and professionalism of staff/home visitors. Their dedication and interpersonal skills. Willingness to go the extra mile: transportation, attending medical appointments with clients.
2. Home visit observations provide QA teams with a greater understanding of how CHVP programs operate and the challenges your families face.
3. Willingness of staff to be transparent and solution oriented: **Butte County**, Ann Dickson worked with us to develop the Support Letter Template to help sites meet the construct for increasing/enhancing MOUs.
4. **Tri-Consortium** – Mental health counselor who works for Healthy Moms and helps navigate the system. She attends monthly meetings and helps nurse home visitors to understand clients and provides opening questions.
5. **Madera** - Cultural sensitivity – Home visitors work with a volunteer who knows the Oaxacan dialect and community needs. She attended an HFA Staff meeting; 10% of their population is Oaxacan participants. Although HVs all speak Spanish, this dialect is very different (quiet people, no eye contact). Also have IBCLC/NP on staff who works with Cal-Learn, AFLP and is the Perinatal Coordinator. She [Elsa Estrada] does home visits with FSWs.

Arlene Silva: seven out of eight site visits have been completed for the South QA Team. We feel your dedication and understand what you do. Thank you for helping us support you and for sharing so many best practices. We hope to share [best practices] with other sites.

Erika: We will be sending out an email that highlights everything we have seen at each site, as well as areas of improvement and how we will help. Our purpose is to help you, the sites, track your progress.

c. Informal Written Agreement Progress

CHVP is interested to hear about how the template we distributed last month is working or not working for you. Please let us know how it's going. We encourage you to obtain these agreements with as many partner agencies as possible to comply with the construct/benchmark and for federal reporting.

d. National Head Start Association Conference in Long Beach (April 28-May 2)

Kristen: We submitted 3 abstracts for presentations at this conference and all were accepted. Jennifer Gregson, Robin Pleau and Patsy Hampton are all presenting our work at this national conference.

Robin's presentation is entitled: *Using Systems-Level Data to Inform Local Program Development and System Integration Efforts*. We have been gathering a lot of qualitative data through our "systems survey" and the follow-up calls. Robin is taking your many stories about how gaps in services are closed through the process of better integration of services at the local level.

Jennifer's presentation is titled: *Beyond Graphs: Facilitating Evaluative Thinking in Statewide CQI*. Now that we have had numerous CQI calls over the past almost 2 years, Jennifer has compiled this information and our processes to demonstrate how a state level CQI process can work.

Patsy's presentation is entitled: *Building Health Through Integration*. Patsy is a contractor for the state and is the ECCS Coordinator. She is presenting our plan for building partnerships in CA to create vertical and horizontal alignment of early childhood systems of care.

After staff present at the conference, we will provide a webinar or GTM for all of our sites to see these presentations. We are using a lot of your information in the CQI presentation that Jennifer is doing and we want to ask you for permission to showcase your site. Jennifer will be contacting those sites that she has in her presentation to ask if it is alright to use your county name. Otherwise, we will just use County A, County B, etc.

If there are any suggestions for our staff to bring back information from this Head Start Conference and distribute to your sites, please let us know. You can email me and/or Jennifer Gregson.

Karen Finello, who is our outside evaluator on the competitive grant, recently presented at the Society for Research in Child Development conference in Virginia. This is an international conference and the title of her presentation was: *Creating Successful Multi-Directional Partnerships in Early Childhood Research: Issues in Design, Measurement & Reporting*. Her presentation centered on her work, thus far, with the CHVP sites that she is monitoring and evaluating. She wants to show her presentation to all of our sites, including the Formula sites, and we will set something up soon for you all on GTM or on a webinar.

The reason I am bringing up these presentations today is because I want you all to know that we are working hard to showcase all of your great work and we hope by continuing to do this, it will keep the spotlight on home visiting and, in turn, continue to create new funding opportunities for you.....and keep these great programs rolling!

III. Mary Hansell (San Francisco) & Regina Vittore (Merced)

Kristen: We have been discussing alternative funding and braided funding for a while now.

Mary: We are using the MIECHV funding, Targeted Case Management (TCM) and local funds to support NFP now. We began to look at what Federal Financial Participation (FFP) can do for us. We looked into expansion and program sustainability. We will be moving to a revenue combination of Local General Fund and FFP. TCM allows for a federal drawdown on eligible activities of 50 cents on the dollar spent. FFP drawdown on eligible activities goes up to 75 cents on the dollar for enhanced activities. We estimate that we can draw down 5% more revenue per staff person. One operational advantage of moving from TCM to FFP is that with FFP, we invoice quarterly. With TCM, you have to gather all the data and report after the fiscal year is over, so we end up waiting longer. FFP is also different from TCM because it is not linked to our number of encounters. This broadens the lens with which the program activities are examined by local policy makers. The questions isn't limited to "how many home visits were made?" This is a better fit with moving work higher in the spectrum of prevention.

Question: Can HFA use FFP?

Answer from State staff: FFP is also available to HFA, but at a non-SPMP rate of 50 cents to the dollar.

Regina: Through my program from Fresno State, I've investigated different funding for Home Visiting and have researched the HV funding for other states. In Vermont they took a site visit and broke it up in sections and charged individually.

1. 1115 demonstration waiver for central county
2. 1915b waiver: not statewide. You can apply to specific populations or regions.