

Hillsborough HATS
Community Based Education and Advocacy Workgroup Conference Call
September 12, 2011

On the call: Martha Kronk, Diane Straub, Joane White, Henry Rodriguez, Janet Hess, Marybeth Palmigiano

Self Advocacy Advisory Group:

The group discussed the idea of a self advocate advisory group (SAAG) which was suggested by Richard Chapman at the Coalition Wide Meeting in July. It was agreed that a SAAG would strengthen our workgroup. Self advocates could co-present with physicians at grand rounds, legislative meetings and other venues as well as mentor young adults with special health care needs. They could provide personal testimony on the need and importance of transition services. Marybeth Palmigiano will work with Richard Chapman to flesh out the specifics of how the SAAG will collaborate with HHATS.

Legislative Update:

Janet Hess provided an update on a bill that will be introduced by Senator Stephen Wise. It is similar to last session's bill, however this year we anticipate a House sponsor. The sticking point perceived is the fiscal impact of extending care coordination to CMS patients up to age 26. There is no request for additional money in the bill; however some legislators are concerned that there will be a cost.

Once the bill is filed we can then begin advocating for its passage and seeking co-sponsors. This is a good opportunity for self advocates to become involved and fulfill Objective 2.3.1 of our Action Plan: Identify self-advocates who can talk to key legislators about health care transition.

The second update involves local health departments that are relocating their primary health care services to Federally Qualified Health Centers. Hillsborough County is the first community to make this change; there are now 5 additional FQHC sites in Hillsborough through the Tampa Family Health Centers. CMS will ensure that the Health Services Directory reflects this change.

Community Outreach Efforts:

Marybeth Palmigiano gave an overview of our outreach efforts to date and asked that everyone inform her of upcoming meetings, newsletters and list serves where we might be able to send HHATs information.

Speaker's Bureau:

The group decided that rather than a speaker's bureau we would develop a "Presenter's Packet" including talking points and a list of available resources to be housed on our website. Anyone representing HHATs could then use the packet as a guide. The purpose is to ease the burden and make it very easy for anyone to be able to talk about HHATS and the resources we offer. Martha Kronk offered to be available as an additional resource for anyone who wanted to talk more in depth about presenting.

Action Items:

Marybeth Palmigiano – Work with Richard Chapman on self advocate advisory group.

- Draft presenter packet materials.

Joane White – Ensure CMS updates the Health Services Directory.

Next meeting December 12th 4:00 – 5:00pm